

Colour effects 1

Although this tutorial might seem a little over the top (in terms of visual aesthetics), mastering it will expand your visual expression radically.

Mastering this tutorial can help with:

- Lightning
- Neon signs & electric digits
- Torch beam
- Illuminating a light source like a globe or lamp
- Even lighting a candle.



My reference photo is a photo taken of Nilda Weppener, a talented young photographer and old VSS student.



I used selective 'soft focus' as explained in TUTORIAL 6 (Image Vol 46 no 4 2014). I blurred the background in a layer and changed the colour hue to suit my tutorial.



The result of this tutorial

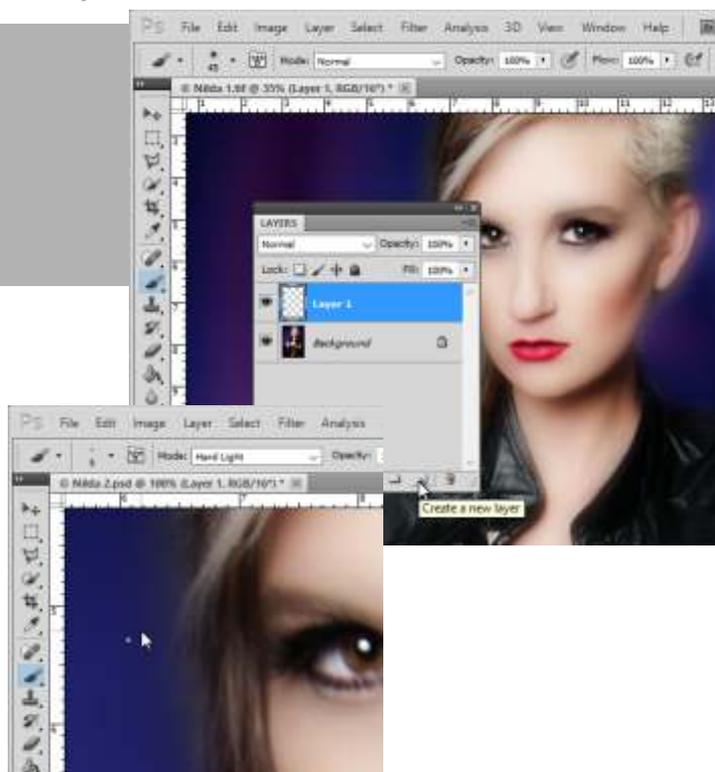
Wizards Wielding

Photo: Hein Waschefort

step 1

Open image and do final 'general' editing.

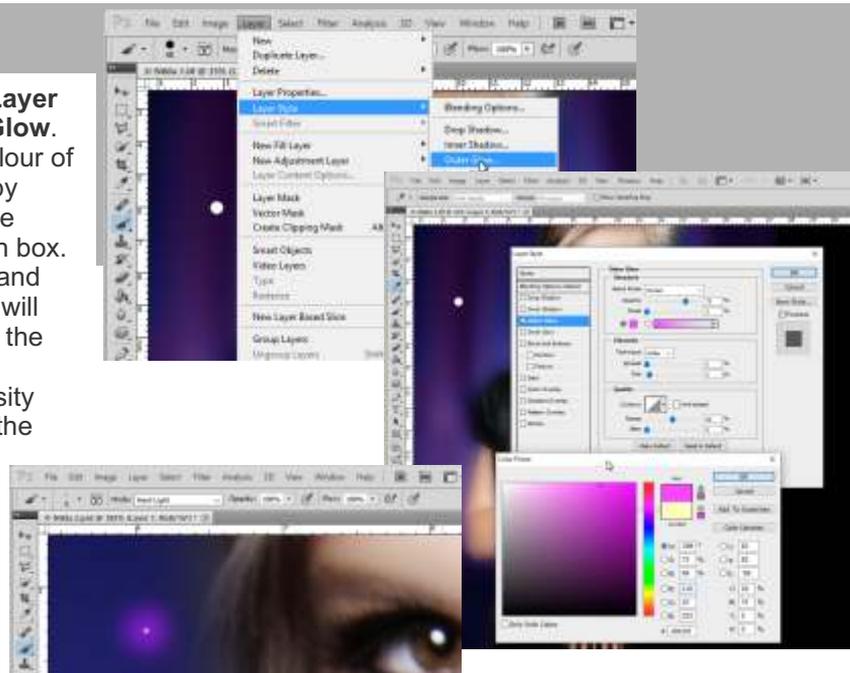
- **Create a new layer** in the **LAYERS** window.
- Choose the Brush Tool, set **Opacity 100** and **Flow 100** in **Mode** choose **Hard Light**.
- Choose a thickness (I chose 5 pixels) depending on your file size. Colour of your choice but white is the most effective.



step 2

Go to **Layer > Layer Style > Outer Glow**.

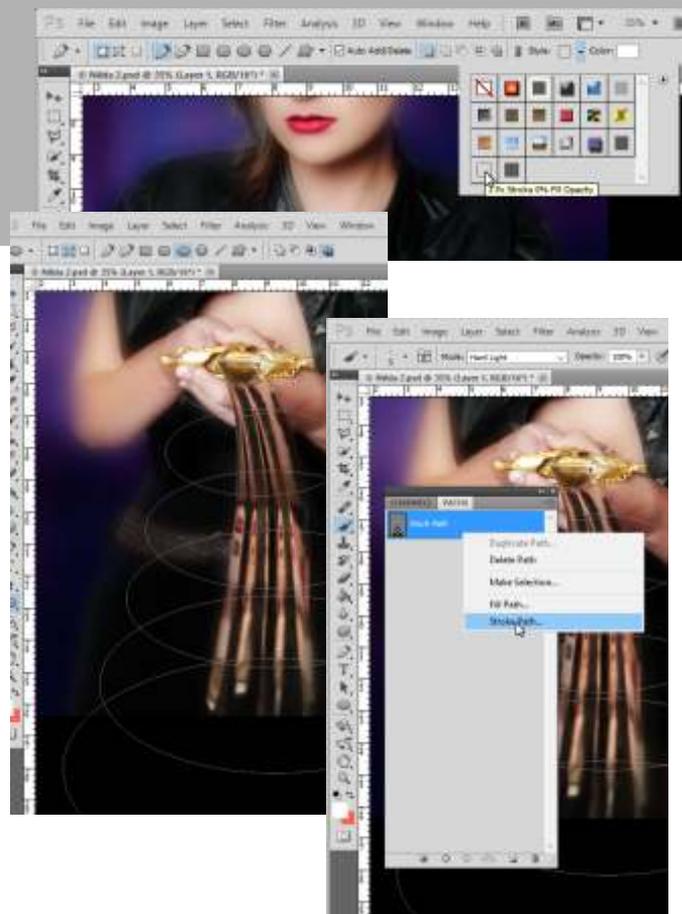
- Choose a colour of your choice by clicking on the colour swatch box.
- Toggle **Size** and **Spread**, you will see result on the brush spot.
- **Size** is intensity and **Spread** the blur.



step 3

Go to **Pen Tool** and make sure **0% Fill Opacity** is selected in the **Style** drop-down menu.

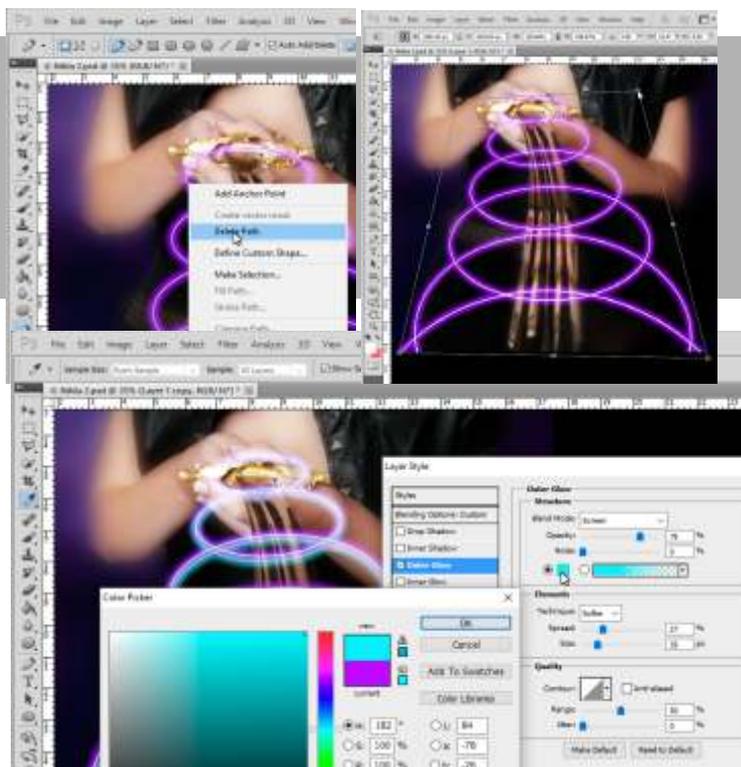
- Choose and draw **Eclipse** or form of your choice or draw a path with the pen Tool.
- Choose the brush (you can re-adjust size and **Outer Glow**)
- Open **PATH** box (**Windows > Path** normally next to **CHANNELS**). Choose **Stroke Path...**



step 4

This layer automatically create glows when painted on.

- Go to **Pen Tool** right click on pen path and choose **Delete Path**.
- With Layer selected you can now re adjust your light-line. I also added some brush dabs at intersections of lines and with the **Eraser Tool** I removed some lines (behind sword).
- Duplicate Layer (**Ctrl + J**) Change colours, position and distort.
- Add new layers with different glows and colours.



This tutorial is concerned with light effects and often work equally well in monochrome.

VSS tutorials featuring in Image are electronically available at vsscreative.com together with images used for tutorials.