

This short but very satisfying drawing effect comes from an old script. Dinasset recently revisited it and with the new "image gradient" function in Gimp 2.10, the result is better. He gave me his hint for this drawing process.

I'm going to try to explain the process the clearest possible as English isn't my native language.

From this



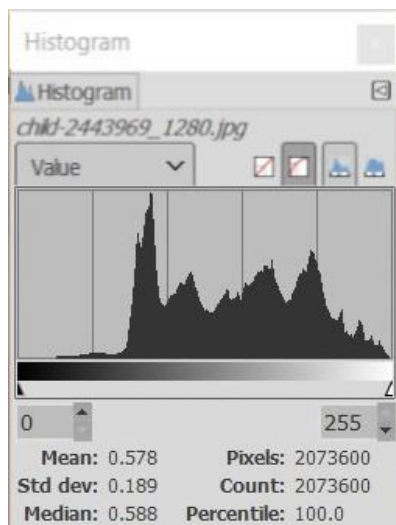
to that



The steps for the drawing effect are:

1 – Open an image you would like to transform into a drawing.

If you look at the histogram of the image, you will get a better result at the end if it is around 0.5.

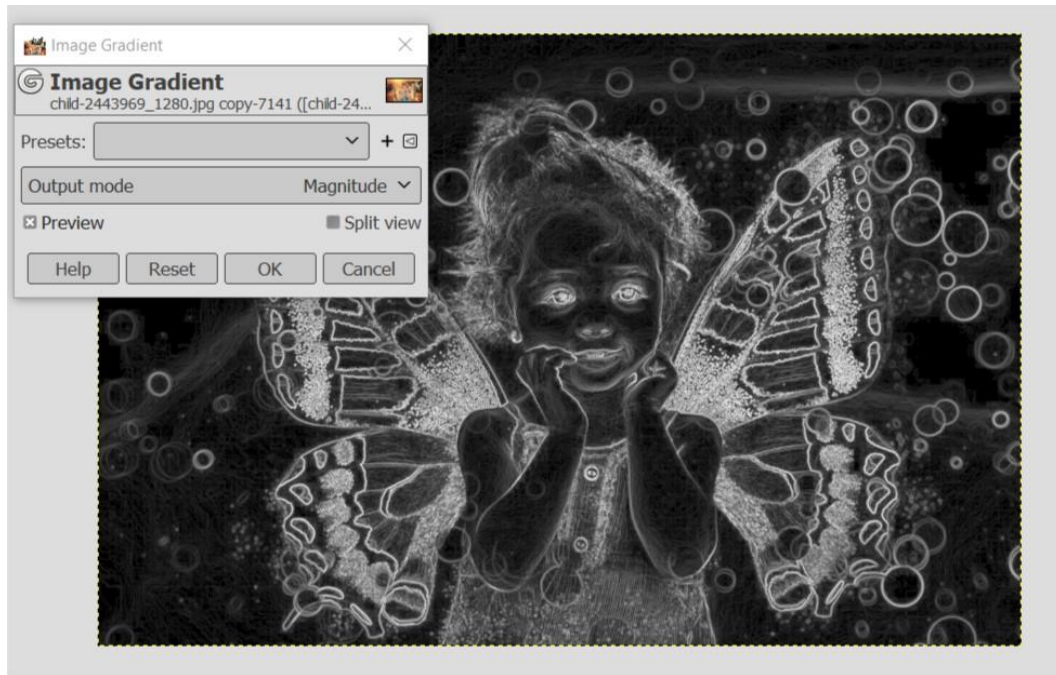


To see the histogram, go to Colors – Info – Histogram – in the open window- look at the Mean value, it should be about 0.5.

2 – **Duplicate** the source image.

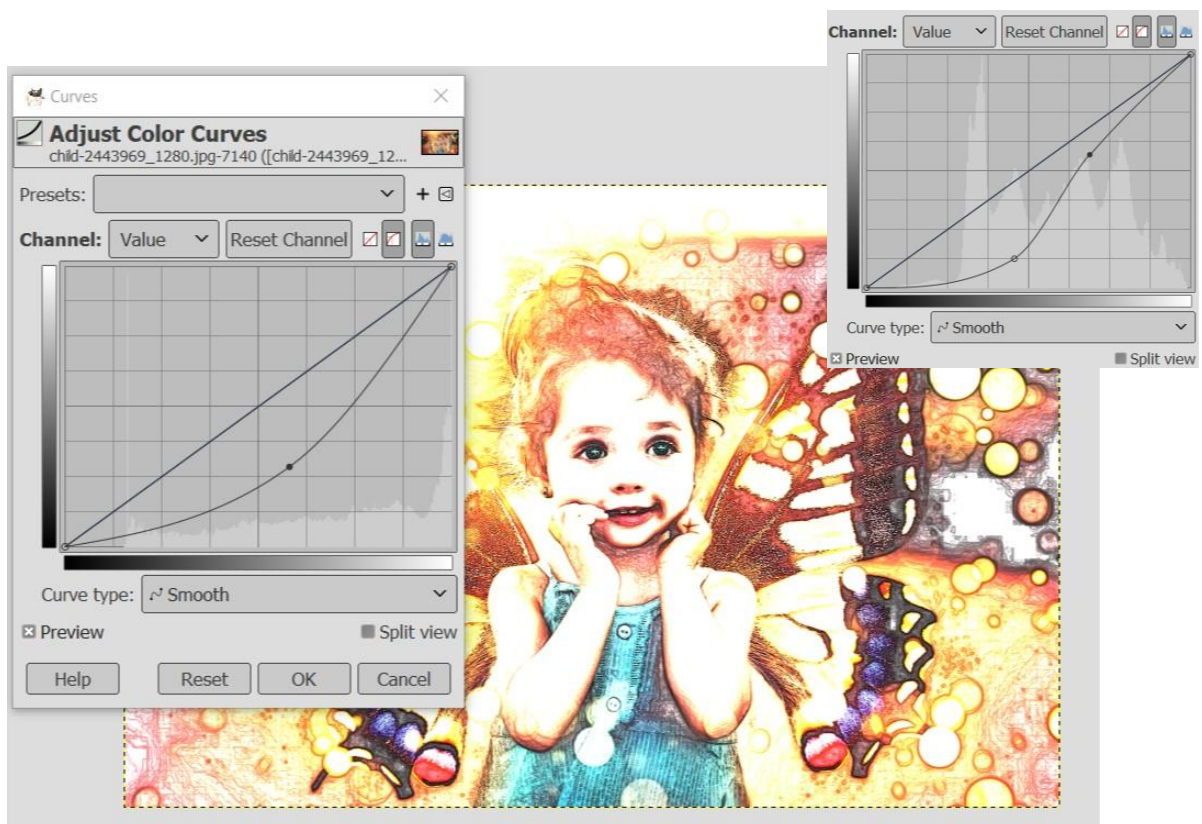
3 – Select the upper layer, go to **Filters – Edge-Detect – Image gradient** –

Accept the default value.



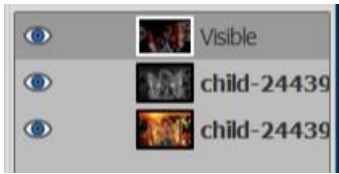
4 - Set the resultant effect at **Divide** as layer mode.

5 - Select the background image layer, go to **Filters** – **Colours** – **Curves** – pull down to get darker the image until you find it nice to see. Could be that two points in the curve gives better result. Try it.



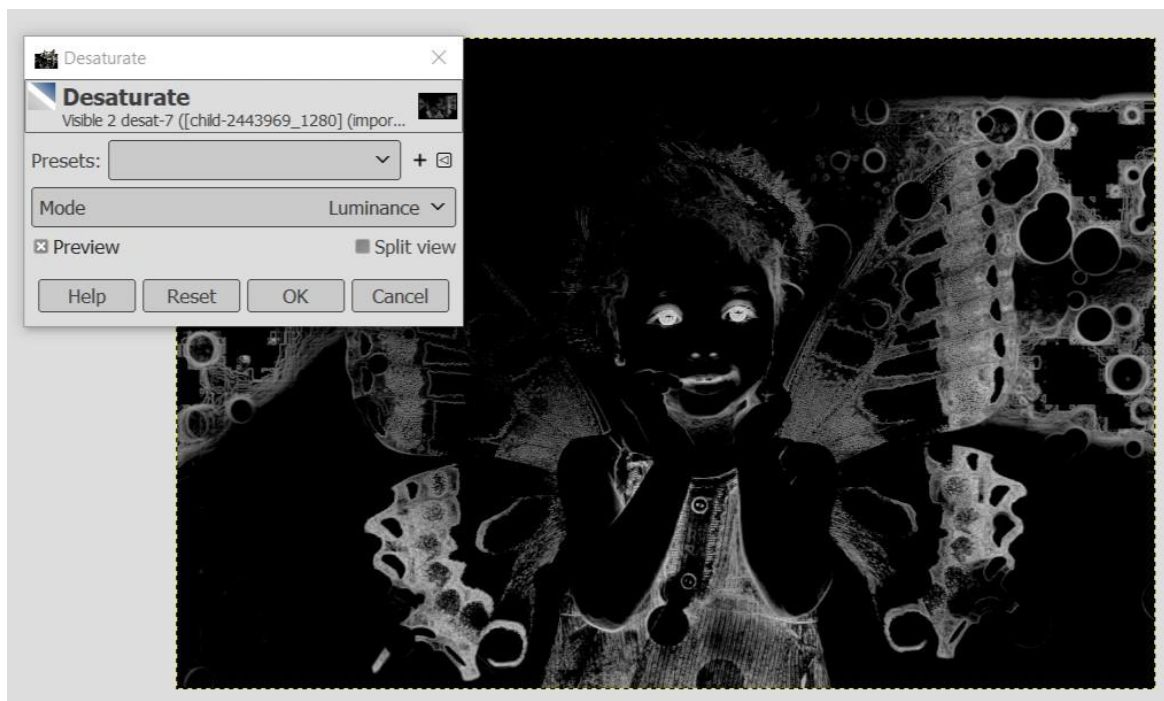
6 – Create a new layer by a click on the left mouse button and choose **New from visible**.

7 – Selected New from visible layer, go to **Colors – Value Invert** . Your image becomes quite a lot dark. Don't worry as It's correct.



8 – This step it is optional but from my tests, I can say that most of the images get a much better look if you apply it.

Select the Value Invert Layer go to **Colors – Desaturate – Desaturate** and accept.

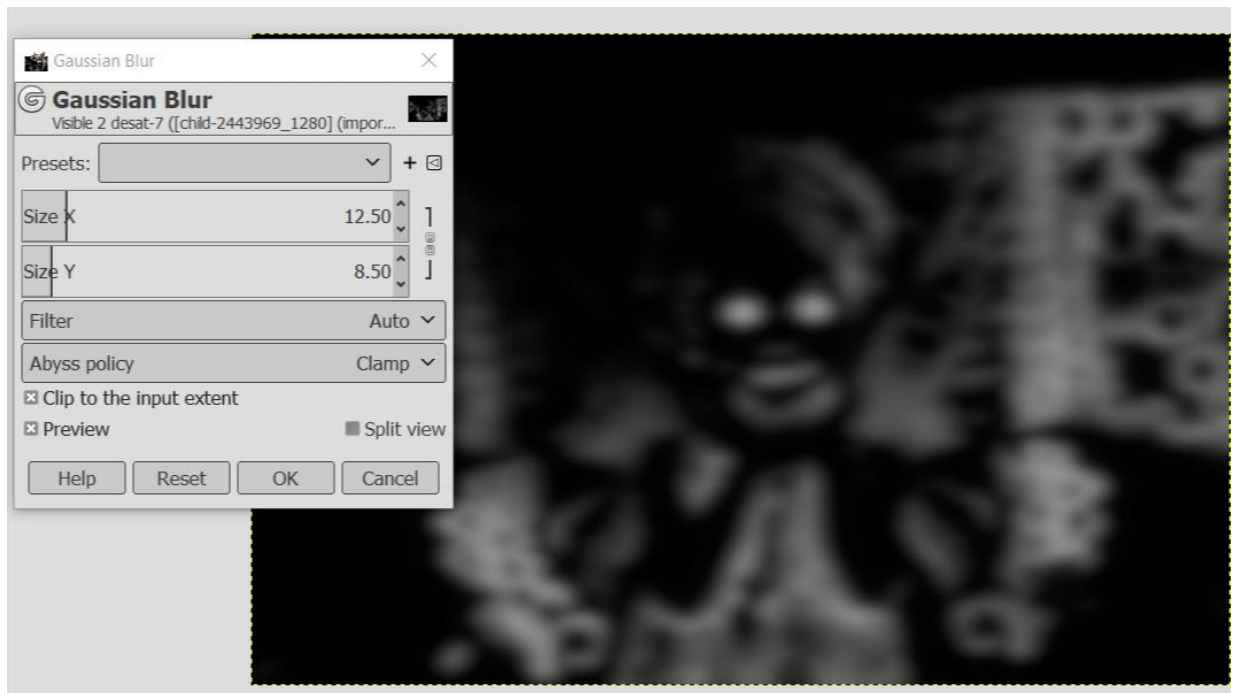


9 – Selected Value Invert Layer go **Filters – Blur – Gaussian Blur** –

Now we apply so much as 1 % of the measure of the image size in width and height.

(As a sample, if your image is 1600 * 1200, we apply a blur of 16 for width and 12 for height)

The one I'm using is **1280 * 850** , the blur applied is **X 12** and **Y 8**. Accept.



9 – Set the Visible layer at **Soft Light as layer mode**. After that, your image gets a nice drawing effect.

Final result



I hope you enjoy this drawing effect.

Issa.