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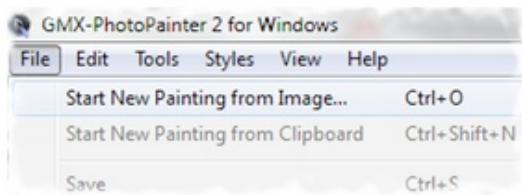
Gertrudis Graphics

GMX-PhotoPainter 2.0 for Windows – Quick Start Guide

Create Paintings Easily From Your Photos in This Step by Step Guide!

Let's Get Started

Start New Painting from Image

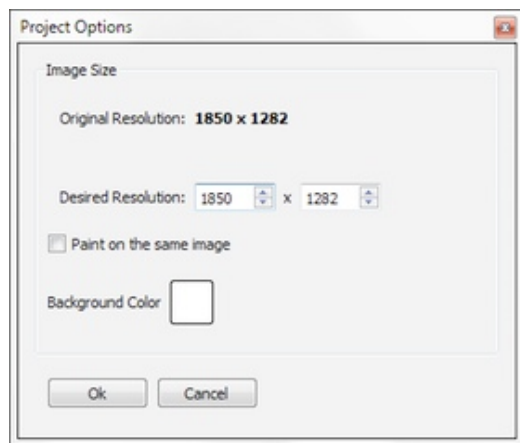


Locate the Original Photo you want to Convert to a Painting:

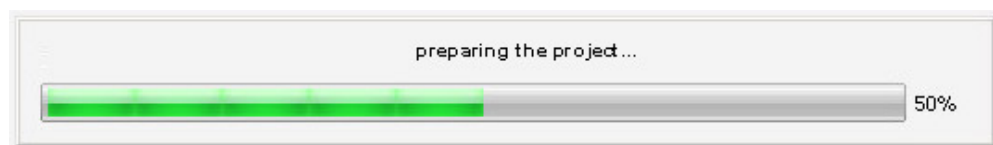


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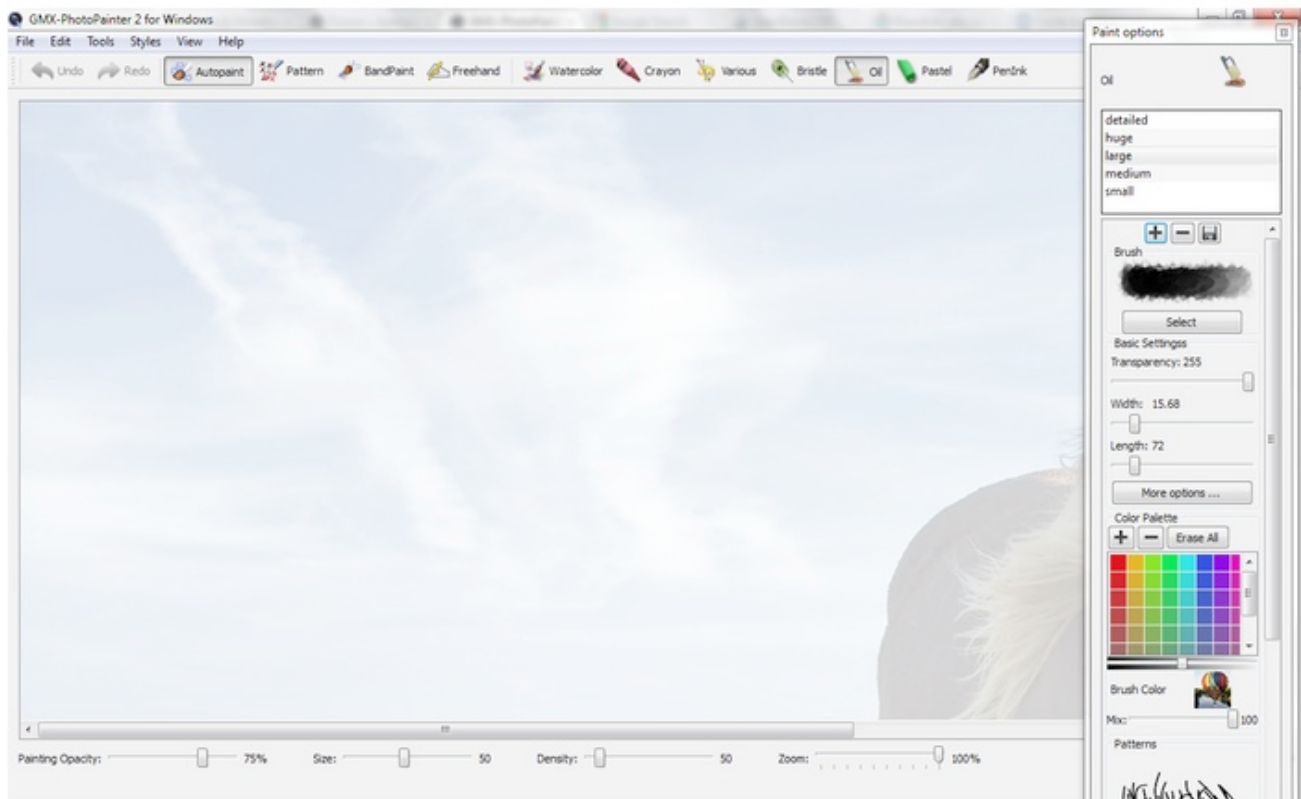
After having chosen the original image, the following project dialog box will appear:



Select “Create Project” and wait a few seconds:



This is the screen after the project is loaded:

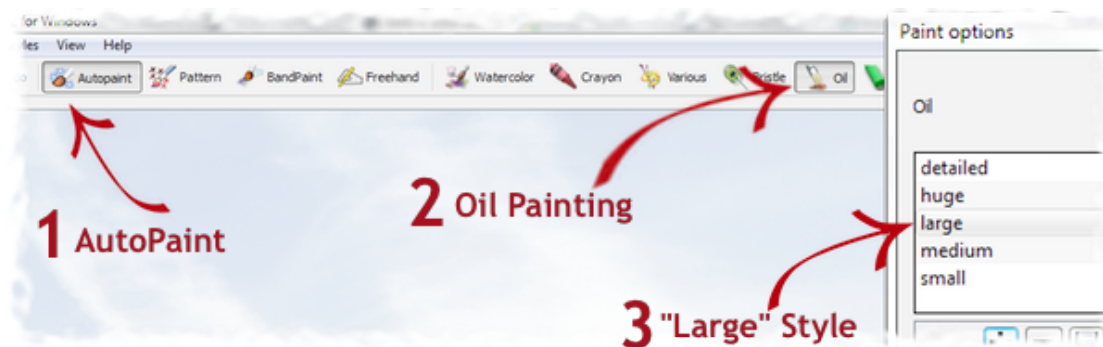


Adjust the zoom to see the entire image.

Choose Tool and Style

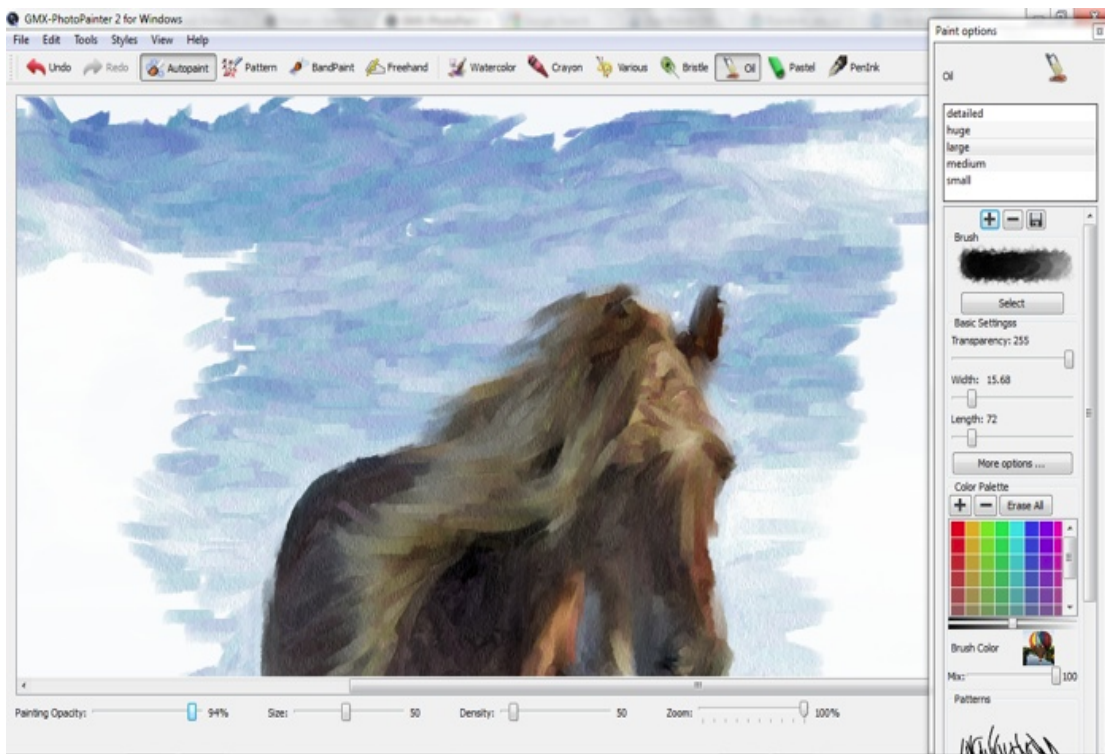
Select the following:

1. AutoPaint Icon
2. OilPainting Icon
3. "Large" Style Icon



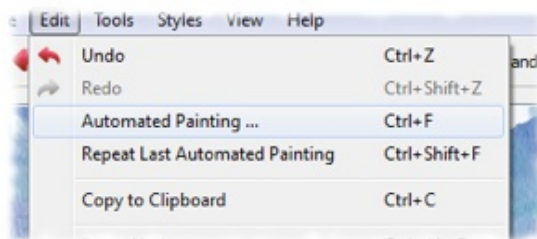
Draw the First Brushstrokes

Now pass the pointer device, (mouse, pen, tablet, etc.) over the image, and watch the results!
Experiment with brush strokes and textures!
Detail your work with smaller brushes.
You just made a photo into painting with GMX-PhotoPainter!

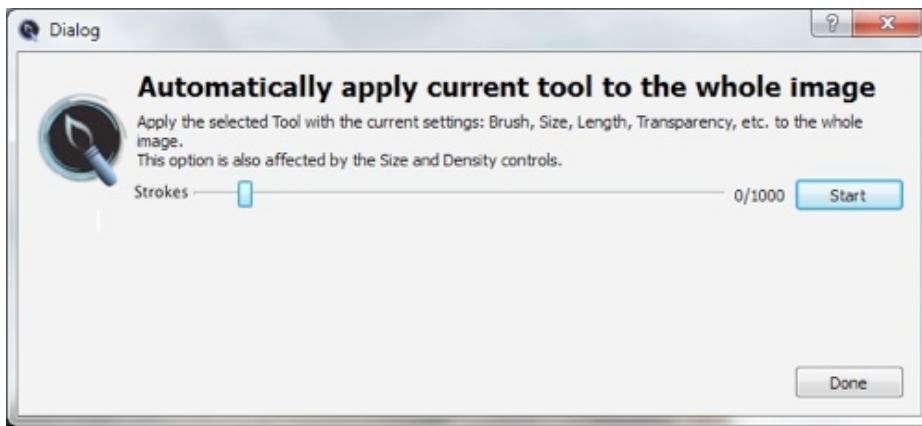


Using the “Automated Painting” Feature

You can also “automatize” the repetitive work of applying the brush strokes over the whole image by selecting the option “Automated Painting” under the Edit menu:



You will see the following dialog box:



If you set too many strokes, it will take longer but will apply more brushstrokes creating more layers of paint on the image. You can stop and restart anytime to get the image just the way you like it!. This is how the painting looks after 4500 paint strokes:



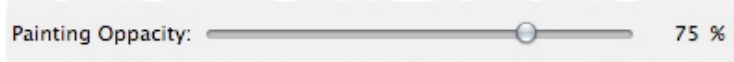
As you can see there is no details in the featured areas like ears, eyes, etc. This is because the size of the brushstroke is too big.

The section “**Detailing your Image**” will show you [How to Add More Details to your Painting](#).

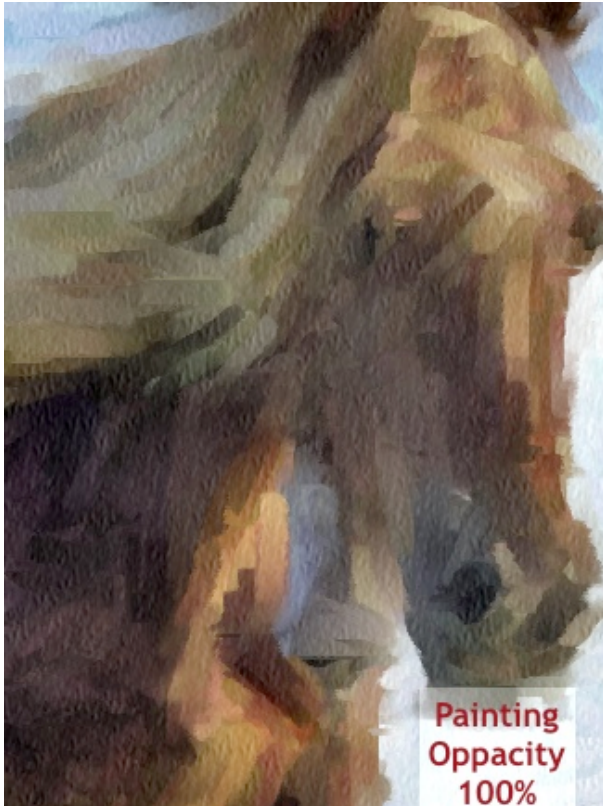
Original Image, and Transparency Control

Digital paintings created with GMX-PhotoPainter are based on an original image or “Source Image” with a

“Transparency Layer” on the top of it where you can create your painting. The slider, “Painting Opacity” controls the mixing of the original image and the actual painting, it is located in the lower left corner of the GMX-PhotoPainter shown below.



The following image is showing 100% Painting and 0% of the original image



The following image is showing 75% Painting and 25% of the original image

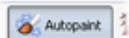


Painting
Opacity
75%

Detailing your image

To add detail to your painting you need to choose smaller brushstrokes. This can be done by simply setting smaller values for both Width and Length:



Now that you have selected smaller brushstrokes, you can apply the “AutoPaint”  tool again over the image.

This is the result:

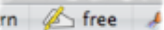


More About Detailing Your Image

The level of detail is a matter of artistic taste, and vision. However here are some important tips:

- **Add detail only where needed:** It is not necessary to use small brushstrokes over the whole image, you can select the areas where more detail is needed, such as eyes, ears, etc.
- **Do not duplicate the original:** If you use too small brushstrokes, (such as, width = 4 , and length = 6), the result will tend to be a mere copy of the original
- **Play with the brush stroke transparency:** The more transparent the brushstroke, the softer the result. If you apply too soft brushstrokes, the result will be too “flat” and each brushstroke will not be visible.

Final Touches

The painting is almost ready. To give a better finish to the edges of the painting, I will overlap a few brushstrokes, over certain borders, but this time I will use the “Freehand” tool  .

The following illustration show how the freehand tool is passed along the image:



This is the final result:




Detail of the final Painting:



Summary

What you have learned:

- Paintings created with GMX-PhotoPainter are always based on an original image.
- The “AutoPaint”  Tool will do the brushstrokes automatically.
- The “Automated Painting” option will automatize the repetitive work of covering the entire image
- You add details by diminishing the Width and Length of the brushstrokes

What’s next?

This quick guide has show only a few features of GMX-PhotoPainter. There are many features that deserve to be explored:

- [Painting Styles](#)
- [Color Modes](#)
- [Textures and Brushes](#)
- [Creating Sketches](#)

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