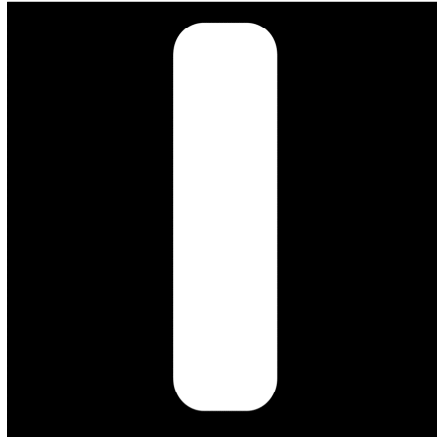


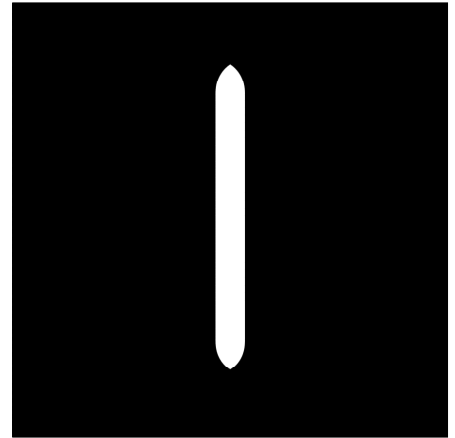
## TECHNIQUE



*Contour*



*Contour maximized*



*Contour minimized*

### **EXPAND AND CONTRACT PRECISELY WITH MAXIMUM AND MINIMUM FILTERS**

You can expand or contract a painted area very precisely. Once an area is painted, filter it using the filters Maximum and Minimum (Filter: Other: Maximum or Minimum). Maximum will make a lighter area bigger, while Minimum will make it smaller. These filters perform the same function for a mask that Expand and Contract do for a selection – but the preview is better. You can even Fade (Edit: Fade) the filter for even more precise placement. Doing this will adjust any contour in a selected area. What's more, you can brush over any area to restore it to its previous state, partially or entirely, using the History Brush at an appropriate opacity. This technique will make defining any area or contour easier and more precise.

Using a Wacom Intuos pen and tablet you can program the side switch of the pen to activate the filter Maximum or Minimum. First, you have to set up a key command in Photoshop (alternately assign a function key). Go to File: Edit: Keyboard Shortcuts to toggle

the Filter menu and then click in the field under Shortcut – typing in your preferred set of key commands. (Mine are Shift: Option: Command + and Shift: Option: Command - .) When you press these keys the window for the appropriate filter will appear. Now you can set up your pen and tablet to do the same thing with a single click of the pen's side switch. (Alternately, any of the ExpressKeys can be programmed to perform the same function.) Open the tablet controls, select Tool: Grip Pen and set the side switch (top or bottom) to Keystroke. Enter your preferred custom key commands, name it, and press OK. Pressing the side switch of the pen will now activate the filter, allowing you to blur any area. You can also program the tablet's Touch Strip to Scroll and use it to dynamically change the Radius setting of the filter.

With this technique you can determine the position of any painted contour visually, dynamically, and precisely.