

Recording Actions in Photoshop

Requirements:

1. Adobe Photoshop CS2
 2. 'Chopped_Mushrooms.jpg' image file, which you can download next to where you downloaded this file.
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Description:

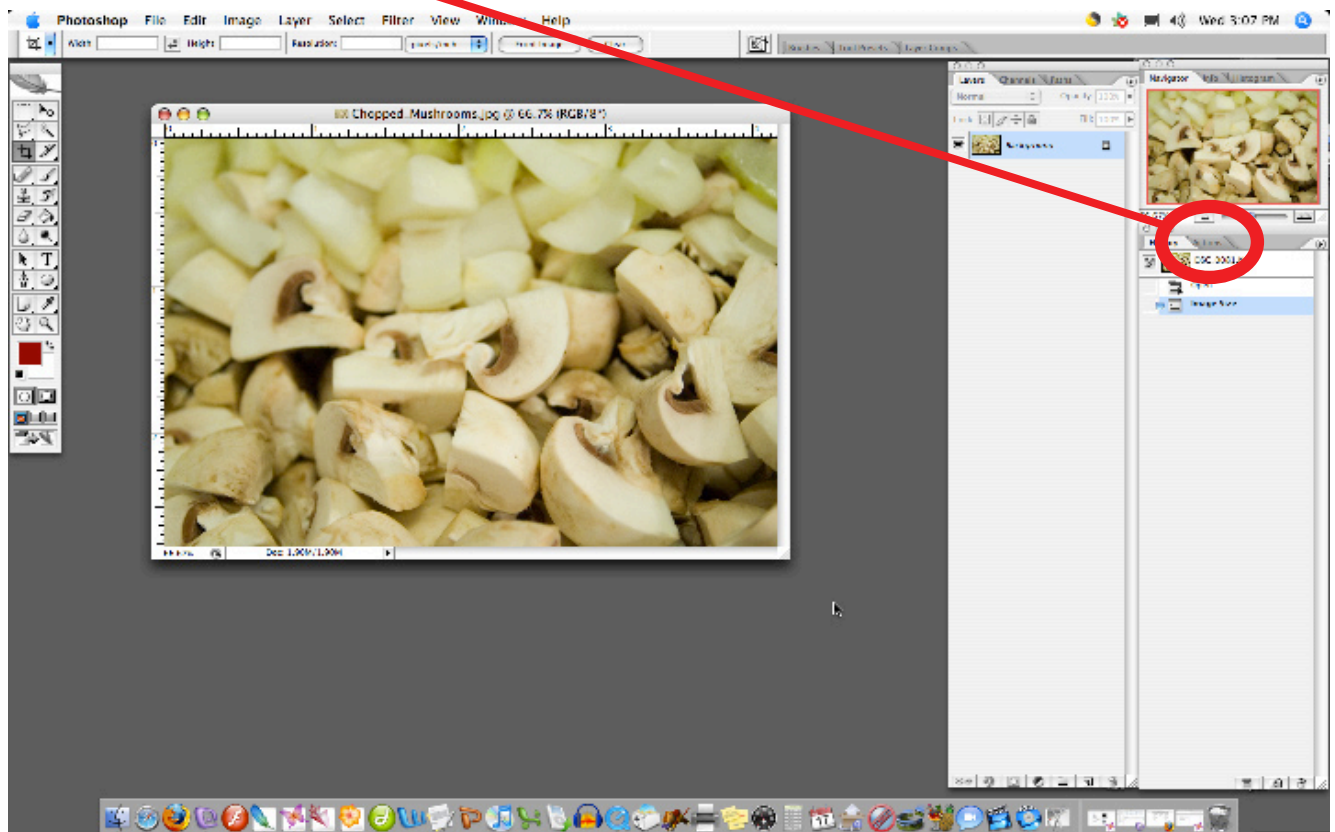
An 'action' in Photoshop is a recorded set of tasks that, once recorded, can be applied to other images in just one click. This is an awesome time-saver, and when used in conjunction with Batch Automation, can save even more time. (See our other tutorial called 'Batch Automation' when you are done with this one to see what I mean).



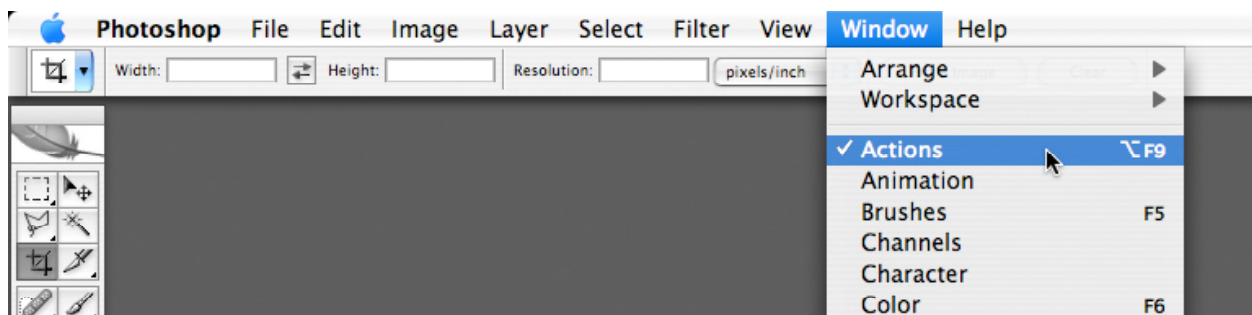
{ A MICA AV Services Tutorial }

<http://www.mica.edu/tss/av/tutorials>
avservices@mica.edu

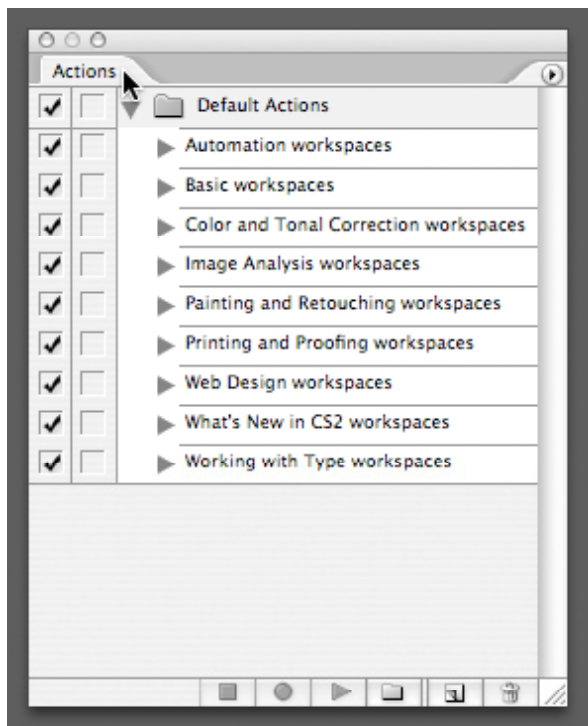
1. Open Adobe Photoshop.
2. Open the 'Chopped_Mushrooms.jpg' image file.
3. For this tutorial, we will be recording the following adjustments into one action:
 - Lowering image resolution.
 - Resizing image dimensions.
 - Inverting the image.
4. Go ahead and locate the 'Actions' panel. It is often found hiding behind the 'History' panel.



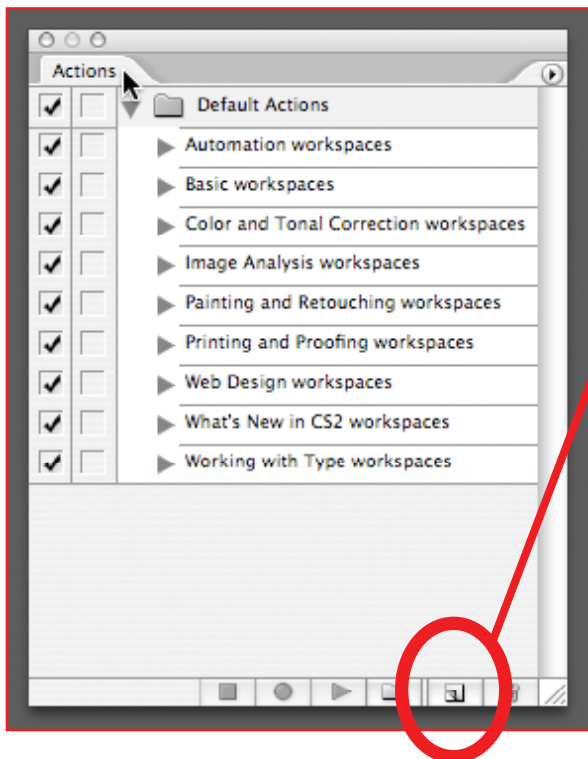
5. If you don't see the 'Actions' panel anywhere, select 'Window -> Actions':



6. Once opened, the Actions panel looks something like this:

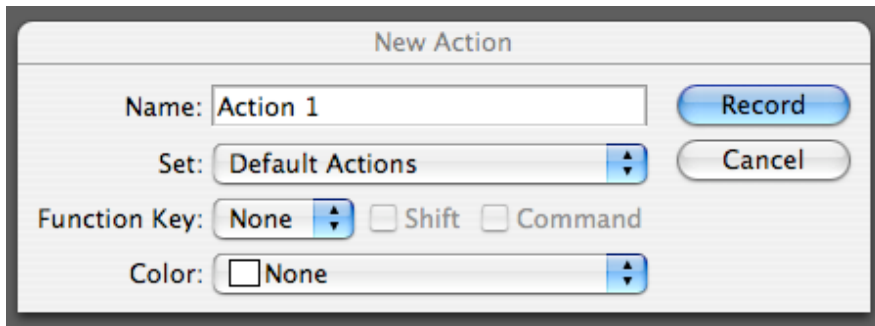


7. Create a new action:

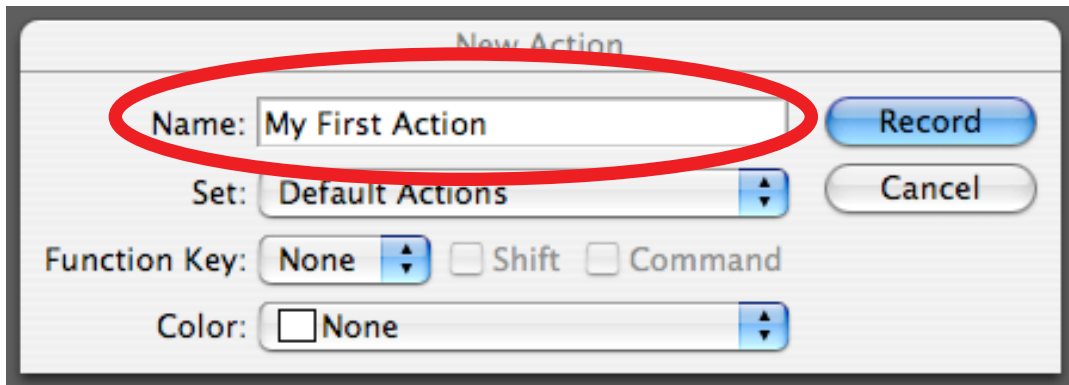


a. Click the 'Create New Action' button, located on the bottom of the actions panel.

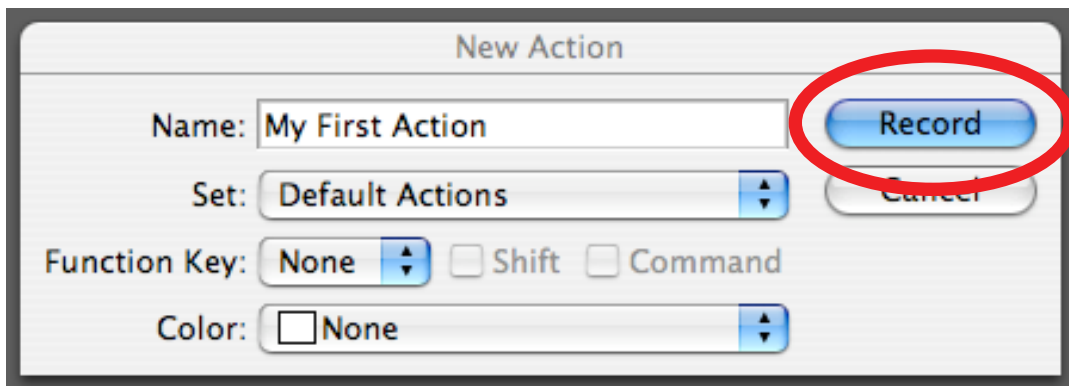
8. You will now see a 'New Action' window appear:



9. Create a name for you action. For this example, it will be 'My First Action':

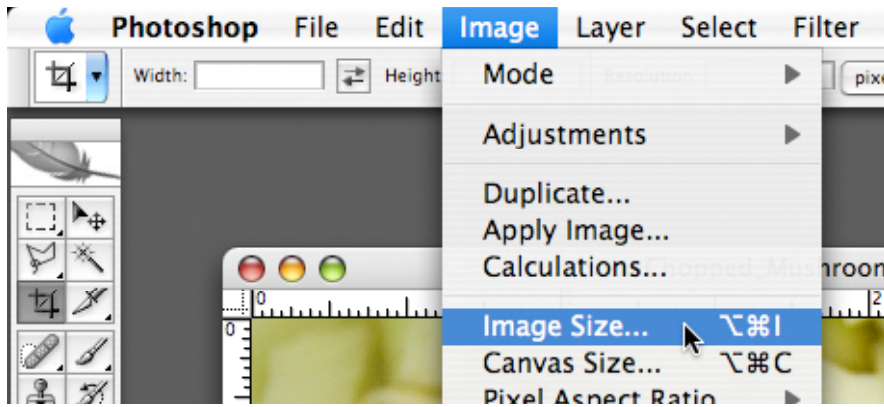


10. Skip the rest of the options and click the 'Record' button:



11. From this point on, every single thing you do in Photoshop will be recorded into your new action.

12. Select 'Image -> Image Size':

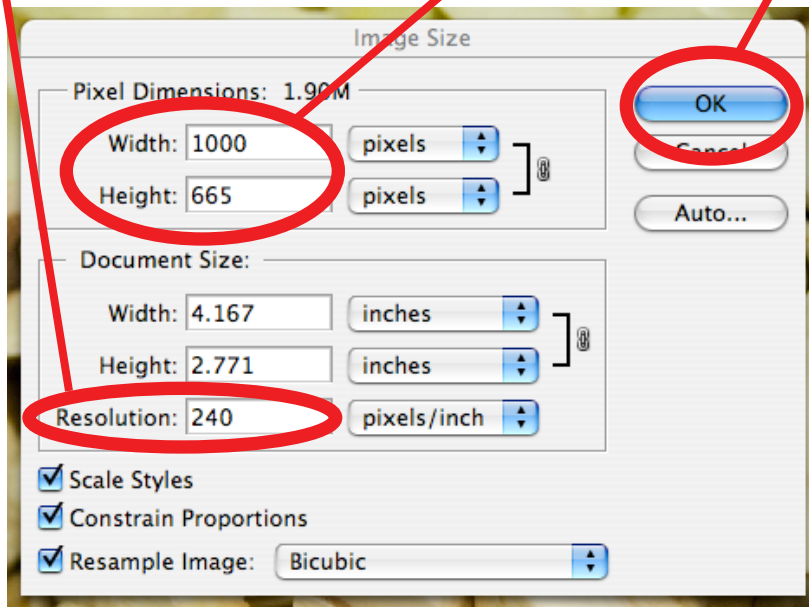


13. You will see the following window appear:

a. Change the resolution to '72'.
Notice that the width and height will change with the resolution.

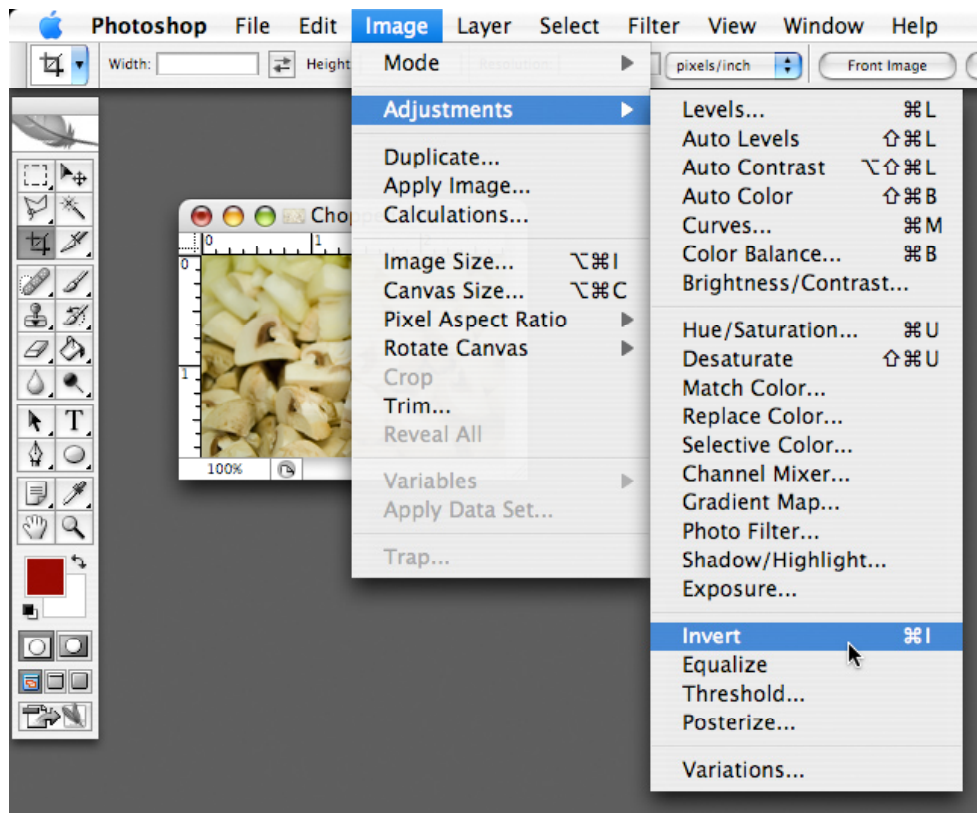
b. Change the width to '200' and the height to '133':

c. Press 'OK':

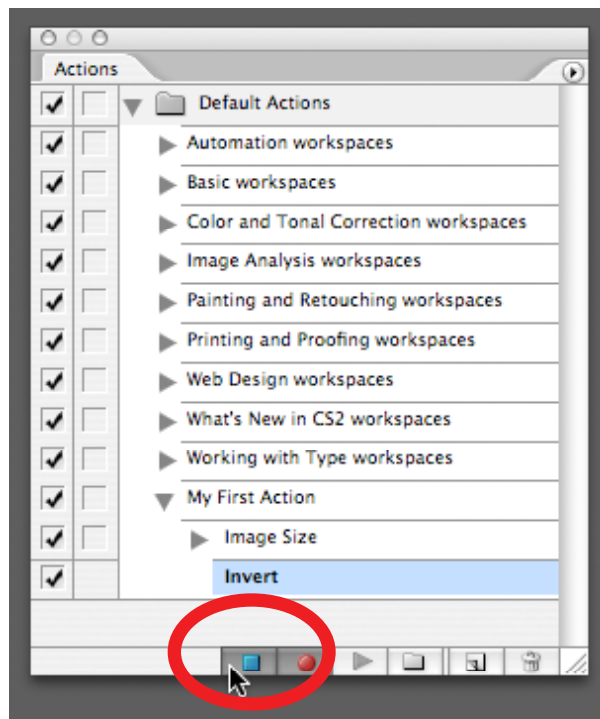


14. Move to the next page...

15. Select 'Image -> Adjustments -> Invert'. (Or the shortcut: Apple + I):

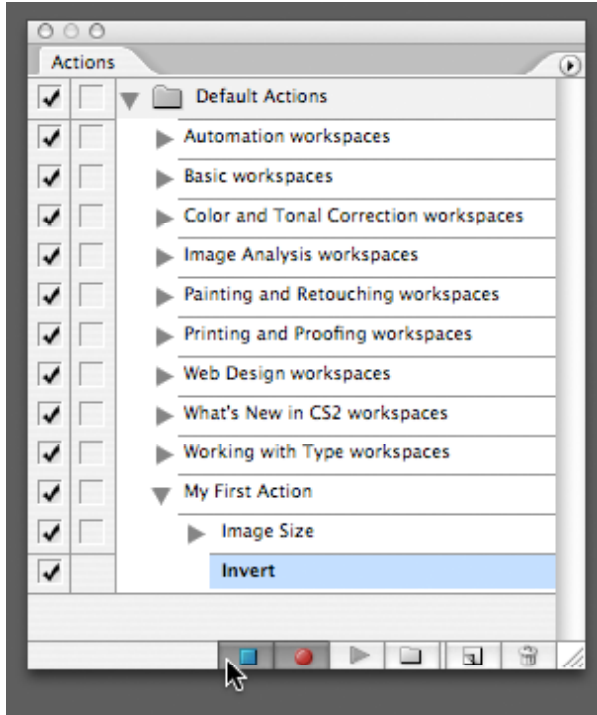


16. Now we have recorded all of the tasks and we need to stop the recording:

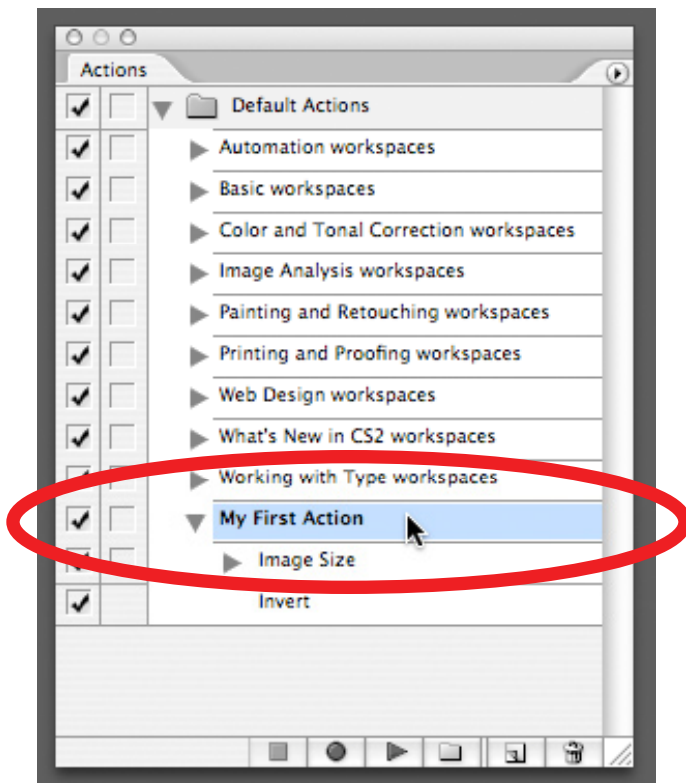


17. At this point, you are essentially finished. The rest of the tutorial will demonstrate how to use the recorded action on other images...

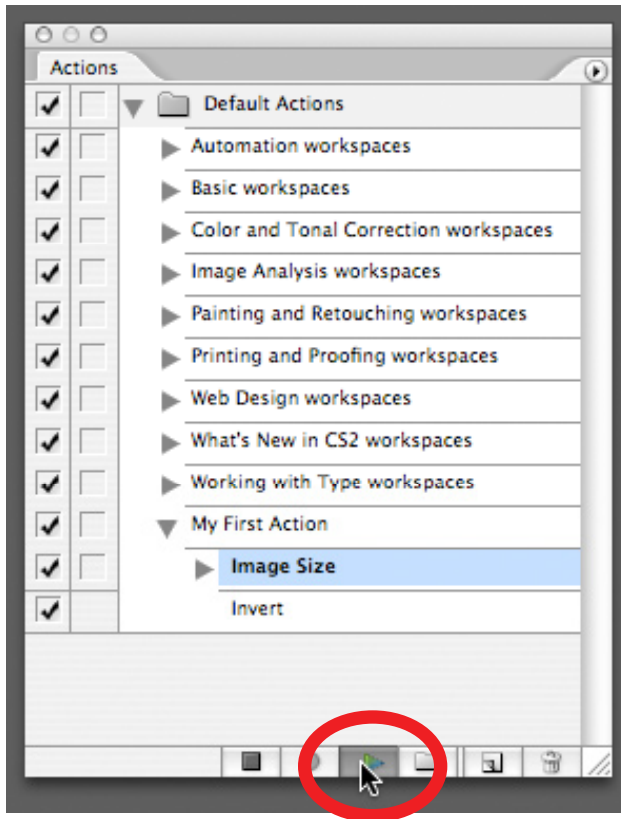
18. To apply the recorded action to another image, first you need to open another image. For this tutorial, just close the chopped mushroom image and don't save it, then open it again.
19. After you have opened the new image, go ahead and locate the actions panel again:



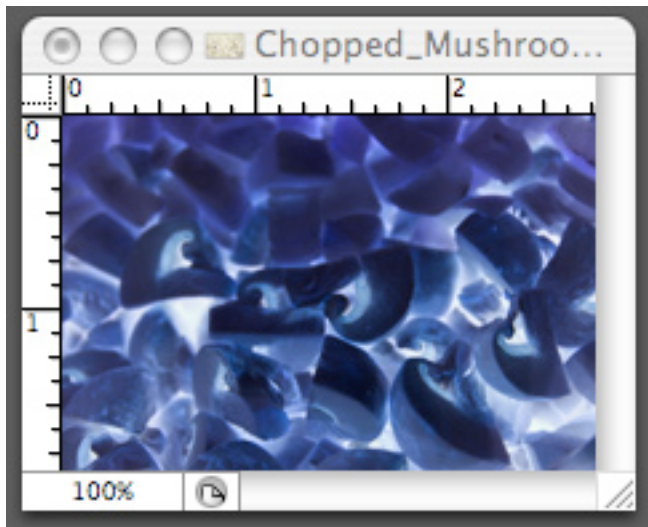
20. Click on the action you recorded:



21. After you have selected the action, press the 'Play' button:



22. After you have pressed the play button, you should see Photoshop administer the recorded effects, thus, giving you the following image:



23. Congratulations! You know how to record actions in Photoshop, and you have a completely useless inverted photo of chopped mushrooms! Now, continue on to the tutorial titled 'Batch Automation' to really put actions to use.

THE END