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IMAGINE PUBLISHING

HYPERPORTAL
MICHAŁ KARCZ

DIGITAL ARTIST KARCZ EXPLAINS HOW HIS CREATIVITY HINGES ON HIS CURRENT STATE OF MIND AND COLOUR ADJUSTMENTS

Much of Michal Karcz's (www.michalkarcz.com) artwork is inspired by music, and so it was with this image that Karcz worked while listening to ambient music master Steve Roach. He imagined a lonely mountain with a huge circular porthole. "The lake lying at the foot of the mountain represents the condition of my mind at that point in time, which was calm"

Perspectve is a very important device in his mages, inviting viewers into what are believable scenes that have never existed. "I always try to create the impossible, which ends up looking very real"

Such outcomes are achieved when compositing photos inside Photoshop.

Every element is carefully selected to ensure this photo-real quality. "Each layer is modfied using Photo Filter and Curves adjustments. These help match colour and lighting, blendng everything together," he explains. "I also apply Channel Mixer and Selective Color layers. These create very interesting effects that help me discover new looks and fulfil my ideas".

02| REINFORCE THE LIGHTING
The cloud stock I applied helped determined a light source. Curves layers were applied using layer masks to create a stronger appearance. A second source of light was then added inside the mouth of the cave, as was a Lens Flare to improve effects.

03| TURN UP THE CONTRAST
Standard brushes were applied to correct lighting and the Clone Stamp to correct detail. A Photo Filter was added to emphasise colour contrast. Hue/Saturation, Channel MIxer and Curves layers were applied to enhance contrast further.

01| RAISE OF THE LONELY MOUNTAIN
I placed clouds in the background first and then the mountans. Light was already in play, which you can see reflected in the water. The lonely mountain was added to draw in the viewer's attention. Nine different pictures were used to invent this location.