

## Sagrada Familia

Lee Oyama

“The low sunlight that is particular to winter was slanting through the intricate stonework, creating the play of shadows and shapes.”



▲ Sony Cybershot ISO 100 Focal length 8mm f/5.6

## thecritique

Architecture is a popular subject for photography, so you need some strategies if you are to distinguish yourself from other photographers – particularly when the building is well-known. A finely tuned awareness of light is invaluable so that you learn when and where to position yourself to catch the sun making the most of the building’s features. Attention to detail and an aversion to converging parallels are also great advantages as they ensure that the building is shown as its architect would wish to see it – which is the sternest test.

### Sagrada Familia

Lee’s image of the Sagrada Familia in Barcelona, Spain, is by far the most successful at meeting the brief to explore the relationship between light and a building. In doing so, it demonstrates what a winning combination marvellous light with a beautiful building can be. The exposure has been nicely judged to hold colour in the sky without burning out the sunlit areas, yet offers detail in the shadows. Some may find the rope in the lower left-hand corner a distraction, while others may consider it gives scale to the overall composition.

### Milan, Italy

Although Barbara did not work on a bright day, her use of light is entirely appropriate to the subject and her approach to it. She was concentrating on the Lego-like blocks of colour and their geometries and has deliberately denied the viewer any sense of scale. With its strong diagonals, the image works better than her more symmetrical compositions.

### Potsdamer Platz, Berlin

Ramon’s image gives a good sense of the relationship between the buildings, but is clearly crying out for better light. A blue sky would help, as would some sunlight to improve contrast. Alternatively, he could have concentrated more on the abstract symmetries.

## Milan, Italy

Barbara McKay



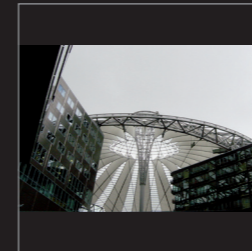
▲ Nikon Coolpix S200 ISO 50 Focal length 6.3 f/3.1



“I like the shape of this building and the geometry that could be seen ... I saw lines and angles more than balconies or walls.”

## Potsdamer Platz, Berlin

Ramon Rico



“What drew me to this structure was its height and its apparent weightlessness against the white sky, forming a delicate pattern of lines.”



▲ Sony Cybershot ISO 400 Focal length 8mm f/5.6