



⇒ Rivers of Light

Lighting design enhances the cultural quality of Valladolid/E.

Together with the LUCI network, the City of Valladolid has embarked on a global pioneering initiative, in which energy-saving and design are combined to create a unique tourist route through the town highlighting the city's architectural gems. The concept revolves around the symbolic re-integration of the River Esgueva, which was re-routed from its original direction in order to allow the city to develop and grow. This virtual river is transformed into a River of Light which runs through the city, guiding people through the streets in an interactive way. The route reveals the city's rich heritage and present splendours, its history, architecture and cultural heritage. The lighting of the targeted areas structures the urban environment: the colour temperature of the light sources is coordinated and the lighting levels are reduced to increase the degree of shadow, facilitating orientation and enhancing views after dark. The luminaires are well integrated in the urban fabric and are not conspicuous during the day-time. A light colour code has been employed to communicate specific visual messages. The colour "River Green" marks the route through the city. The interior of the church towers is lit in the official colours of the liturgic calendar: purple, white, red and green, and the colour of the City of Valladolid, purple, marks the cultural spaces. The design prioritizes subjective aspects such as aesthetics, health and the environment, combining them with visual comfort, economic efficiency and energy-saving factors.

Project team:

Client: Valladolid Municipality and Philips Lighting

Lighting design: Rafael Callego (áureolighting) and Lara Elbaz, Madrid/E

Electrical engineering: Elpa

Products applied: Philips and Indal

Photos: Luis Laforga

⇒ Metallic lace

Exquisite metalwork cladding filters light in a private residence.

Architect Italo Rota has created an extraordinary ambience for the home of fashion Designer Roberto Cavalli in Florence/I. The dialogue of decorative and structural elements is derived from the combination of functional and aesthetic features.

The entire building is clad on the outside with metallic "lace". The laser-cut ivy pattern on the stainless steel façade elements creates a kind of cage around the building which filters and reflects light and adds glamour and charm to the architecture as decorative lace would to a sophisticated garment.

Although the metal cladding covers practically the entire building, it nevertheless allows enough sunlight to enter. As the light changes, so does the surface of the metal and the lighting conditions inside the building. The panels forming the façade open electronically to control the amount of sunlight entering the building.



Italo Rota, whose works demonstrates a fascination with light and colour, added a touch of turquoise light to the Cavalli residence at night as a contrast to the warm white colours of the interior.

Project team:

Client: Roberto Cavalli/I

Architect: Italo Rota/I

Metalwork: Marzorati Ronchetti/I

