

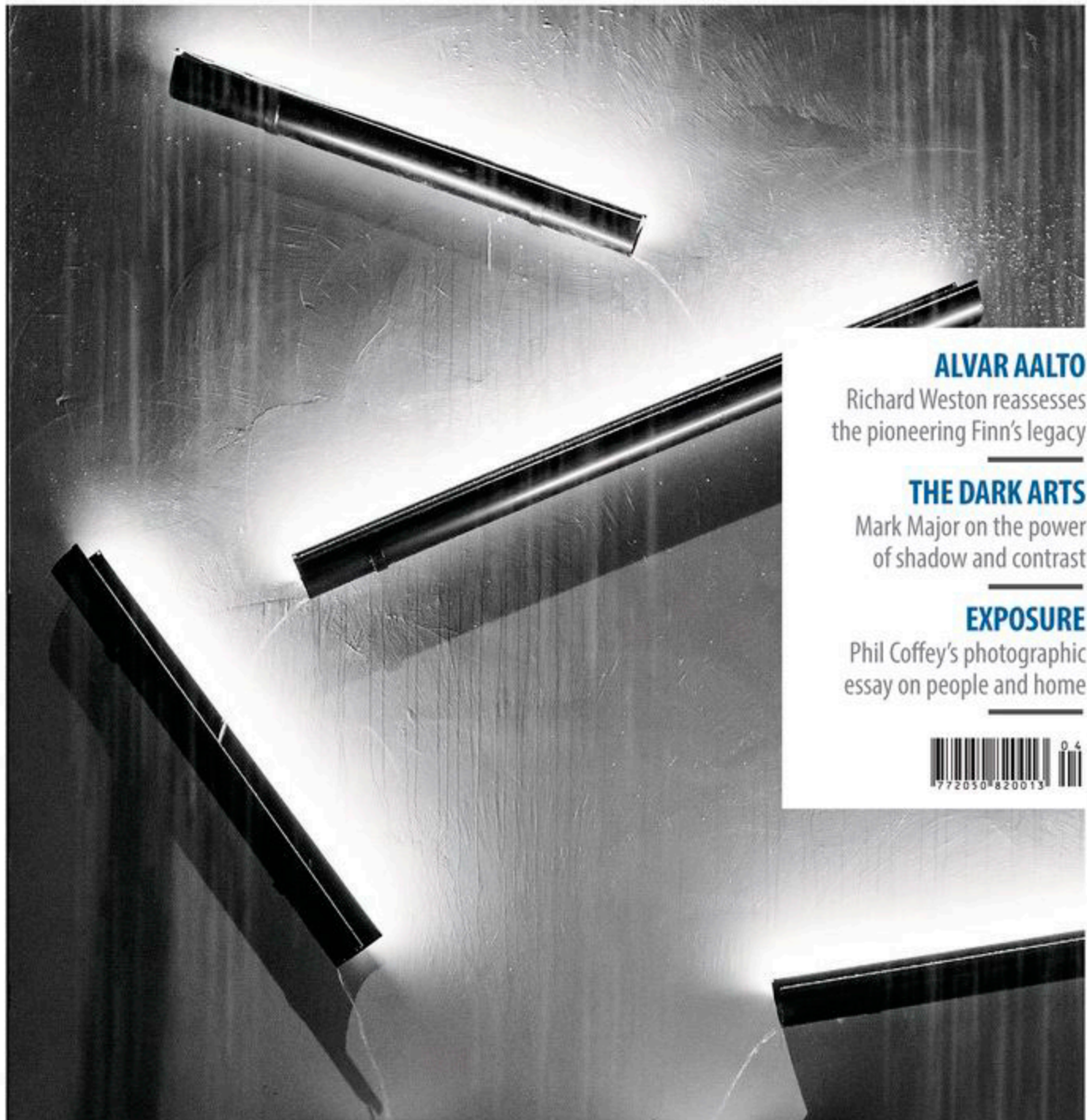
# LIGHTING

ILLUMINATION IN ARCHITECTURE

SINCE 1969

VOLUME 47 ISSUE 6 DECEMBER 2015

www.lighting.co.uk \$15 | £10



## ALVAR AALTO

Richard Weston reassesses the pioneering Finn's legacy

## THE DARK ARTS

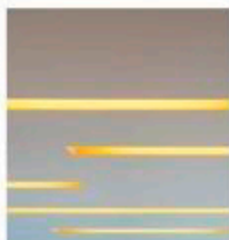
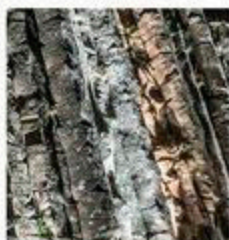
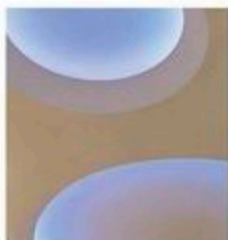
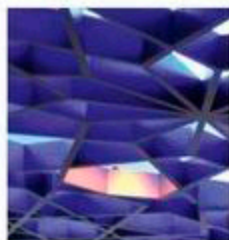
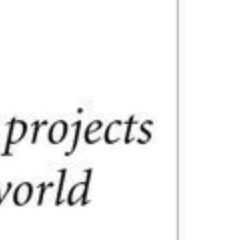
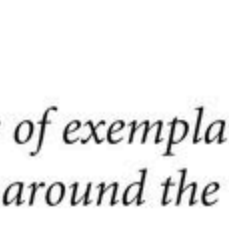
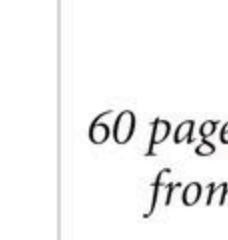
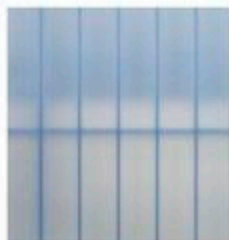
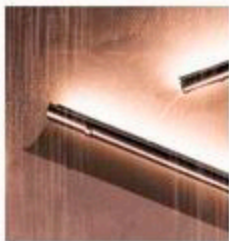
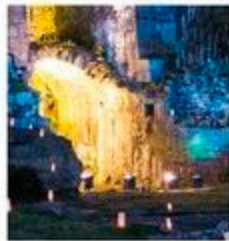
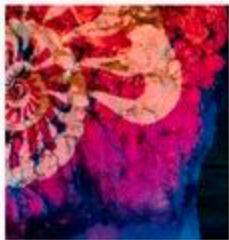
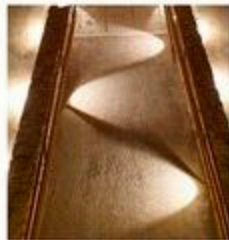
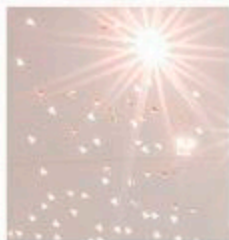
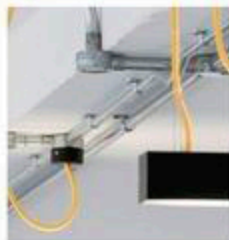
Mark Major on the power of shadow and contrast

## EXPOSURE

Phil Coffey's photographic essay on people and home



PLDC REVIEWED | NIGHT OF HERITAGE LIGHT | MALL OF SCANDINAVIA | LIGHTSPACE DOT LONDON



# DESIGN FILE

*60 pages of exemplar projects  
from around the world*



## VICTORIA GRANDE FORTRESS, MELILLA

### DISEÑO Y CONSULTORÍA DE ILUMINACIÓN

The Victoria Grande Fortress is perched on a rocky outcrop on the north African coast, guarding the historic town of Melilla, one of two autonomous Spanish territories in Africa. Constructed in 1736 as a defensive bastion, it fell into ruins before finding new life as a tourist attraction. Now its walls, battlements and terraces glow against the night sky, its venerable stone warmed and accented by LED lighting.

The challenge for Spanish design studio Diseño y Consultoría de Iluminación (DCI) was the same as for all historic structures: how to reveal the essence and character of the architecture without spoiling the view with visible fittings and cables. The answer was an integrated system of LED luminaires from Linea Light Group and LED Linear, ingeniously concealed in the architecture to leave just the effect.

The perimeter of the fort is lit from the moats, the colour-change LED luminaires wash the walls in warm tones and fade smoothly up the vertical plane, suggesting the glow of firelight.

The variations in colour temperature keep the effect dynamic, with accents picking out features of interest on the façade.

Elsewhere, linear luminaires under the vaults draw lines that uplight the ceilings, or create a play of dramatic backlight visible through openings in the façade when observed from outside the walls. Individual features have been exploited to enhance the effect wherever possible.

The access ramp, for example, doubles as an integrated lighting feature adding to the drama of the interior courtyard. Ventilation turrets discovered during the restoration now work as lanterns, lit from the interior.

This is the kind of subtle, opportunistic detail combining technique and imagination that singled the project out as the people's choice in the City People Light Awards 2015, created by Philips in partnership with the Lighting Urban Community International Association, which recognises creative use of light as a tool for urban regeneration. The jury commented: 'This lighting project has a very interesting approach as it uses an inside out integration of the lighting systems to architecture. The lighting increases the architectonic identity of the fortress in a magnificent way and really emphasises the architecture of the fortress.'

The installation also won first prize in the Lighting Designer category of the Codega Prize.

LED lighting is integrated into the architecture, making the walls, battlements and terraces glow against the night sky

