



# *Arrangements*

Jerry Grasso



**The ingenious design of the Sydney Opera House** by architect Jorn Utzon has been the creative source of inspiration for many artists since it was opened to the public in 1973. My wife and I toured this world-class marvel in 2010.

Many complex instrumental arrangements come together to form the underlying musical movements within an opera. Likewise, many architectural elements came together to form the final look of the facility's famous "sails". When completed, 6,223 square meters of glass were used, 350 kilometers of tension cable, and 1,056,005 roof tiles completed the shape. The foundation of the exterior is supported by concrete ceiling beams which were designed to replace the need for columns. Just like the movements within an opera, these change shape as they rise to support the roof.

Like many artists before me, I, too, have been inspired creatively by this World Heritage landmark. My project is simply a celebration of the sense of awe I experienced during our tour. My series starts with the exterior overture and moves recitatively through the interior arias. I have chosen to present an intimate look through the opera-like arrangements of the lines, shapes, and forms as I saw and felt them.

Several of the images in this ebook were published in two different issues of Black & White magazine.

"Spotlight Award – Single Image Contest 2014"  
Black & White Magazine, Issue #103  
Architecture/Interiors Category Winner  
Spotlight Feature article in June, 2014 issue

"Single Image Award – Single Image Contest 2014"  
Black & White Magazine, Issue #101  
Patterns/Texture Category

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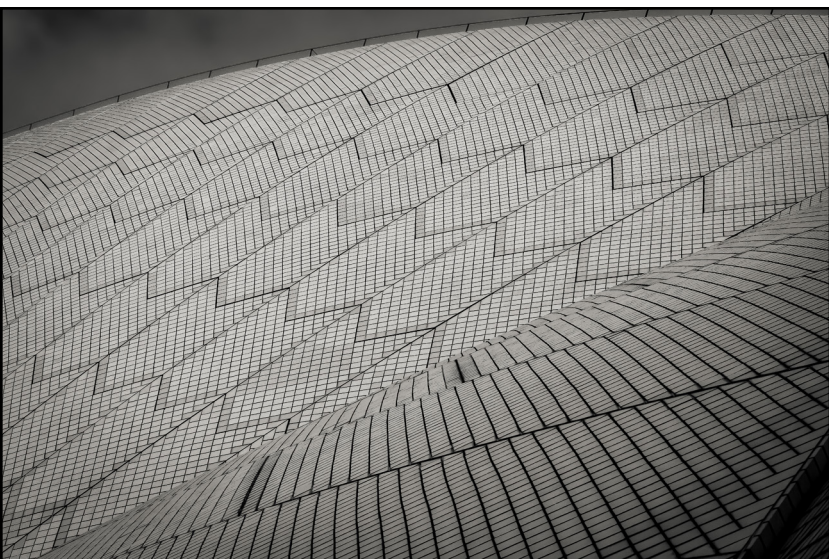




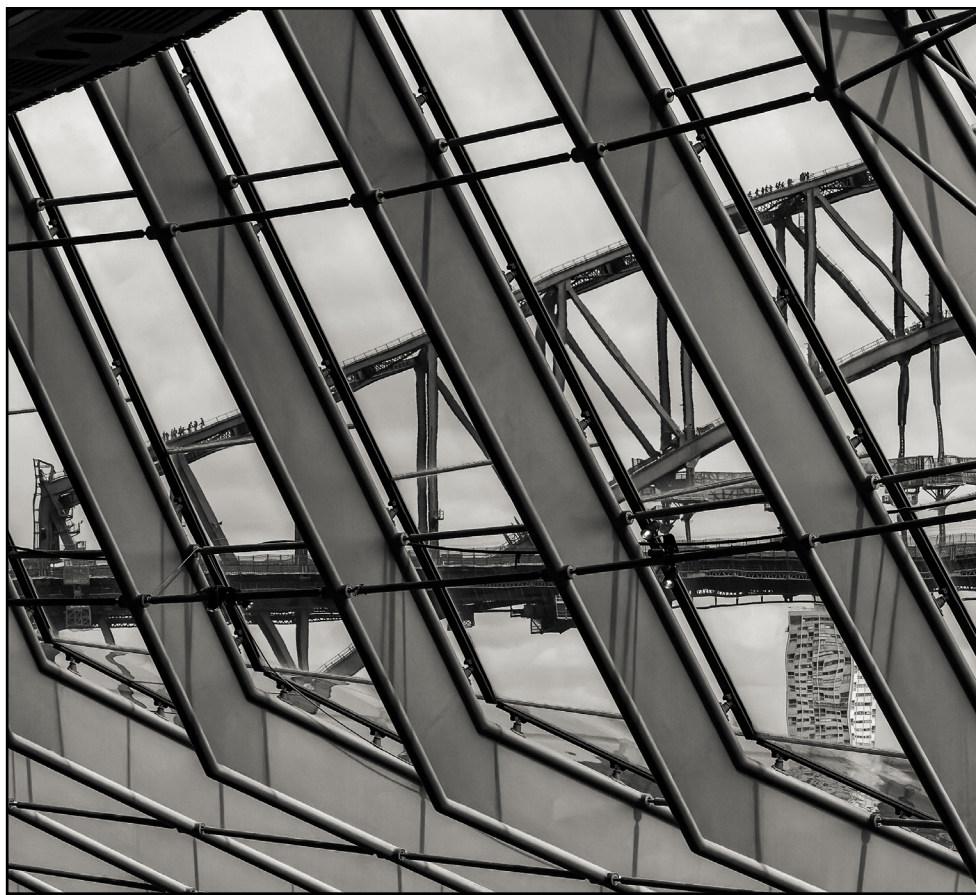






























# My Artistic Mission

## Child-like wonder and inquisitiveness

are qualities frequently put aside once we become adults. We tend to slowly become sterilized by our right-or-wrong kind of world which too often has too little time to explore the what-if's and the what-could-be's. I believe we all need to re-connect with these qualities to re-enrich our lives. A first glance at a photograph of an onion often reveals the fact that, indeed, it is an onion. But what also lies beneath its surface? We won't know until we peel back its layers.

Animation innovator, Walt Disney, recognized this and tried to bring back the power and importance of imagination. Inspired by his spirit, my mission therefore is to encourage the use of viewer imagination. My work attempts to explore and suggest what often lies hidden within the personalities and mysteries present in the world that was, and the world that is around us.

For me, my photography often is not so much about the decisive moment. Rather, it is about creating an awareness of place and a sense of history, with an aura of mystery. It is the starting point for my artistic journey, not the destination. I try to use what I produce

as personal metaphors for my reactions to what I saw and felt. My favorite motivational quote is that "Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone." My works attempt to reflect this as I probe the emotional, mind's eye after-image that was captured by both the eye and the heart, and which often defies logical explanation by the mind.

My goal is that my projects will serve as a springboard into inventiveness and exploration with the hopes of awakening my viewer's inner child. I try hard to show the connections and implications of things that others may not readily see. My hope is that my work may also help viewers discover the beginnings of their attempt to understand and perhaps even learn to tolerate and sympathize with the human condition and the world in which we live. I will try to do whatever I can to make viewers linger longer in front of my works so as to ignite their imaginative response through discovery and inquisitiveness.

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Enjoy life!





**JERRY GRASSO** has been an award-winning, international fine art photographer and visual artist since 2002. He has mentored locally with photographer, [Mallorie Ostrowitz](#), and then with internationally-renowned visual artist, [John Paul Caponigro](#). Photography is only the starting point for many of his projects. His favorite motivational quote is that “Life begins at the edge of your comfort zone.”

In addition to his travel photography, Jerry specializes in the intimately abstracted architectural photography, the photo essay, and the photo composite series.

Jerry’s mission is to awaken his viewer’s inquisitive inner child by creating an awareness of place and a sense of history, with an aura of mystery.





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