Interior Landscapes

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Cover Page Footnote
Valerie's photography explores aspects of contemporary culture, documenting the customs and behaviours of Australian and European urban society. Originally trained in architecture she has been working professionally as a photographer since 1991. She is also photographer for Der Bund newspaper and photo editor of the magazine Horizons of the Swiss National Science Foundation. Her work can be viewed at www.valeriechetelat.com

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Interior Landscapes

Valérie Chételat

Abstract
Impressions of Australia’s interior adorn the interior of Mario’s Palace Hotel in Broken Hill. Built in 1889 during the mining boom and purchased by Italian immigrant Mario Celotto in 1949, the walls of Mario’s Palace Hotel were the canvas of Aboriginal artist, Gordon Wayne.

Pastoral scenes and plummeting waterfalls provide a stark albeit surreal contrast to the rocky plains and searing temperatures outside. Among the Australian landscapes appears Botticelli’s Venus – the work of Mario himself - in what has been described as “Italian Renaissance meets Outback”.

The interior landscapes of Mario’s Palace Hotel provide us with another vision of the exterior landscape, but perhaps also the inner visions of two men.

Author Biography
Valerie’s photography explores aspects of contemporary culture, documenting the customs and behaviours of Australian and European urban society. Originally trained in architecture she has been working professionally as a photographer since 1991. She is also photographer for Der Bund newspaper and photo editor of the magazine Horizons of the Swiss National Science Foundation. Her work can be viewed at www.valeriechetelat.com

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