

The Ghosts of Valletta's
Christmas of the Past, Christmas of the Present
&
Christmas of the Future

By

B.A. Graphic Design and Interactive Media 2013 - 2014
Students

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Based On:

Past. Present. Future by Jean Paul Magri

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PROLOGUE

It is a dark night, lifeless apart from a gentle breeze we can hear. Some leaves rustling, gentle winds blowing and then a stillness.

SCENE 1 - CHRISTMAS OF THE PAST

Suddenly, a little glow comes to life from the left side of the palace façade. We see a figure, just a silhouette with light reflecting off this figure, who is holding a light and walking towards a window. Majsji, il-kebbies tal-fanal, starts lighting up on the lanterns, one by one, and streaks of light start sprouting out of them forming the whole façade of the palace.

From one of the windows, we can see a poor child raising her hands, reaching out for a doll that her mother is giving to her, while the rest of the façade is dark. The sounds of war are heard all around, it is evident that war has taken its toil on the country. Suddenly, the right part of the building is demolished piece by piece through a strobe light and we see the Maltese Flag and the EU Flag, with victory chants in the background, coming out of the debris and uniting in a bow tie. The bow tie then loosens, like someone is opening up a present and it goes dark.

SCENE 2 - MALTESE ELEMENTS

From the ashes of war, a new beginning starts. We see the building being rebuilt in a block bottom to top sequence, while snow flakes are falling from the sky. However, as the process continues, we notice that they aren't just snow flakes, but the Maltese lace with different Maltese patterns. One of the lace, which has the 8 pointed cross as the pattern, becomes the focal point, showing the splendour of the Maltese Lace.

Then the material of the cross turns into metal, showing that it is a door knocker attached to a typical Maltese door. Various colourful doors will go to the sides from the middle and they will form a wave of movement starting from the middle to the sides, while the side doors of the palace start rotating. After the colourful motion of the doors, the doors on the sides will leave the scene while the middle door will start growing in size and finally opening...

SCENE 3 - CHRISTMAS OF THE PRESENT

...To the Elf factory. We see the colourful elves in the windows putting presents on a conveyor belt, while the middle of the façade is pulled inward to show a canal. Faces of a fountain are pouring water in the canal, while the conveyor belt is dropping the presents in the Luzzu sleigh which is guided by door knob Maltese dolphins.

Santa Claus is on the sleigh, waving to the people, and gestures to the elves to put the presents in the sleigh. He whips the dolphins in front to guide it and the sleigh takes off in the night sky.

The middle of the façade closes, and everything darkens and Santa Claus comes from the top left of the façade, going to the top right, while the windows are lit up from the streaks of light left from the sleigh and dropping gifts for the kids who are in the windows. The streaks of light around the windows will then form a mini tornado and will sweep towards the top middle of the façade forming the Maltese eight pointed cross, while the lights of the windows will be switched off.

The middle of the façade will be pulled inward, showing the yard of the Grandmaster's Palace, and the lights will then sweep down in a circular motion to create a bright Christmas Tree with various poinsettias blooming out of it.

SCENE 3 - COMMON CLOSING

Wrapping paper starts forming from different sides of the buildings encasing the whole façade with beautiful Christmas patterns. After it has been wrapped at least once (we can opt to wrap it more than once depending on the time of the projection), a single ribbon will come from all sides to join in the middle and form a bow tie. Labels will start falling down and sticking to the wrapping paper with the words 'Merry Christmas' in Maltese and in different languages.

EPILOGUE

CONTINUES AFTER SCENE 3 - COMMON CLOSING

The wrapping will start zooming out, showing that the wrapping paper was part of a small present, in a window. Everything is dark except for the present itself and Majsi's lantern which is the only source of light. It is then switched off with a blowing sound.

After the blowing of the lantern, the Maltese Cross will fade in and will do the animation as suggested by the Hompesch group, where the Maltese cross will close itself

(CONTINUED)

in a circular motion, creating a V and then the Valletta 2018 logo will come to life as well as any other logos given to us by the Valletta 2018 organization.

End Credits.

EXTRA CHAPTER - CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

CONTINUES AFTER SCENE 3

The 8 pointed cross whirls around the whole façade with a bright white light and transforms into the Star of Bethlehem in the top middle section of the façade. We see the three kings on the left side walking towards the star, but stopping at a distance and will transform from just silhouettes into stained glass and the nativity scene will build up in the middle of the façade with the stained glass style. Angels can be around the scene, also in stained glass to form a church like scene.

CONTINUE TO SCENE 3 - COMMON CLOSING

EXTRA CHAPTER - NEW YEAR SPECIAL

CONTINUES AFTER SCENE 3 - COMMON CLOSING

The wrapping paper will crumble and will be torn apart, revealing blackness from where neon like streaks will form around the features of the façade forming a futuristic Strada Streeta (for inspirations look at Las Vegas). We see silhouettes of people dancing to the upbeat music, the palace clock (which is in a modern version) appears and the countdown will begin, with multi coloured blocks of the palace start to build up from the lower level building. As we reach the final part of the count down the façade is almost fully built and at 0 the final blocks are in place. Pyros and fireworks fire up and start the new year celebration.

Message of 2014 forms on the building various bursts of confetti over the whole façade.

BLACKOUT & DJ plays music