

**SPEIRS
MAJOR**

Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan al Nayhan Mosque,
Abu Dhabi, UAE

**LIGHT
ARCHITECTURE**

8 Shepherdess Walk
London,
N1 7LB
United Kingdom

T +44 (0)20 7067 4700

Co-lab Shibuya Cast
23-21, Shibuya 1-Chome
Tokyo 150-0002
Japan

T +81 (0)3 3400 8855

info@smlightarchitecture.com
press@smlightarchitecture.com

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A project defined by light: the extraordinary building attaches special symbolic importance to light. With the Islamic religious calendar based on the lunar cycle, we looked to the moon as our source of inspiration and this became a unifying element in the lighting design.

CLIENT
Public Works
Department

EXECUTIVE ARCHITECTS
Halcrow Group

INTERIOR ARCHITECTS
Spatium Architects

PHOTOGRAPHER
Allan Toft/ Lars
Kirstein

PROJECT TEAM
Jonathan Speirs,
Keith Bradshaw,
Carrie Donahue
Bremner, Iain Ruxton,
Philip Rose

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Starting with a poetic look - the impression of a full moon with wisps of cloud moving across its face - as the lunar cycle progresses, so the building also alters in character.



It is bathed in cool white light at the full moon, shifting colour every two evenings, growing gradually bluer as the moon wanes.

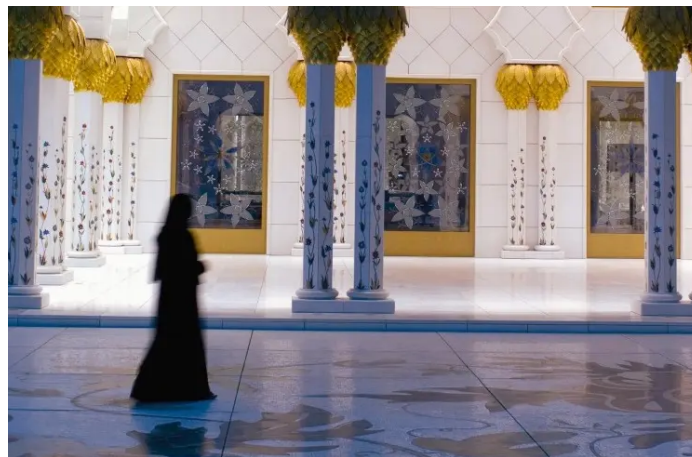


On the fourteenth evening the mosque is lit in deepest blue to signify darkness - and yet the viewer is never able to perceive the building changing from one colour to the next.

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Arcades

Elegant, covered passageways, rich in details and able to provide sufficient light levels to pray and read.



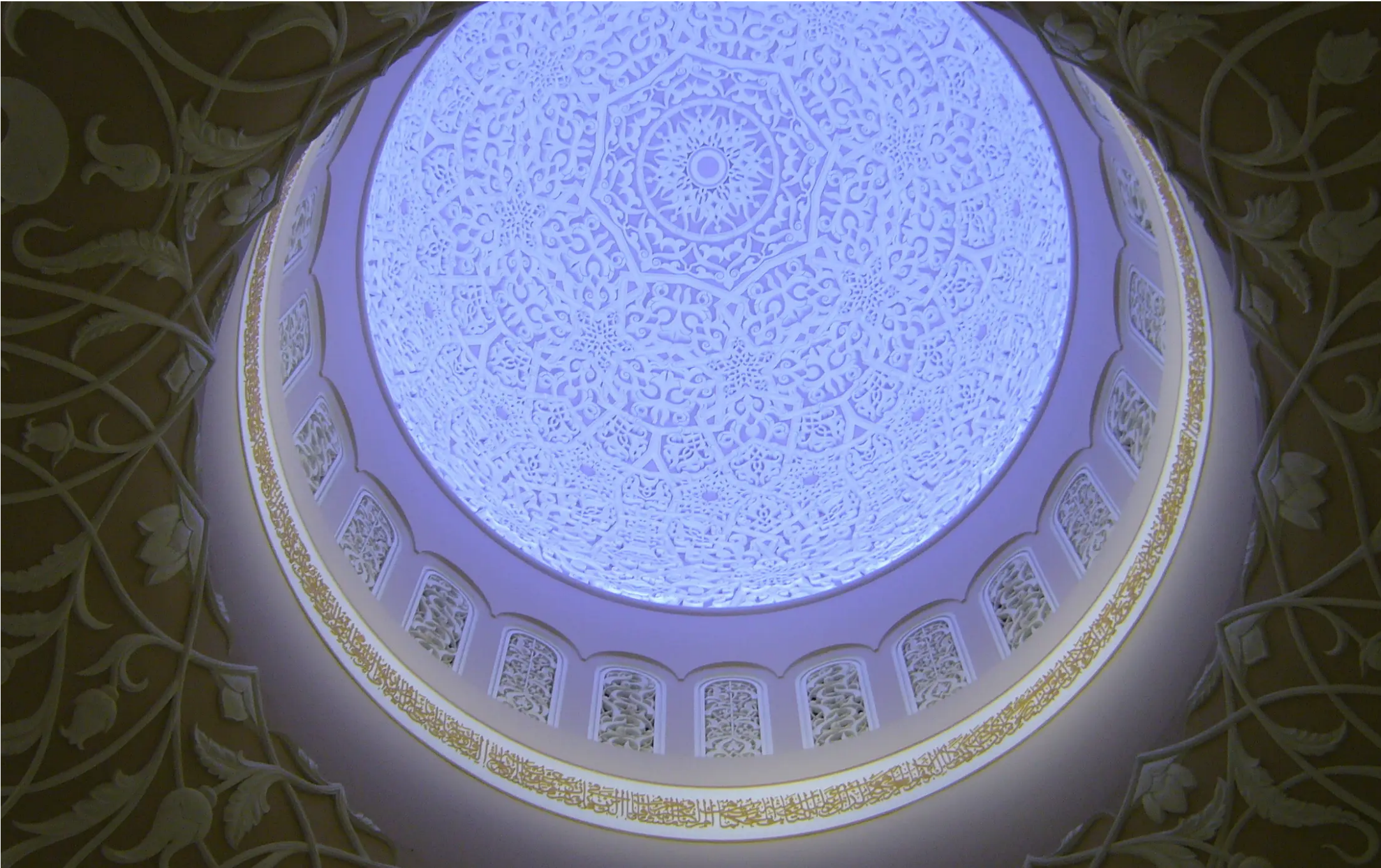
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Interior Areas

Welcoming, comfortable and able to host both informal and formal gatherings, the main prayer room is lit with an apparent effortless using concealed light. Light levels can be set to suit small teaching groups and for large televised, religious events.

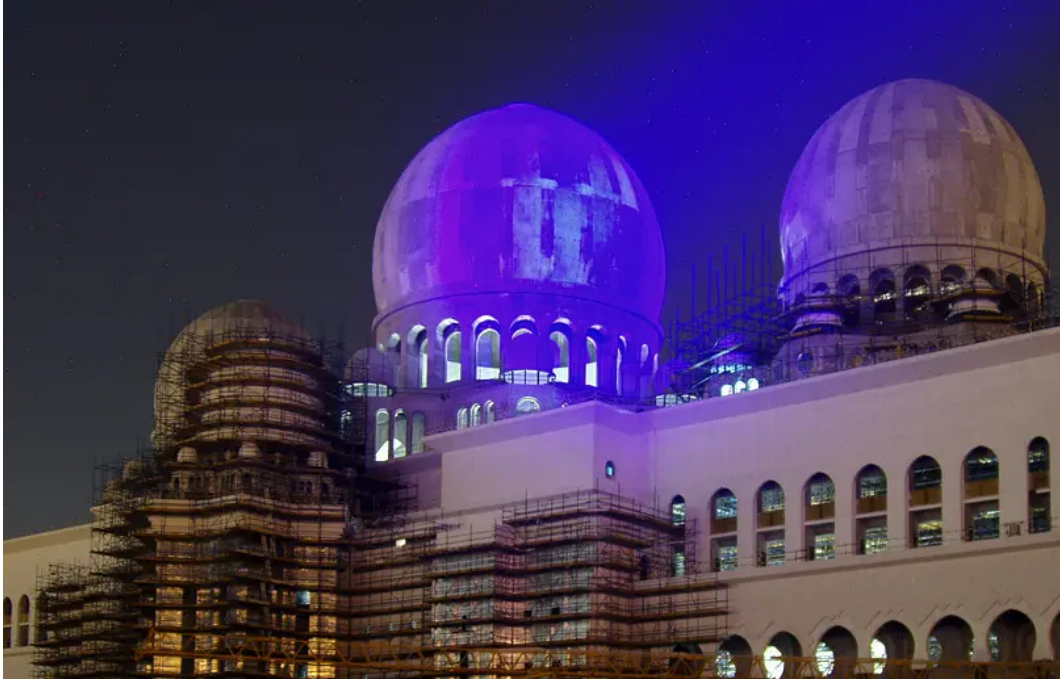


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Facade Test