Artists have this knack for transporting us to another world. A world that is a creation of their mind. Watching art is like watching the artist's soul bared. I have always been envious of artists. Whether their art consists of painting/writing/music or in this particular case, photography, they have this ability to express themselves. Which is one of the greatest gifts, to bring beauty through expression.

I was invited to the prestigious Lumas Gallery at The Dubai Mall. Lumas is a concept developed by its founders to bring in contact artists and make art available to everyday people instead of a few collectors and galleries.

They were exhibiting Mr.Werner Pawlok's work based around the beauty of the old buildings of Cuba.

The man is a genius where his art is concerned. Through his pictures, he takes us through what Cuba was. It's glory, it's beauty and it's ruins.

At first, when I looked at his work, I admired it instantly, but I couldn't understand his fascination with empty rooms, glamorous yes, but empty. But talking to him made me understand the rare dimension that we often overlook. When we add characters to rooms, we get more interested in what's happening around those characters, their moods, their emotion, their presence. The room starts serving as a background. Through his work, Mr. Pawlok wanted to bring into light the beauty of these buildings, these rooms, to evoke a sense of responsibility towards these beautiful buildings which are disappearing fast due to neglect. He says, when he enters a room, he thinks about what kind of history the room holds, what might have happened there, the joys and sorrows that the room might have witnessed. And am thankful to him for opening my mind towards this idea. I might not have stumbled on it on my own.

Let's just say, seeing these photographs, so beautifully, artistically taken really amazed me. I have always found that paintings have depth, which photographs never do. But Mr. Pawlok's work definitely made me change my mind.

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