

FLAAR PHOTO
ESSAY

September 2007

Creating HDR with Photomatix and Photoshop



Architectural Photography

Photographs and Project Concept by Nicholas Hellmuth
Photomatix & Photoshop work by Juan Luis Sacayon

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HDR Samples Photomatix



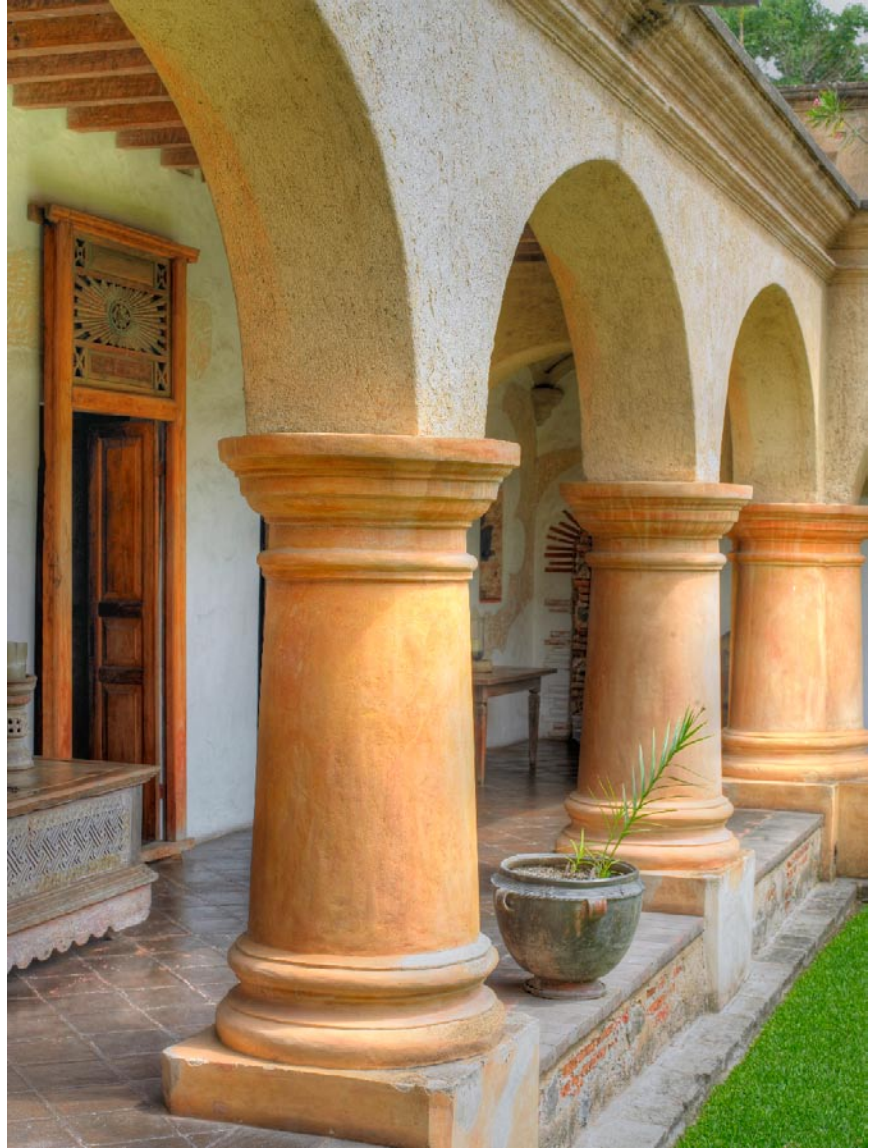
Before HDR



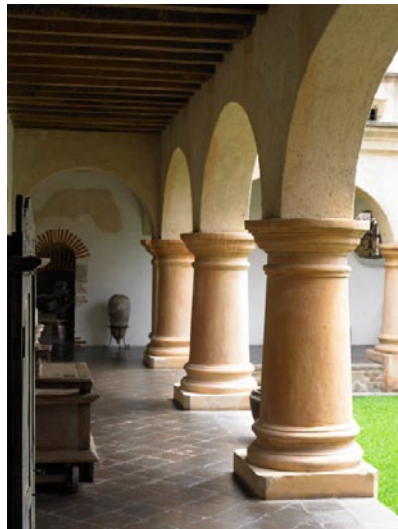
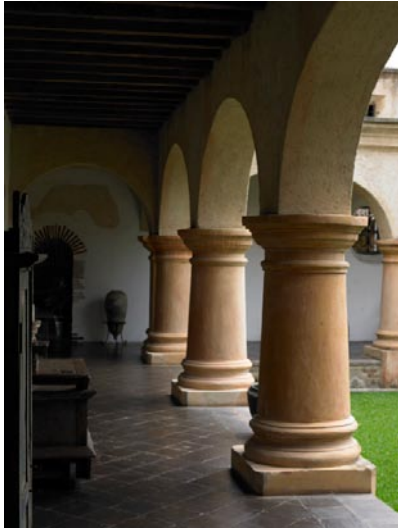
End result of applying HDR software techniques (in Photomatix)



Before HDR



End result HDR Image



Before HDR



End result HDR Image



Before HDR



End result HDR Image



Before HDR



End result HDR Image

The HDR photographs were taken with a Phase One P25, 22-megapixel digital back on a Hasselblad ELX with either an 80mm Zeiss lens or a moderate wide-angle Zeiss lens.

A sturdy tripod is essential, otherwise the pixels of each image won't be directly on top of the same part of the scene in each image. FLAAR uses primarily Gitzo tripods; we have a specific Gitzo tripod for each camera: here a carbon fiber Gitzo G13348. I use this tripod with an old ArcaSwiss tripod head and at other times with a Gitzo G1275M or Manfrotto tripod head.



Gitzo G1348 carbon fiber tripod



Phase One P25 digital back & Hoodman CF cards.

The Compact Flash cards used by FLAAR, in our Nikon D200, Canon EOS 5D, and medium format PhaseOne P25 are all super-fast RAW CF cards from Hoodman USA. You can see Hoodman cards at PMA, at PhotoEast and other photography trade shows, or visit www.HoodmanUSA.com.

It would be best to take these photographs on a sunny day (to have a blue sky) but this was the rainy season in tropical Central America so there is no blue sky for weeks. Also, the effect of strong sun would result in a very different kind of photograph.

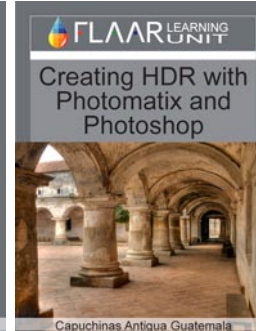
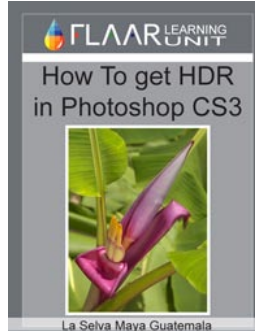
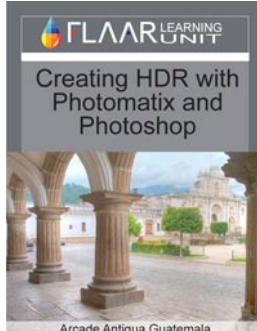
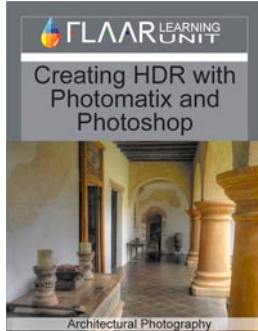
We have found Hoodman CF cards to be extremely fast. We currently use a 2 GB, a 4 GB, and an 8 GB ultra-fast versions of Hoodman compact flash card memory: one for Nikon, one for Canon, one for medium format PhaseOne.

The Gitzo tripods and Manfrotto tripod heads are provided for testing by Bogen Imaging, www.BogenImaging.com. I have used Gitzo tripods for over 27 years and frankly would not use any other brand. I use Gitzo, Manfrotto, and ArcaSwiss tripod heads, depending on which camera I am using (depending on weight and how much movement and speed I need). I do not want speed on a tripod head during architectural photography, but I do during wildlife photography.

The Phase One P25 digital camera back is provided by Global Imaging Inc, courtesy of Greg Lamb, CEO. Global Imaging is one of the few places in the US where you can look at all major brands of medium format digital cameras: Sinar/Jenoptik, Hasselblad/Imacon, Phase One, and Leaf. If a camera store sells only one brand, they will push that brand and usually denigrate other brands. But if the camera store offers all brands it is easier for them to discuss the pros and cons of each brand in a fair manner.

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FLAAR LEARNING UNITS *Creating High Dynamic Range images step by step*








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Phase One P 30
Medium Format
Architectural
Photography



Phase One P 30
Medium Format
Fine Art
Photography



Phase One P 30
Digital Back out in
location in
Cental America



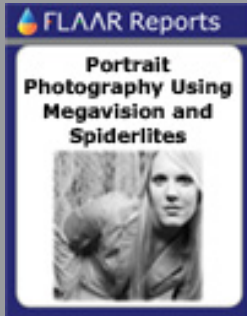
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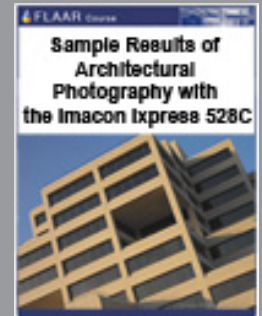
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Your finished inkjet prints look so much better if the input is from a high quality camera.

If you prefer to buy a medium format digital back (and not just rent one), then we suggest you contact Capture Integration,
toll free 877 217-9870,
Atlanta office 404 522-7662,
Atlanta fax 404 522-7929
Miami telephone 305 534-5701,
Miami fax 305 534-1425
E-mail: info@CaptureIntegration.com

Capture Integration handles all aspects of medium format digital photography: portraits and everything.

But if you are especially interested in architectural photography, they have the special architectural camera bodies that can handle any brand of medium format digital back.

Plus, Capture Integration is one of the only companies in the US that can handle medium format Infrared photography with a digital back at full resolution.



If you wish to try out a Phase One medium format digital camera, you can rent one from Global Imaging Inc. They rent across the USA. Contact info is:

Greg Lamb, glamb@globalimaginginc.com
(Colorado office)

2011 Cherry Street, Suite 116
Louisville, CO 80027

Tel: 303.673.9773

Toll Free: 800.787.9801

Fax: 303.673.9923

info@globalimaginginc.com

We at FLAAR know the people of Global Imaging Inc for many years. They also handle wide-format inkjet printers: VUTEk, EFI Rastek, Mimaki, HP, Canon, Epson, etc., IMAGEPRINT, COLORPROOF XF, ONYX RIP software, and Zund XY flatbed cutters.