

Barcelona Rooftops

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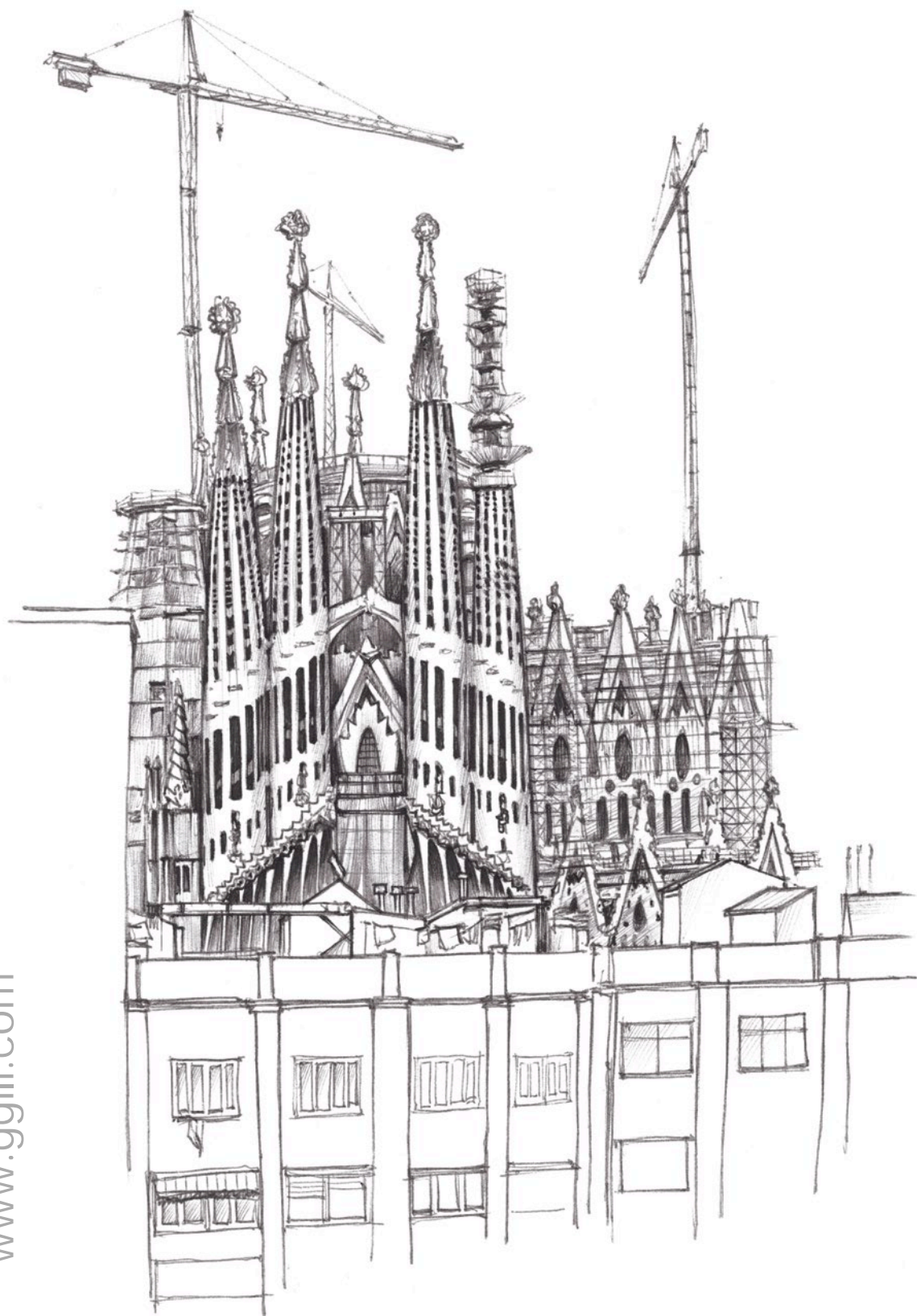
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Sketching from rooftops has always appealed to me, but I've never made systematic use of them. There's something melancholic and crepuscular about them, if only because the sun sets a little later in the day when viewed from a rooftop. A city's roofs are like supporting actors; not as good-looking as the main character but they always give better performances. Likeable antiheroes who can't dance and will never get the girl but still seem to *know* everything.

You'll never see friezes or sculpted female figures on a roof. Just electrical lines, aerials and chimneys. There are no walls up on a rooftop, which gives you the perfect view of the sea. You're not looking up at giants, but perched up on their shoulders.

I haven't lived in Barcelona for a long time, but by working on this book I have come to know it much more than any other city that I have ever lived in.





This is the first thing I see in the morning
when I wake up, open the curtains and
put up the blinds.



I overhear someone say: "I hired a car and driver to go to El Bulli so that I could drink whatever I wanted." I continue sketching the yoghurt logo.

When viewed from above, Barcelona is another city. There is a different light, other colours, other rhythms, other sounds, other people...





