



Game of Thrones display

By Jonathan Petrongari

The Inspiration

When I saw the TV show Game of Thrones for the first time (April 2012) I immediately knew what I wanted to make the year after for the RomaBrick events. I was enchanted by the majesty of Winterfell, the history of those mighty walls, so I started designing it in my head. Before seeing it on TV I did not know the saga which inspired the television series so much. It was a first for me as a fan of fantasy.

The birth of GoT Diorama project

After the success of our event ItLUG RomaBrick where we presented our medieval diorama in RomaBrick – ItLUG Latina 2012, together with Marco Cancellieri, Jody Padulano and Federico Micocci, we started by sitting around a table to organize the areas for the new Castle diorama inspired by the saga of the Songs of Ice and fire. The areas were divided in the following way: Mark would have created the imposing barrier of ice called The Wall with the Black Castle of Nightwatchers; I would build Winterfell, the great North Castle, home of Stark, Jody and Federico Frey of the Twins stronghold. We immediately realized the majesty of the project; each area was formed by a minimum of 24 bases of 48 studs to form a 6x4 rectangle. We decided to concentrate our efforts

on recreating the northern part of Westeros, trying to be faithful to the story. The idea was to develop each and every area in a completely autonomous way; only the boundaries were decided together with the presence of a road (King's Road).

What does the future hold?

The project will continue to expand. At the events in Ludica Rome (29-30th November, 1st December) and Porto San Giorgio (7-8th December) we will introduce a new part by Maurizio di Palma who will represent Moat Cailin. For the next year, in Latina 2014, there will be two other modules that will allow the diorama to reach nearly 27 m2

The Wall and Black Castle (Marco Cancellieri): The great wall of ice, over 300 meters high, was built to defend the Seven Kingdoms from the invasion of the undead, the "Strangers". At the time in which the story takes place it had already existed for thousands of years. I built my own version of the Barrier using over 20,000 white bricks and various other bricks, bought by weight, that make up the internal structure. The width at the base is 5 studs, large enough to guarantee a certain solidity. It consists of 5 basic block panels of 48x22 studs wide and 70 brick high, meant to be placed side by side. The build time was 2 weeks.



The Black Castle is the headquarters of the Nightwatchers who defend the civilized world from what lives beyond the Wall. Watching the TV series I was convinced that the castle of wood and stone, now in ruins, very small compared to the wall of ice that emerges majestically behind it, demanded to be built entirely in plate. I already had a lot of material at home and using plates would also be more realistic. Paradoxically, the construction time was much higher than the two weeks of the biggest "barrier", but we are very satisfied with the success! Taking an approximate count the entire area of 30 48x48 baseplates is expected to contain around 80,000 parts.

Winterfell (Jonathan Petrongari): Winterfell is the biggest castle in the North, house of the noble Stark's family. The castle creation was influenced by two factors, dimension and creation

of modules that would be easily transportable in standard boxes (40x40x40cm). This made it necessary to first create an LDD version in such a way as to structure the walls so that they could be independent in each module, maintaining the geometry of the arcs present outside. This has determined the shape of the castle and the use of some techniques at the expense of others. Honestly, I lost track of the number of the parts used for the construction of Winterfell, however I could estimate a number close to 45000. I tried to be as faithful as possible to the TV version. It's easy to recognize some of the famous areas in the castle such as Godswood, the training camp where Joffrey challenged Bran, the Broken Tower, Hunters' gate and Winterfell Great Hall. It took me 4 months to finish it, unfortunately the time available was not enough; at most I could work between 8 and 12 hours for week and I collected the pieces between August and February. The peculiarity of this creation is that every single base is treated in detail, starting from each steam for the flowers up to the plate for the decorations on the walls. The construction took longer than I expected because of my continuous pursuit of detail, which slowed down building speed considerably. The Winterfell area is large, 24 bases of 48 studs (5.19 m²). The castle occupies 16 bases with a total area of 2.30 m². For the event in Ballabio I created a special module that contains the Cave of the Brotherhood without Banners and for the next year I'll create a small village outside the castle.

Jonathan Petrongari is the RomaBrick's Ambassador and a fan of LEGO® since he was 4 years old.

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