

Exhibit Related Programs

Horizon, a Luftwerk Installation

September 19-22

A site-specific installation playfully challenges our perception of color and light. Presented in conjunction with EXPO CHICAGO, the International Exposition of Contemporary & Modern Art at Navy Pier. epochicago.com

Chicago Music Summit Music Showcase Performance

September 20 6:30 – 8:45pm

As part of the Chicago Music Summit, Chicago musicians Owen Clayton Condon and Atmospheric Audio Chair will be pushing the boundaries of improvised and ambient sounds. Performing individually as well as collaboratively in this immersive environment by Luftwerk.

Super Nature Installation

A performance for one, by Body Cartography

October 11 & 12 Noon – 5pm

In an empty gallery, one member of the public will meet one performer and have a non-verbal interaction. Both performer and audience will have agency to transform the energy of the space through their behavior and social interaction, sometimes very subtle and sometimes extreme. In Super Nature we seek to engage an audience's visceral response over their need to immediately make cognitive meaning from what they see. In other words, we endeavor to choreograph empathy.

Performers: Otto Ramstad, Justin Jones, Anna Marie Shogren, Timmy Wagner, Dolo Mc Comb, Francesca Mattavelli, Emily Johnson.

Reservations are highly recommended.

To secure your ten-minute slot, visit <https://dcasesupernature.eventbrite.com/>.

This installation is in conjunction with Super Nature, a performance October 10-13 at the Storefront Theater, 66 E. Randolph Street.

Gallery Talk

Curator Greg Lunceford and Luftwerk

October 24 12:15pm

Oscillation by Owen Clayton Condon

November 9 6pm

A performance that uses a combination of crystal glasses, cymbals and toy instruments to create an immersive free-form soundscape.

Chicago Cultural Center

78 E. Washington St. | Chicago | IL | 60602

Exhibition Hours

Monday–Thursday, 10am–7pm | Friday, 10am–6pm

Saturday and Sunday, 10am–6pm | Closed Holidays

(312) 744-3316 | TTY (312) 744-2964

chicagoculturalcenter.org

luftwerk.net

FREE ADMISSION



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City of Chicago
Mayor Rahm Emanuel

CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF
DCASE
CULTURAL AFFAIRS & SPECIAL EVENTS

20M 9/2013

DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

SHIFT

A New Media Exhibit by Luftwerk

September 14 – January 5 | Chicago Cultural Center
Chicago Rooms | 2nd Floor North

CITY OF CHICAGO • MAYOR RAHM EMANUEL

SHIFT

A New Media Exhibit by Luftwerk

For more than 10 years Chicago-based Luftwerk, a collaboration of Petra Bachmaier and Sean Gallero, has been examining the relationship between light, form and material through the development of large-scale, site-specific installations using projected video. Their latest new media installation “Shift” incorporates three distinct, yet interconnected works to immerse viewers in a heightened experience of sight, color and sound.

Luftwerk’s interest in the basic relationship between color and light, and how light and darkness determine how our eyes perceive color, served as the driving force behind the creation of “Shift.” During a residency at the Institute for Electronic Arts at Alfred University (IEA), Luftwerk began to research color theory in earnest and study the work of artists including Josef Albers and theorists such as Johannes Itten and Johann Wolfgang von Goethe.

Through “Shift,” Luftwerk has amplified their visual language: Color, motion and interaction are illuminated and demonstrated through the medium of projected light.

Spectrum

Our concern is the interaction of color; that is, seeing what happens between colors.

– Josef Albers (1888-1976)

A strong focus of Luftwerk’s IEA residency was testing prints and processes that would allow for projection mapping onto a wall-sized color field. Upon entering “Shift,” viewers are greeted by a digitized and re-imagined color wheel made of 529 painted panels that, once illuminated, meld into more than 3,174 tones of red, yellow and blue. This mutable continuum called Spectrum is a delightful sight, as projected light interacts with each panel, varying and mixing to create nearly endless possibilities for color.



Photo by Kate Joyce

Synthesis

We are able to hear a single tone. But we almost never (that is, without special devices) see a single color unconnected and unrelated to other colors. Colors present themselves in continuous flux, constantly related to changing neighbors and changing conditions.

– Josef Albers (1888-1976)

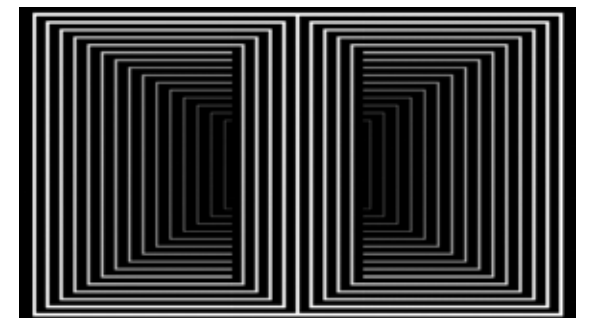
Viewers who experience Synthesis help shape the installation, as their movements through the gallery affect the color patterns of light projected onto the floor. Sound artist Owen Clayton Condon stimulates the senses further by highlighting the motion of Synthesis through an original sound score inspired by six colors of the light spectrum (red, yellow, blue, green, orange and purple) and three musical instruments (glockenspiel, cymbal and wine glasses filled with water).

Threshold

The threshold is the place of expectation.

– Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832)

Threshold, a site-specific work, playfully challenges our perception by examining how light moves and travels in a particular space. Two panels covered in mirror foil form a 90-degree angle to focus a viewer’s attention at the far end of the gallery, and our senses are bemused and enchanted again. When vertical beams of light meet the mirrored panels the light bends. Threshold gives the illusion that the gallery walls must contain a secret portal, perhaps to another world.



Text by Lee Ann Norman