

We Love Budapest

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<https://welovebudapest.com/cikk/2022/10/20/latnivalok-es-kultura-light-art-museum-fenymuveszeti-muzeum-hold-utca>

Entering an ethereal world in the former Hold Street market hall – We checked out the Light Art Museum

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We found ourselves in a special atmosphere and an entirely new dimension when we entered the building of the former market hall in Hold Street. The bustle of vendors, buyers and gastro stands is now just a memory and we were accompanied by ethereally twinkling and sparkling lights and mysterious music in the hall of the Light Art Museum Budapest, the world's first light art museum. The exhibition presents a work each by the foremost representatives of Hungarian light art, and the best thing is that they are not separated from us by a glass wall since we can go up close, touch them and play with the light.

Given the current energy prices, it is an interesting if not daring enterprise to open a new museum, especially one exhibiting light art works. We nevertheless curiously delved into exploring the **Light Art Museum Budapest in the former market hall, designed by Győző Czigler**. Up to now we have seen artworks related to light at some seasonal shows at best but we have never been in a museum whose **entire collection exclusively deals with light as a branch of art**.



Fotó: Forgács Zsuzsi - We Love Budapest

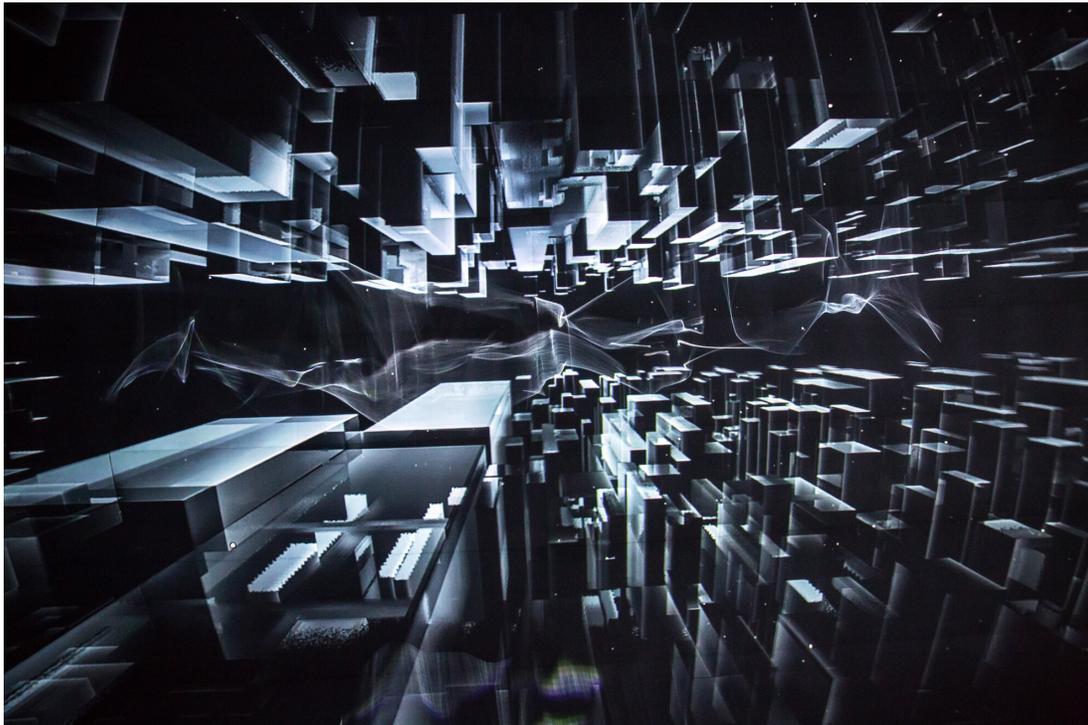


Photo: Zsuzsi Forgács - We Love Budapest



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A place that not so long ago vegetables, fruit and fish were bought and sold now accommodates **a great diversity of light art works**. The 35 exhibits include **holograms, laser installations and animations**, while the objects operating with shadow and light are **interactive light installations**. Although interaction is ever more widespread in museums, and some sensory objects can be seen here and there, we initially felt a bit shy and hesitated whether or not to touch, shift and move what we were allowed to.



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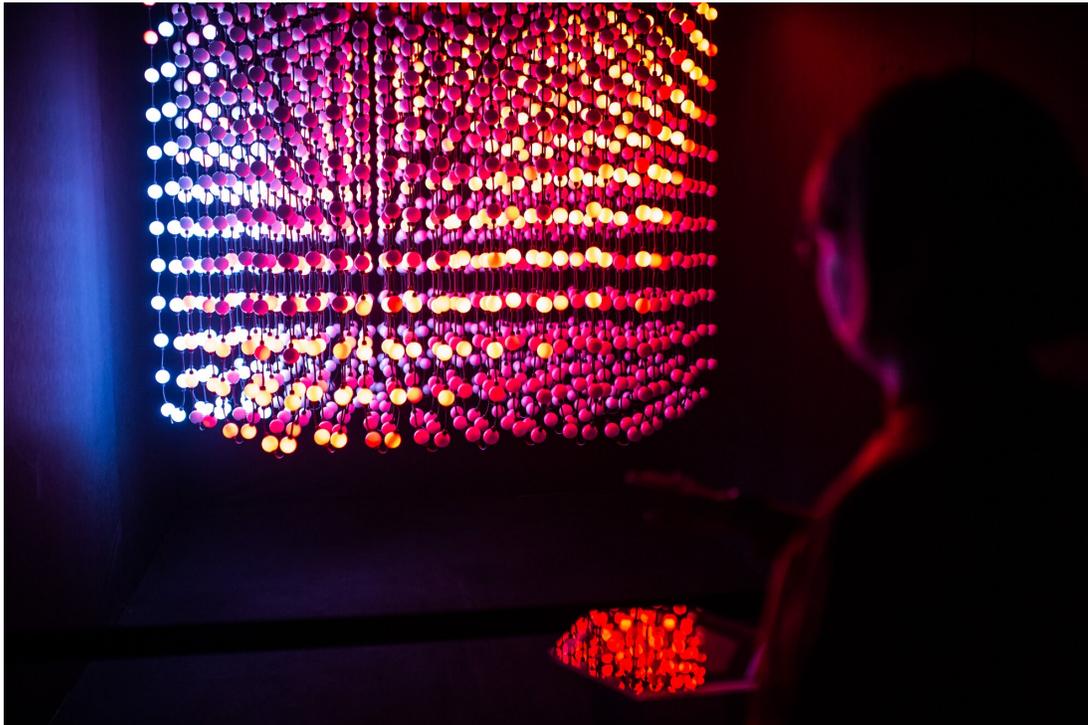


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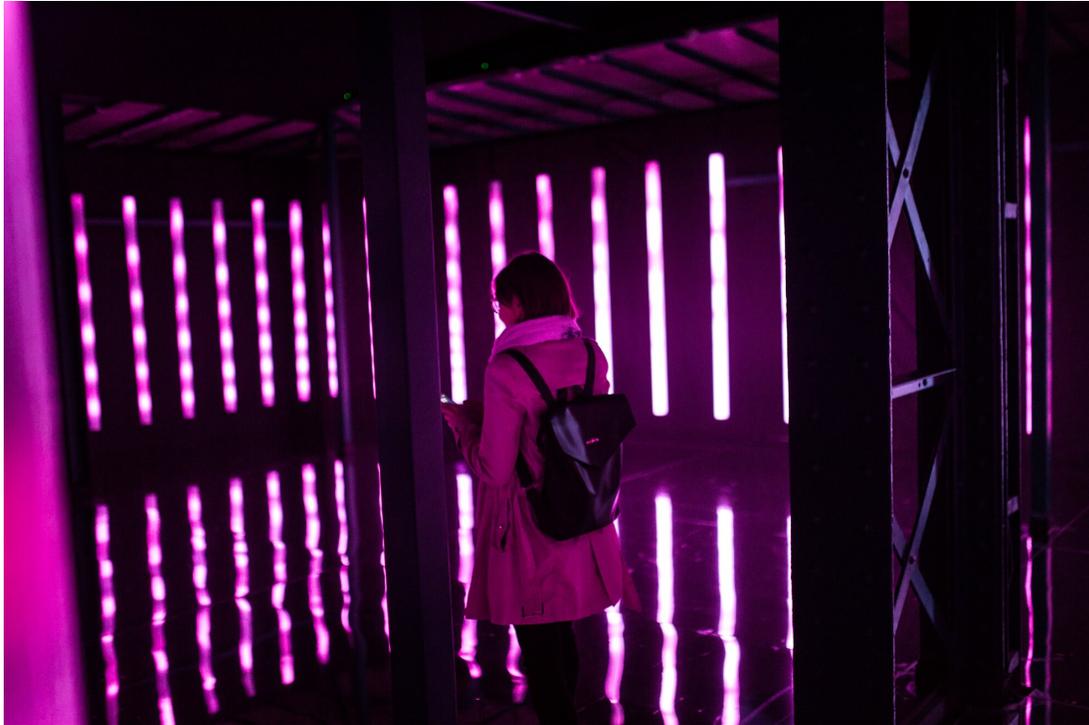


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Since the colours, optical plays and continuous music lends this place an **unusual feel** to start with, it awakened our creative side and we approached the objects with absolute ease, **playing with controlling the light and blowing into the swirling mist when reaching Erik Mátrai's fog machine**, and then, at another pavilion we let ourselves be

enveloped by a host of lights. The latter was the light installation titled **Re-Fracture** by the visual group **Glowing Bulbs**: the darkened agora was framed by sixty high-power light tubes, which **either lit up or changed colour to the rhythm of music**, or engulfed the dark space with light.

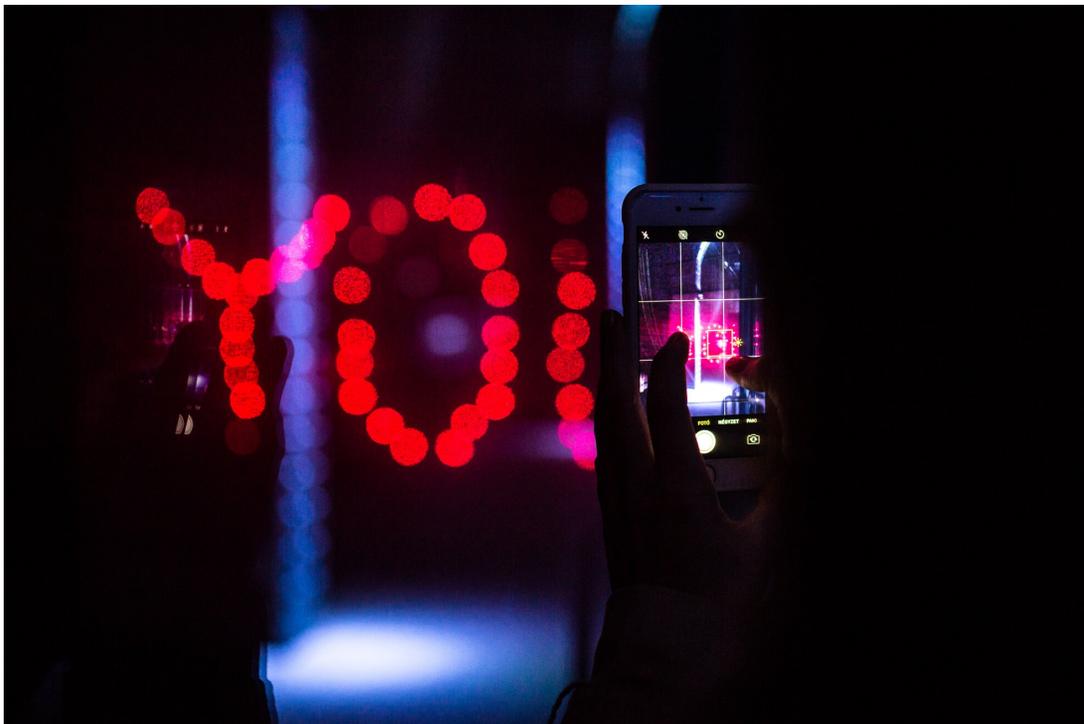


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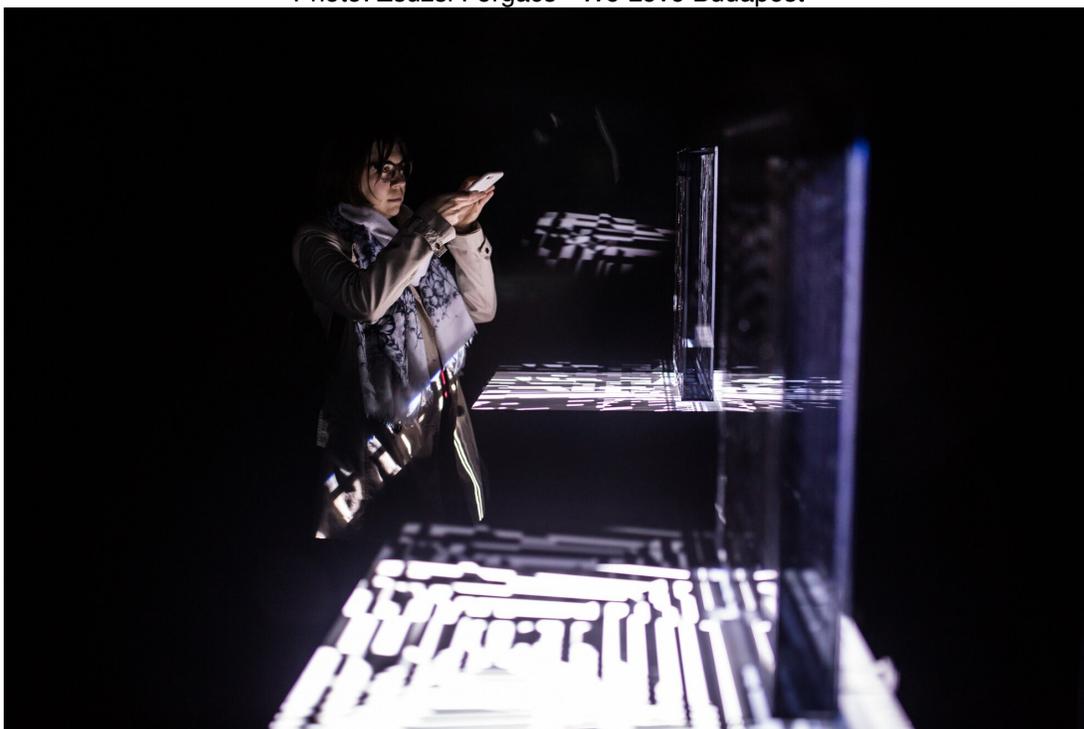


Photo: Zsuzsi Forgács - We Love Budapest

Each work displayed at the Light Art Museum teases our senses, especially the huge zeppelin floating in the centre of the hall; when we stepped inside it, we felt as if we had been transported into another dimension and had reached a distant galaxy, or were simply hovering in Space.

Two **animations** alternated inside the zeppelin: Ivó Kovács's *Searchlight*, which is like a labyrinth with walls constantly moving, closing and opening new ways, while Viktor Vicsek's *Space Eater* flew us into the infinite space of galaxies.



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The works exhibited in the former building of the Hold Street market hall include not only those by living artists but also ones by **world famous masters such as László Moholy-Nagy, Victor Vasarely and György Kepes**. Moholy-Nagy was a pioneer in experimenting with light, projection and mirroring in an entirely new way. He created his

light-space-modulator in 1931: it is a kinetic composition of metal, sculpture and plastic, onto which a light-play was projected – this can also be seen at the exhibition.

Experimenting with light and this other kind of art is interesting and exciting, but there were quite a few installations where we felt out of our depth; the ones we were really impressed and inspired by are the ones we mentioned above. With energy prices running wild, the admission fee is rather pricey, but everyone who feels drawn to light art and is curious how these works can be exhibited should definitely visit this museum.



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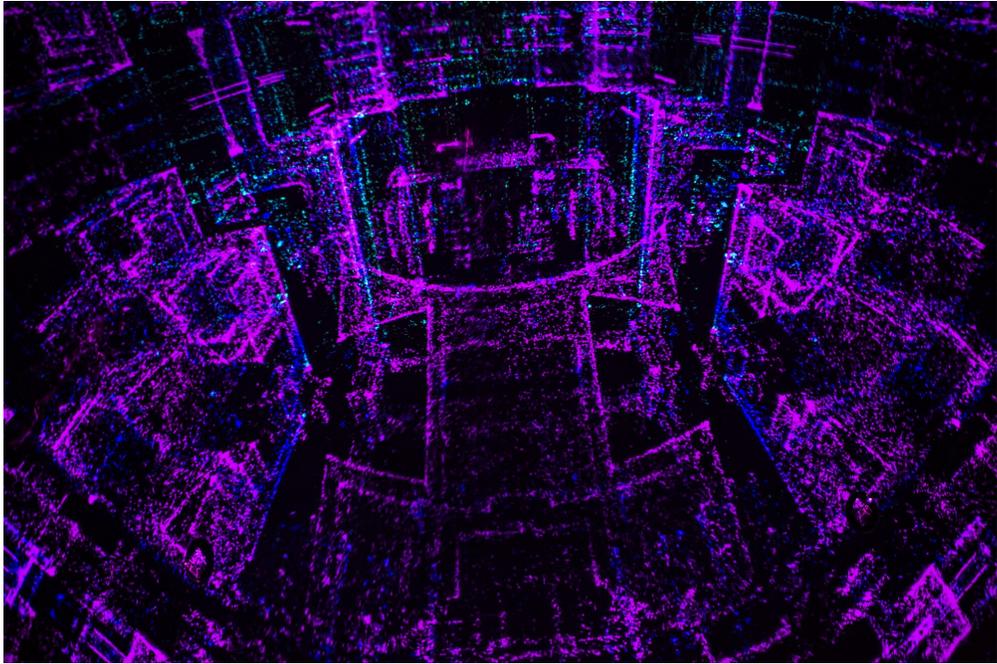


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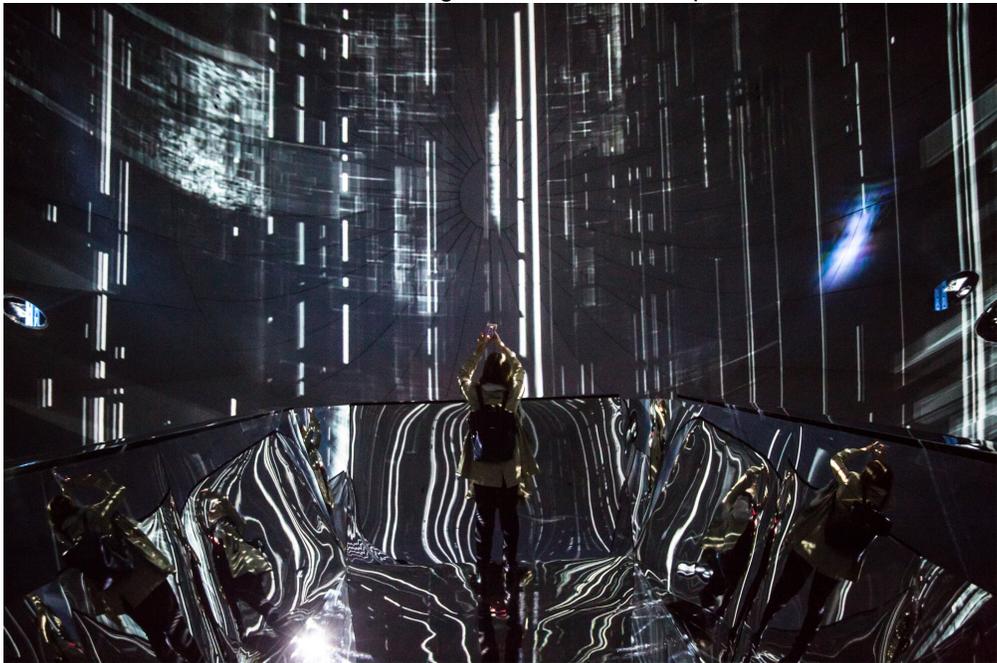


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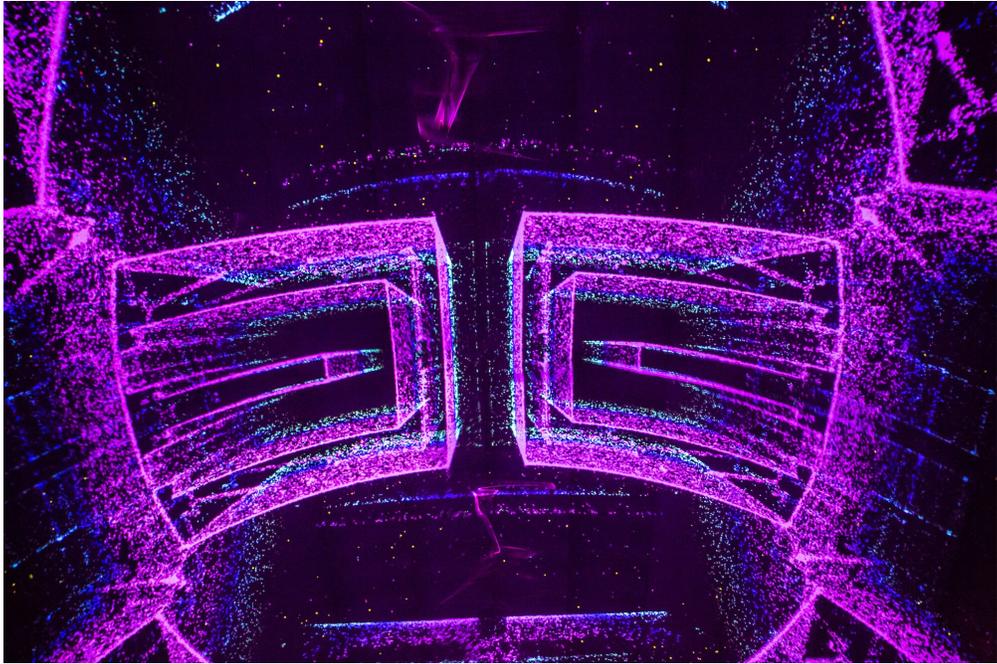


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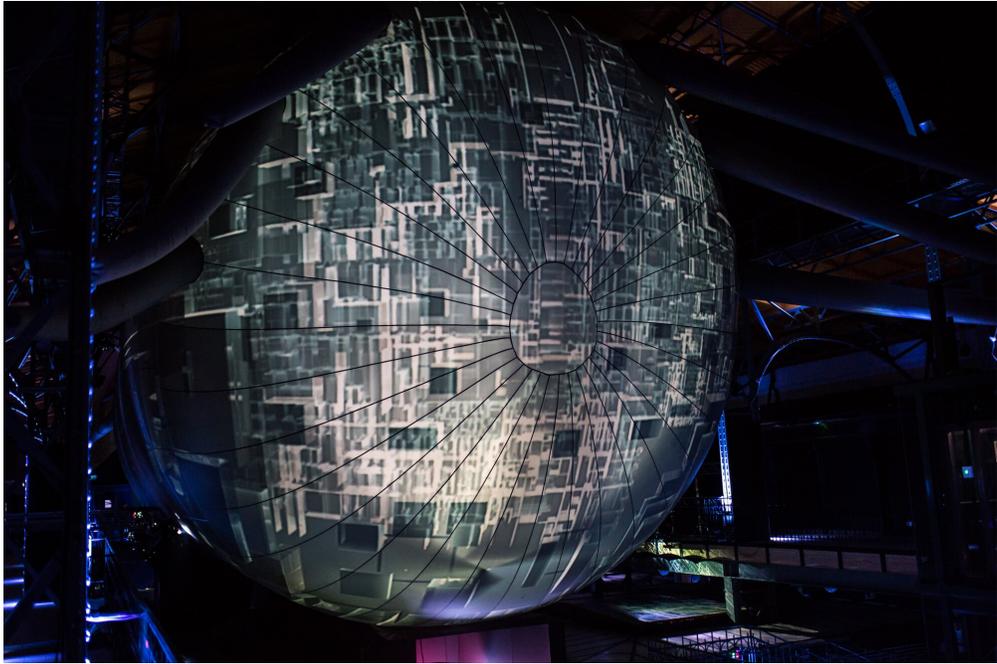


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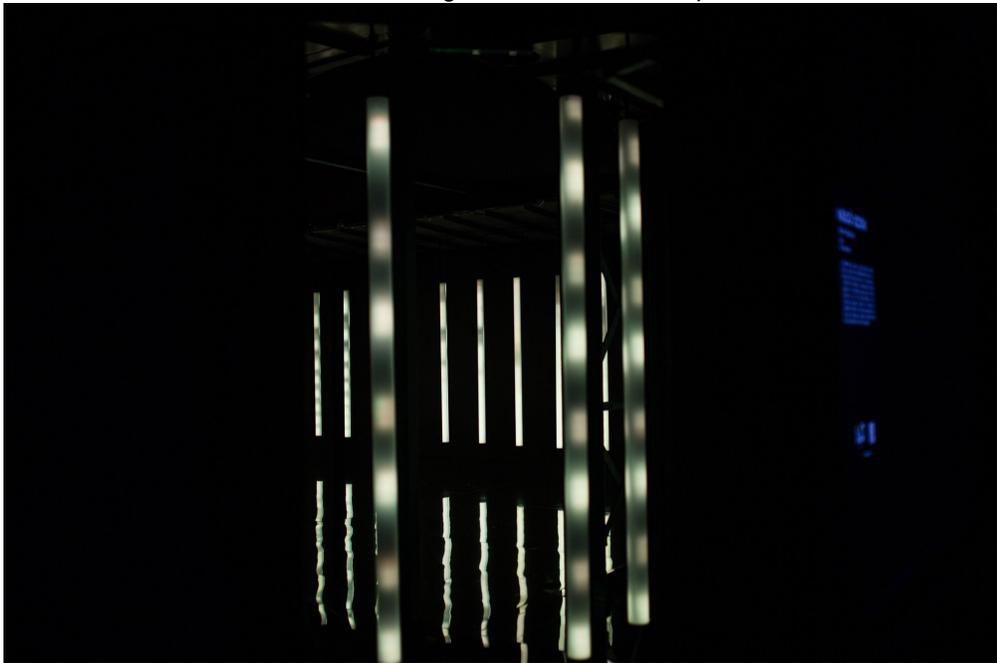


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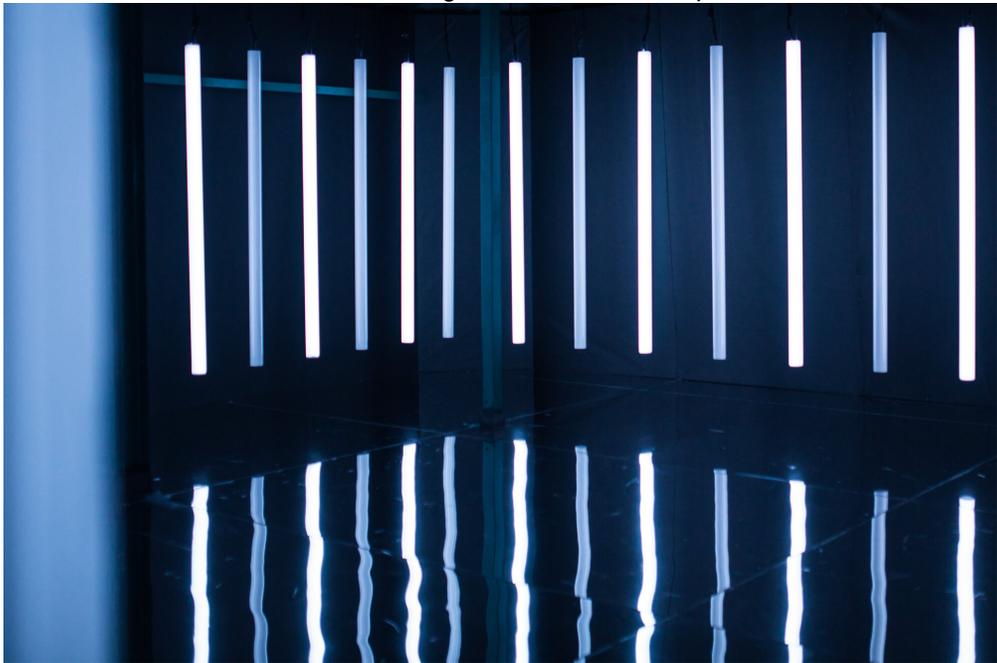


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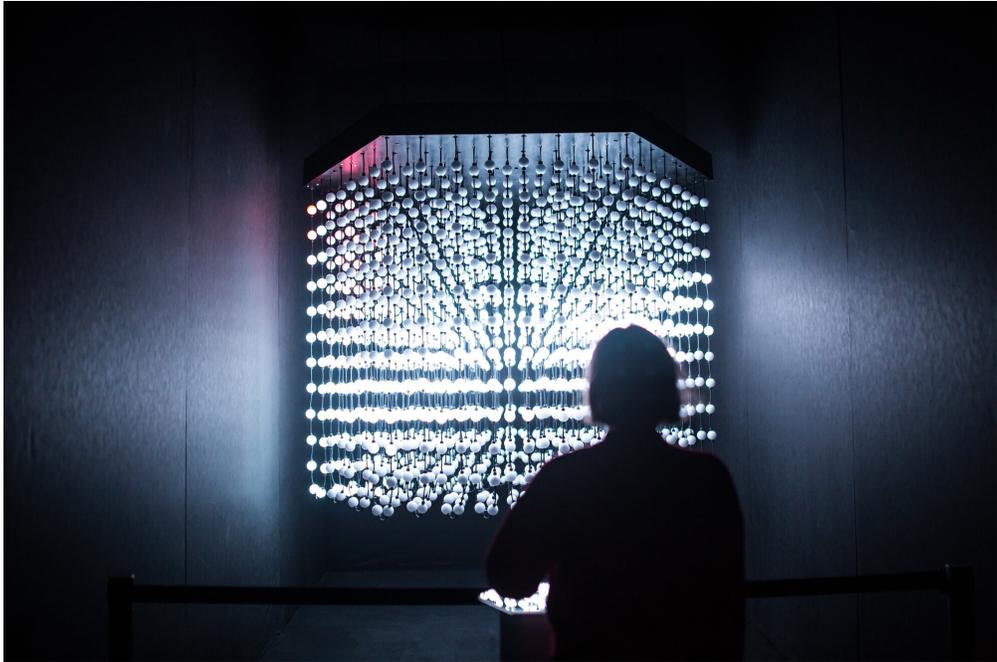


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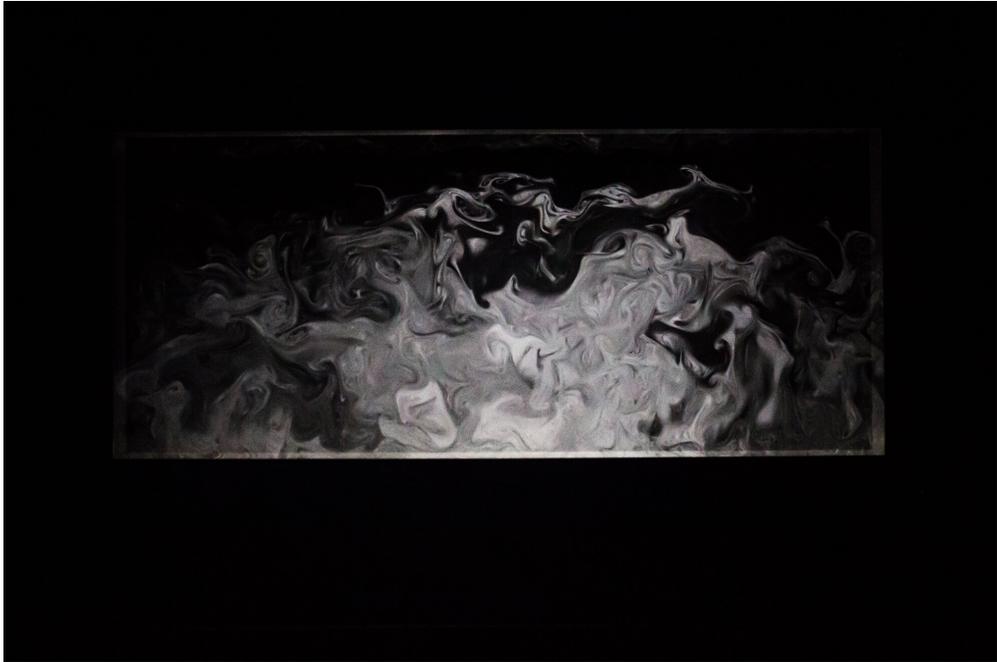


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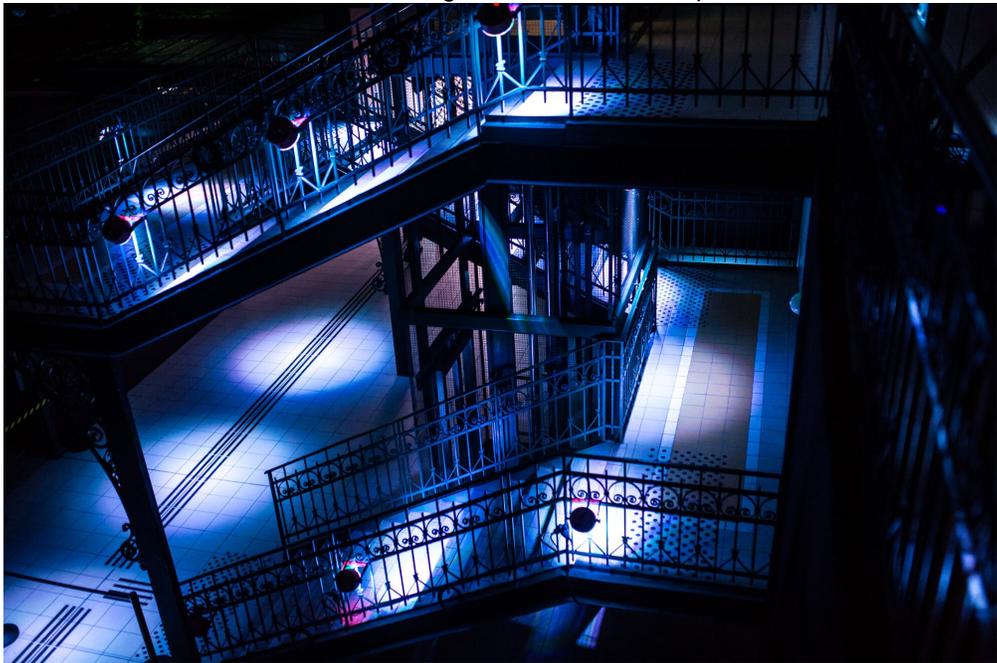


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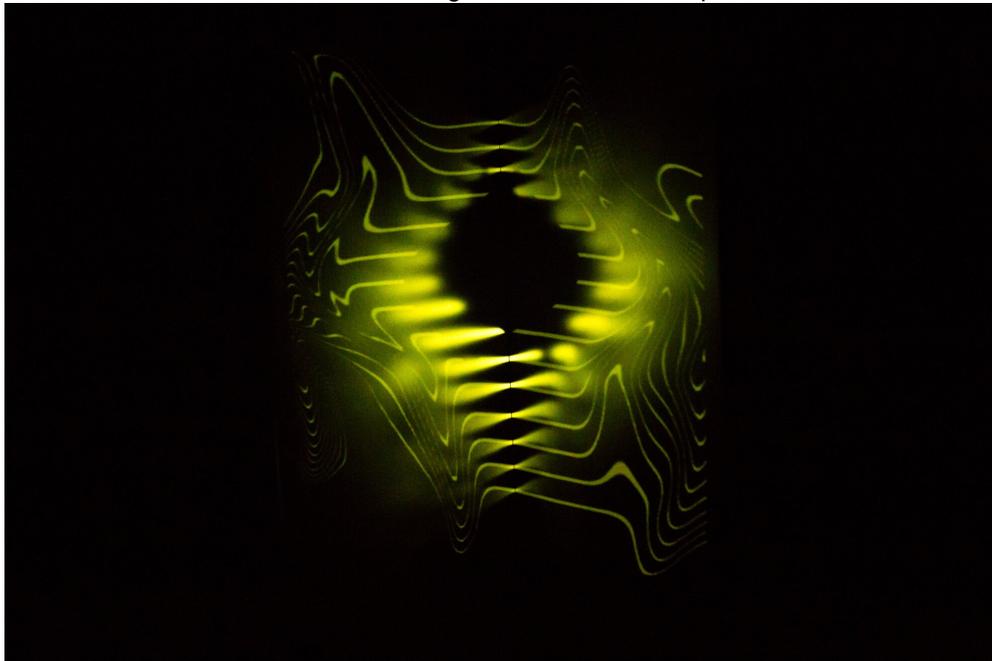


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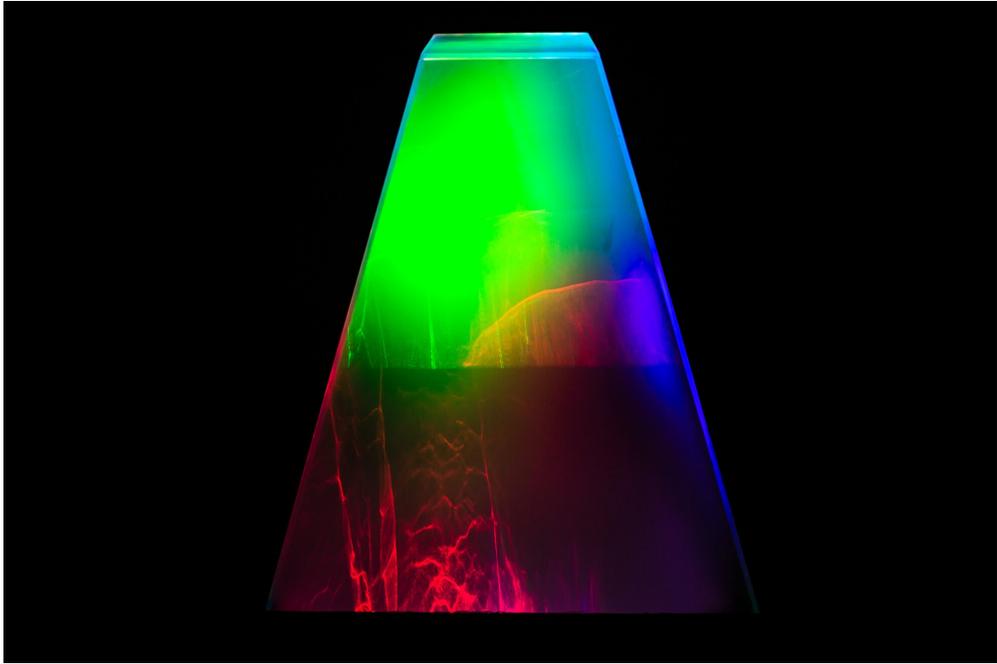


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