

INTERNATIONAL LIGHT ART AWARD 2019

An Initiative of the Centre for International Light Art Unna
and the innogy Stiftung für Energie und Gesellschaft

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The jury announces the ILAA award winner: Jacqueline Hen
Exhibition of the Finalists | June 8 – November 10, 2019



Jacqueline Hen, *LIGHT HIGH*, 2019, International Light Art Award 2019 © Frank Vinken

Press Release, June 7, 2019

The winner of the 3rd International Light Art Award has been decided: **Jacqueline Hen** (*1989, D) has been selected by an international jury of experts, prevailing over 350 concepts submitted from a total of 61 countries.

Commenting that the quality among the finalists as a whole was extremely compelling, the jury reached the unanimous decision to award the prize to the installation *Light High* by the German light artist Jacqueline Hen. The work encompasses a stage-like space, whose dimensions are multiplied and enhanced through the illusionistic use of a reflective ceiling and a floor covered by water. Light components forming a grid are arranged in varying constellations, producing different patterns and effects accompanied by a subtle sound element. Visitors enter the installation through a slightly elevated walkway, thus becoming active components of the immersive artwork.

Together with works by the two other nominated finalists, **Yasuhiro Chida** (*1977, JP) and the duo **Dachroth + Jeschonnek** (*1981, *1984, D), the installation is on view through November 10 at the Centre for International Light Art Unna. Every two years the innogy Stiftung für Energie und Gesellschaft presents this award of 10,000 euro together with the Centre for International Light Art Unna to support the genre of light art.

“Personally, I have been especially thrilled by this edition of the International Light Art Award. The three finalists have not only demonstrated their specialized knowledge and outstanding expertise but have also shown to what degree light art correlates with scientific and technological research. Their installations are both aesthetically and conceptually convincing, and I am sure that the jury had difficulty in selecting a single winner. I am very pleased that now in its third edition the ILAA has become an internationally recognized landmark for innovation and development in the field of light art and beyond.” says **John Jaspers**, Director of the Centre for International Light Art Unna.

THE JURY

Members of the expert jury of the 3rd International Light Art Award include **Leevi Haapala**, director Kiasma Helsinki (FIN); **Barbara Könches**, director of the ZERO Foundation (D); **Alice Hinrichs**, curator (D); performance artist **Maria Hassabi** (CYP), and art historian und **Wolfgang Ullrich** (D).

NEW! AUDIENCE PRIZE AND STUDENT EXHIBITION: THE FUTURE OF LIGHT ART

For the first time, during the third edition of the International Light Art Award visitors are also being given the opportunity to vote on the finalists' concepts. In addition to the main exhibition, the ILAA 2019 is presenting a platform for students to test innovative approaches and engage in discussion and debate about light art. The seven selected concepts were each given a budget of 1,000 Euro to produce an installation. All of these contributions are dedicated to research, experimentation, and debate under the motto “The Future of Light Art.” The student exhibition is on view from June 7 to August 31, 2019 at the Centre for Light Art Unna.

CENTRE FOR INTERNATIONAL LIGHT ART UNNA

As the only museum worldwide specialized in the presentation of light art, the museum has brought together the most important international works of light art since its founding in 2001. The majority of the works were specifically produced for the ten-meter underground spaces of the museum, formerly the cooling and storage spaces of the Lindenbrauerei, including installations by James Turrell, Ólafur Eliásson, Rebecca Horn, Joseph Kosuth, Mischa Kuball, Mario Merz, François Morellet, and Keith Sonnier.

INNOGY STIFTUNG FÜR ENERGIE UND GESELLSCHAFT

The foundation supports projects related to the theme of energy, and its work aims to broaden general understanding of this topic within the general public. The efforts of the foundation are geared towards creating a sustainable energy supply system for the future. The core areas supported by the innogy Foundation are: energy and education, energy and culture, and energy and social innovation.

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