

iBRIGHT!

25th November 2017 – 8th April 2018

Centre for International Light Art Unna

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True Lite, Volkhard Kempter © Volkhard Kempter. Photo: Frank Vinken

The new exhibition **iBRIGHT!** is a next step in a sequence, and a follow up on **iDARK!** (2015). Whereas **iDARK!** focused on the surrounding obscurity, this exhibition shows light art installations at a radiant brightness. All works make use of pure white light, no matter if they are constructed with neon lights or fluorescent lamps, and in that sense simultaneously pay tribute to slowly disappearing light sources.

Björn Dahlem (D), the artist duo **Molitor & Kuzmin** (D / UA), **Pedro Cabrita Reis** (P) and **Volkhard Kempter** (D) show new, space-related installations and objects designed specifically for Unna. No matter how similar the working materials are, the five artists show installations that could hardly be more diverse.

Björn Dahlem, with his space-filling installation *Milky Way*, creates a galaxy with simple means such as neon tubes and wooden slats. *Milky Way* is not so much an invitation to scientific discovery but more to an innocent and unbiased wondering.

Extension - model 1: 1 by **Molitor & Kuzmin** is a work that could be extended and expanded in all directions, although it would then crush the room's boundaries. At the same time, the mirror surfaces on both sides of the installation dissolve the space, and expand the work into infinity.

With Standing and Laying, **Pedro Cabrita Reis** focuses on the exhibition space itself. The reversed neon "T" in the rear quarter of the vaulted cellar explores the room boundaries and at the same time illuminates the space.

A recurring theme in the works of **Volkhard Kempster** is transiency, for instance of the fluorescent tube. His installation Blister shines at us when entering the so-called "Schwankhalle" and is reflected in the glass facade as if they were two solar systems.

iBRIGHT! is not just a journey between nostalgia and future, but also shows the tension between industrial products and artistic use, between spatial boundaries and the space that dissolves.

The installations for the exhibition **iBRIGHT!** complement the worldwide unique collection of the museum, which is located ten metres below the ground in the vaults of the former "Lindenbrauerei" in Unna. Permanent room-installations from Mario Merz, Joseph Kosuth, Mischa Kuball, Rebecca Horn, Christina Kubisch, Keith Sonnier, Jan van Munster, François Morellet, Christian Boltanski, Brigitte Kowanz und Olafur Eliasson are displayed there.

The encounter between avant-garde light art showcased in an historical architectural structure creates a distinctive atmosphere and promotes an exciting dialogue between the past and the present. In that sense **iBRIGHT!** is not only homage to extinct gone light sources, it's also showing the tension between spatial boundaries and spatial resolution, between industrial product and artistic special design – an exploration in the midst of nostalgia and future.

For more information please visit: www.lichtkunst-unna.de

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