

GLOBAL RAINBOW

DESCRIPTION

The Global Rainbow is a large-scale public art light installation created by Yvette Mattern.

The artwork beams seven rays of laser light representing the color spectrum of a natural rainbow: Red, Orange, Yellow, Green, Blue, Indigo and Violet.

The 120+ W power laser light projection beaming in parallel horizontal lines creates a natural perspective horizon arc simulating a natural rainbow arc and has a trajectory or viewing spectrum of up to 60 KM depending on atmospheric conditions.

The presentation is poetic, magical and powerful. It encompasses the skyline and its viewing perspective is as ephemeral as viewing a natural rainbow. Theoretically and symbolically its presentation encompasses geographical and social diversity in its reach throughout distinct points across the globe.

The Global Rainbow was inspired with the sighting of a spectacular rainbow on January 1, 2007:

"I witnessed the most strikingly dramatic and spectacular rainbow crashing through what seemed like apocalyptic clouds hovering over Walden Pond, Massachusetts on the first day of 2007. I was deeply moved and inspired to replicate this vision artistically. I was struck by the symbolic significance of the placement of the rainbow over Walden Pond and thought about its relationship to someone like Henry David Thoreau."

Yvette Mattern

Sky | Land | Environmental Art

Formally the Global Rainbow Installation follows in the tradition of several art movements in the late 1960's and early seventies. The Global Rainbow draws on similarities to Land and Sky Arts monumental landscape projects. The Global Rainbow literally „paints the sky“ with seven simple but distinctly powerful lines of color representing the rainbow spectrum to create an artwork that is performative, sculptural, painterly, and minimalist in form.

GLOBAL RAINBOW PREMIERE 2009

Global Rainbow premiered in New York City on 19 January 2009 (Martin Luther King Day) where it was projected from the pyramidal top of the 14 Wall Street skyscraper in downtown Manhattan (the former penthouse of J Paul Getty). The beams extended from Brooklyn Bridge to the east and the Hudson River to the west, passing over Ground Zero.

Subsequently, it has been shown in Berlin in February 2010 where, over nine evenings, it formed the signature event for the annual Transmediale festival of media art and was seen by several million people. In October 2010 it was the signature event at La Novela Festival in Toulouse. In September 2011, it formed the signature event for the launch of the new programme season at Le Lieu Unique, the national centre for contemporary art in Nantes.

CULTURAL OLYMPIAD | London 2012

Global Rainbow launched the high-profile Cultural Olympiad projects in the North East, North West England and Northern Ireland regions forming the main opening event for the Cultural Olympiad London 2012 programme. The response was overwhelming with over 60,000 spectators visiting the sites. Press coverage included the BBC, Huffington Post, Guardian UK, LA times, Times magazine and more, totaling over 100 articles. (Press PDF's available upon request). The project was partially funded by the Arts Council England and Legacy Trust UK.

Global Rainbow: After the Storm

Art Production Fund and The Standard presented Global Rainbow, After the Storm, a monumental outdoor laser installation by American artist Yvette Mattern from 8pm to 2am nightly on November 27th through November 29th from the rooftop of The Standard, High Line and viewable to millions of New Yorkers. Organized in response to Hurricane Sandy, the artist will projected seven beams of high power laser light over communities hit hard by the storm, originating on Manhattan's lower west side and spanning across Brooklyn toward the Rockaways. The installation aims to symbolize hope and act as a call to action to support the communities that were devastated by the storm. The presentation was a benefit presentation for Waves for Water and the New York Foundation for the Arts.

Artist Yvette Mattern

Yvette Mattern is a New York and Berlin based visual artist whose work has an emphasis on video and film and which frequently intersects performance, public art and sculpture. Her work has been exhibited in Berlin, Vienna, Dakar, New York, Venice, Rome, Chicago and Amsterdam.

Please see 'Chronology PDF' for all presentations since 2009. Please download 'BIO PDF' for extensive Artist Biography