
Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE

2005

Project by fabric | ch

Client: City of Lyon (FR)

Locations: Paris, Lyon & Montpellier (FR), Basel (CH), Stavanger (NO), Madrid (ES),
Lausanne (CH)

With the support of Sitemapping/Mediaprojects (Swiss Federal Office for Cultural
Affairs), Pro Helvetia and Osram

Exhibited during festival Lyon Lumières (Lyon, FR), Swiss Art Awards (Basel, CH),
Festival Emergences (Montpellier & Marseille, FR), Festival Article 06 (Stavanger,
NO), Madrid's (S) and Paris' Nuit Blanche (FR), Transat Festival (Lausanne, CH), EXIT
MAC Créteil (Paris, FR), Kunshalle éphémère (Renens, CH)

- Device for summer displacement
 - Space of perpetual day & summer
 - Tropical networking
 - Interference architecture
 - Heating image & screen
 - IR-heated space
-
- Interface & software: Perpetual
(Tropical) Software



[Img. 1]



[Img. 2]

Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE

Rockhampton
Australia, 16:29:07
23°23' S, 150°31' E GMT+9
Sunny
32° C

Humidity: 45% Cloud Cover: 9%
Visibility: 12 km Dewpoint: 25° C
Wind Chill: 32° C High Pass & Inc: 38° C
Wind Speed: 22 kph Low Pass & Inc: 27° C

Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE

Santos
Brazil, 14:15:23
23°57' S, 46°20' W GMT-3
Partly sunny
26° C

Humidity: 49% Cloud Cover: 10%
Visibility: 13 km Dewpoint: 25° C
Wind Chill: 28° C High Pass & Inc: 38° C
Wind Speed: 22 kph Low Pass & Inc: 27° C

Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE

Swakopmund
Namibia, 18:06:37
22°41' S, 14°34' E GMT+1
Mostly sunny
19° C

Humidity: 76% Cloud Cover: 28%
Visibility: 19 km Dewpoint: 17° C
Wind Chill: 22° C High Pass & Inc: 28° C
Wind Speed: 22 kph Low Pass & Inc: 17° C

Perpetual (Tropical)

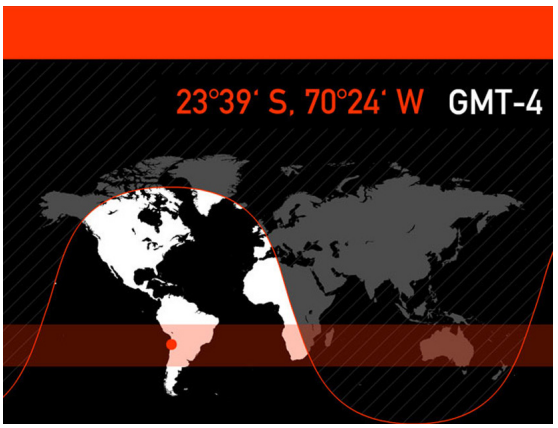
City:	Visibility:	Temperature:	GMT:
Antofagasta	mostly sunny	20	-4
Liquique	sunny	22	-4
Arica	sunny	22	-4
Pozo Colorado	partly sunny	27	-4
Juiz de Fora	sunny	23	-3
Windhoek	mostly sunny	27	+1
Swakopmund	sunny	17	+1
Walvis Bay	sunny	17	+1
Kang	sunny	26	+2
Mahalapye	mostly sunny	23	+2
Gaborone	sunny	22	+2

[Img. 3, 4]

SUNSHINE

Antofagasta
Chile, 12:37:23
Mostly sunny
20° C

Dew Point: 12° C Pressure: 101.50 KPA
Wind Direction: SSW Apparent Temp: 19° C
Wind Gusts: 38 kph Max Temp: 18° C
Ceiling: 5,760.7 m Min Temp: 14° C



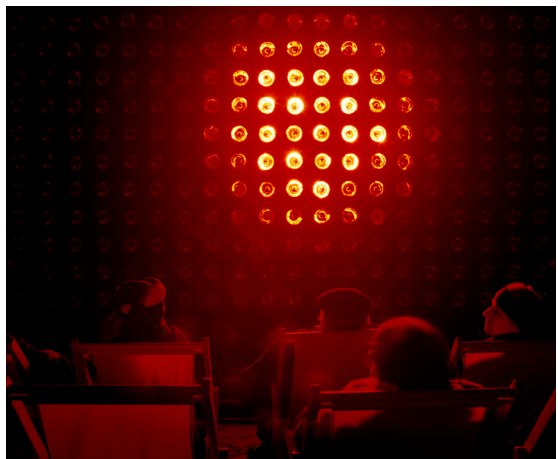
[Img. 5, 6]

Perpetual (Tropical)

79	73	59	41	30	19	14	10	9	6	5	5	4	4	4	4	3	3	4
130	115	91	62	39	27	15	12	9	6	6	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4
254	255	136	80	53	33	18	14	10	8	6	5	5	5	4	4	4	5	5
254	254	254	103	64	37	19	13	10	6	6	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4
254	254	254	112	69	38	21	14	11	8	6	6	5	5	4	4	4	4	4
254	254	254	108	64	35	22	14	11	8	6	5	5	5	4	4	4	4	5
254	254	145	90	54	33	19	13	10	8	8	5	6	4	5	4	4	4	5
142	131	90	66	45	25	15	12	9	8	6	5	5	4	4	4	4	6	4
85	71	54	43	28	20	13	10	8	6	5	5	5	4	2	4	4	4	4
44	41	32	30	20	14	11	9	8	6	5	5	4	4	4	3	4	4	5
25	23	20	18	14	10	10	8	6	5	5	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	5
19	15	14	12	11	10	8	6	6	5	4	4	4	4	4	5	4	4	3
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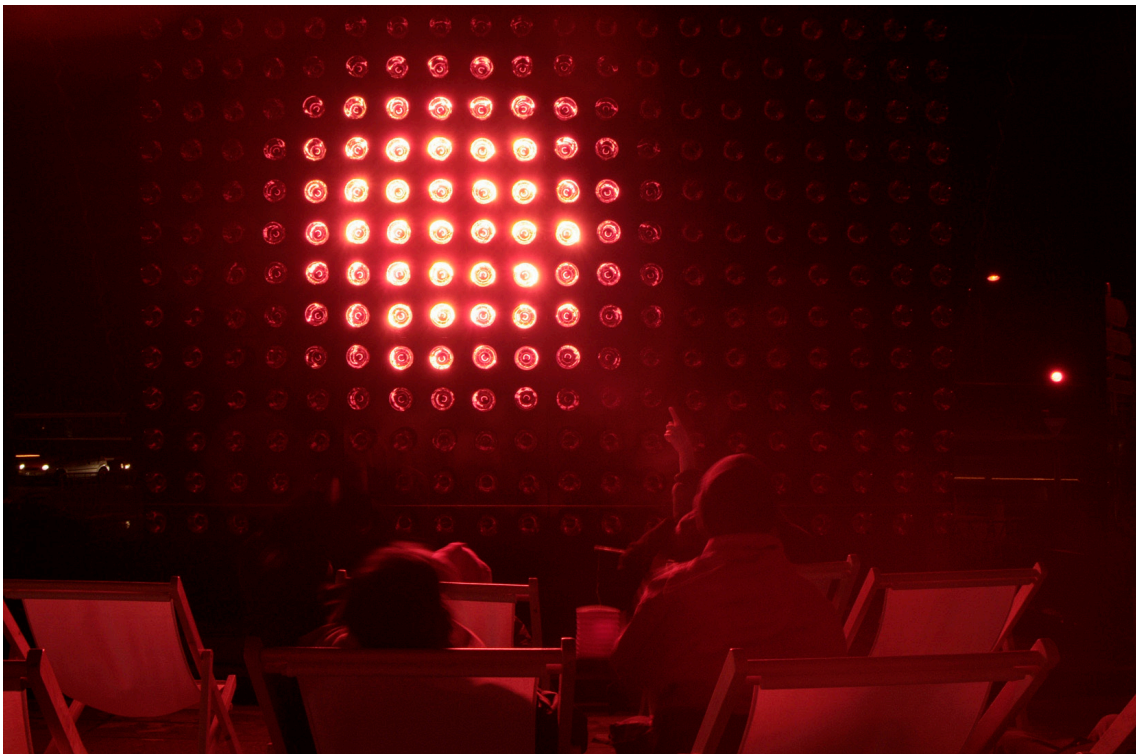
[Img. 7, 8]



[Img. 9]



[Img. 10]



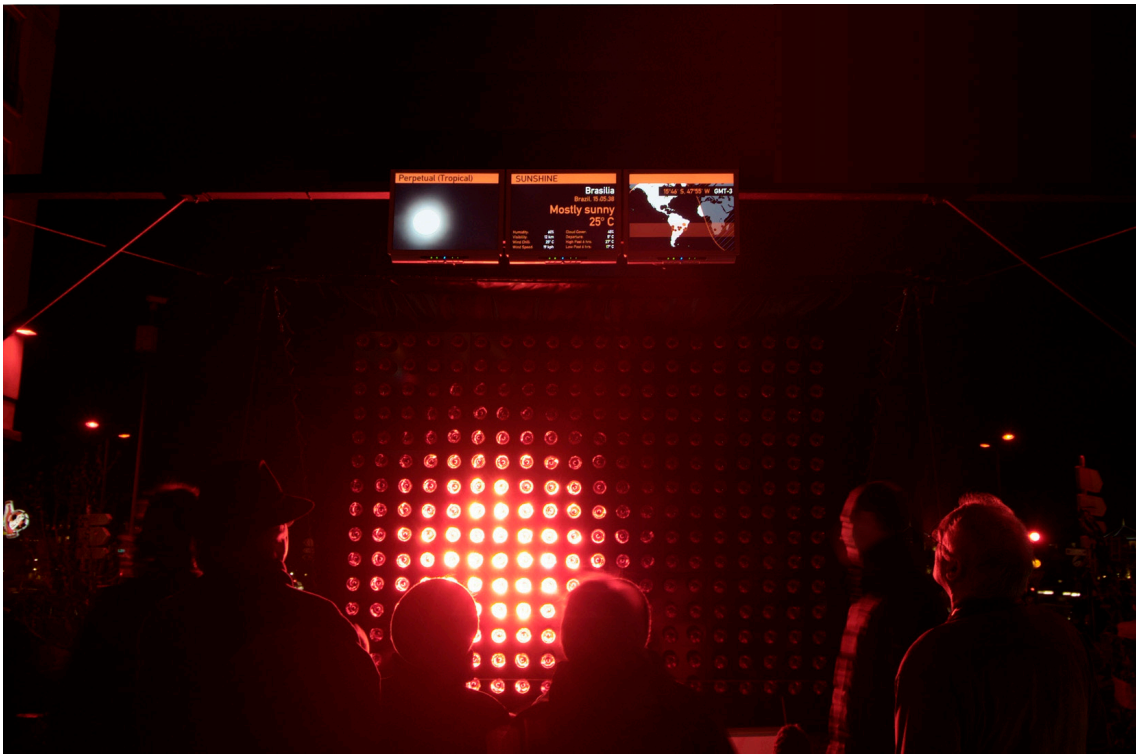
[Img. 11]



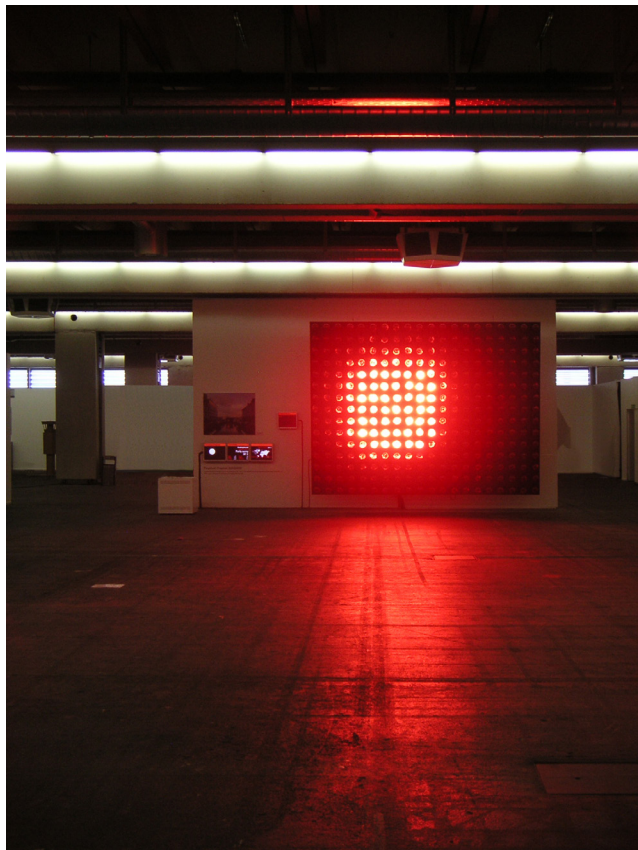
[Img. 12]



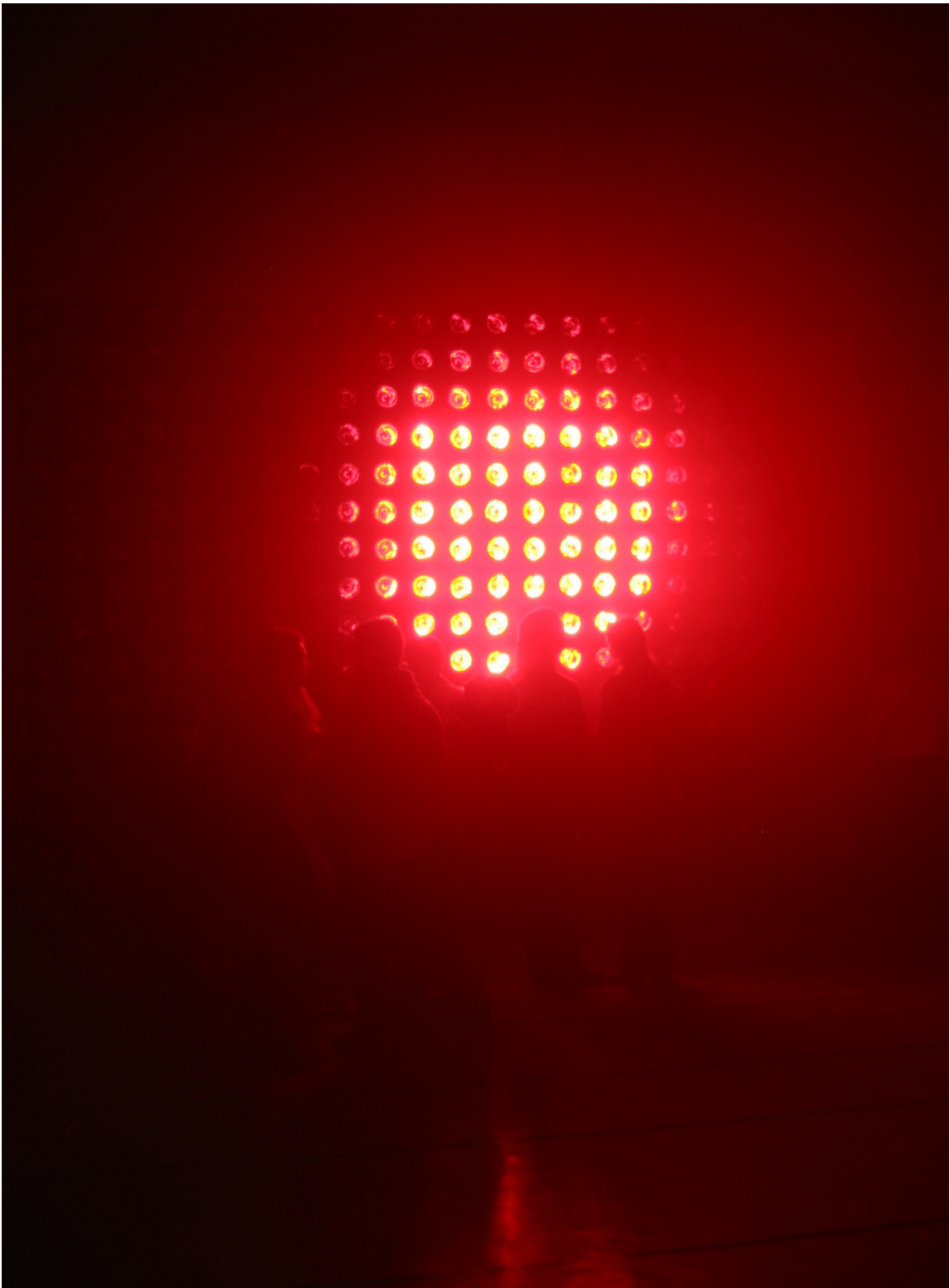
[Img. 13]



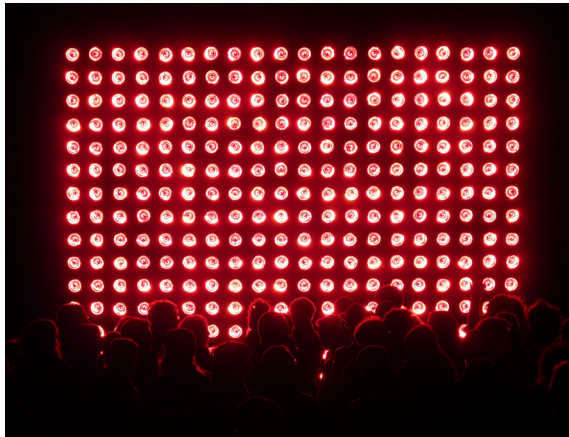
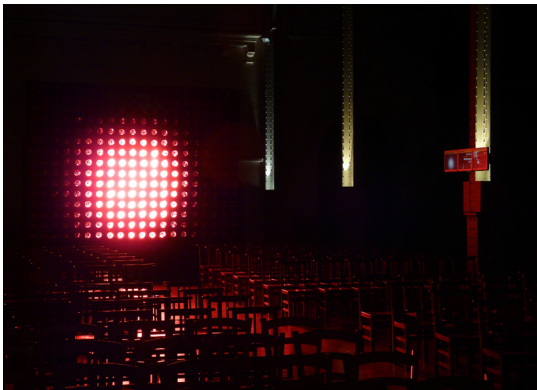
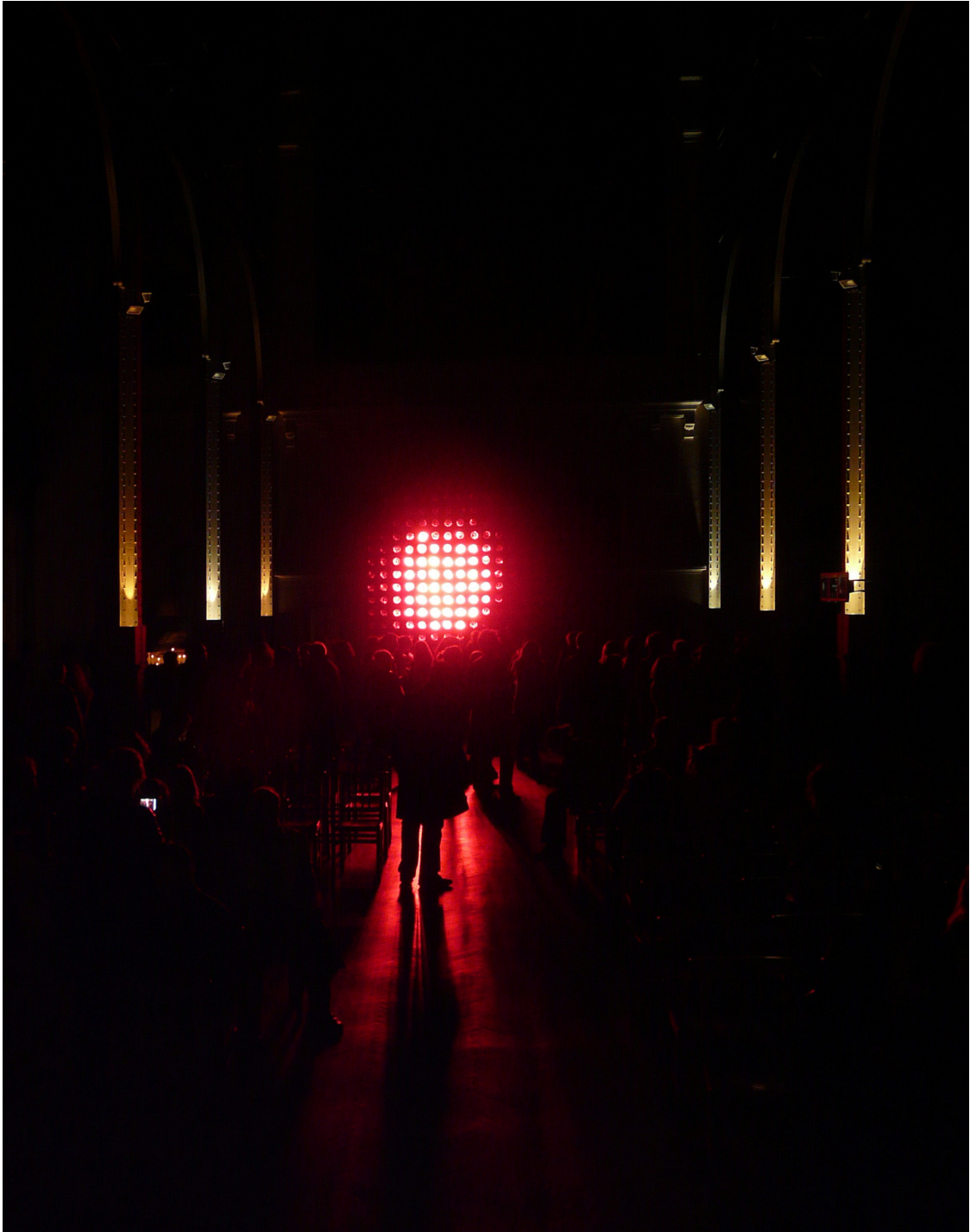
[Img. 14]



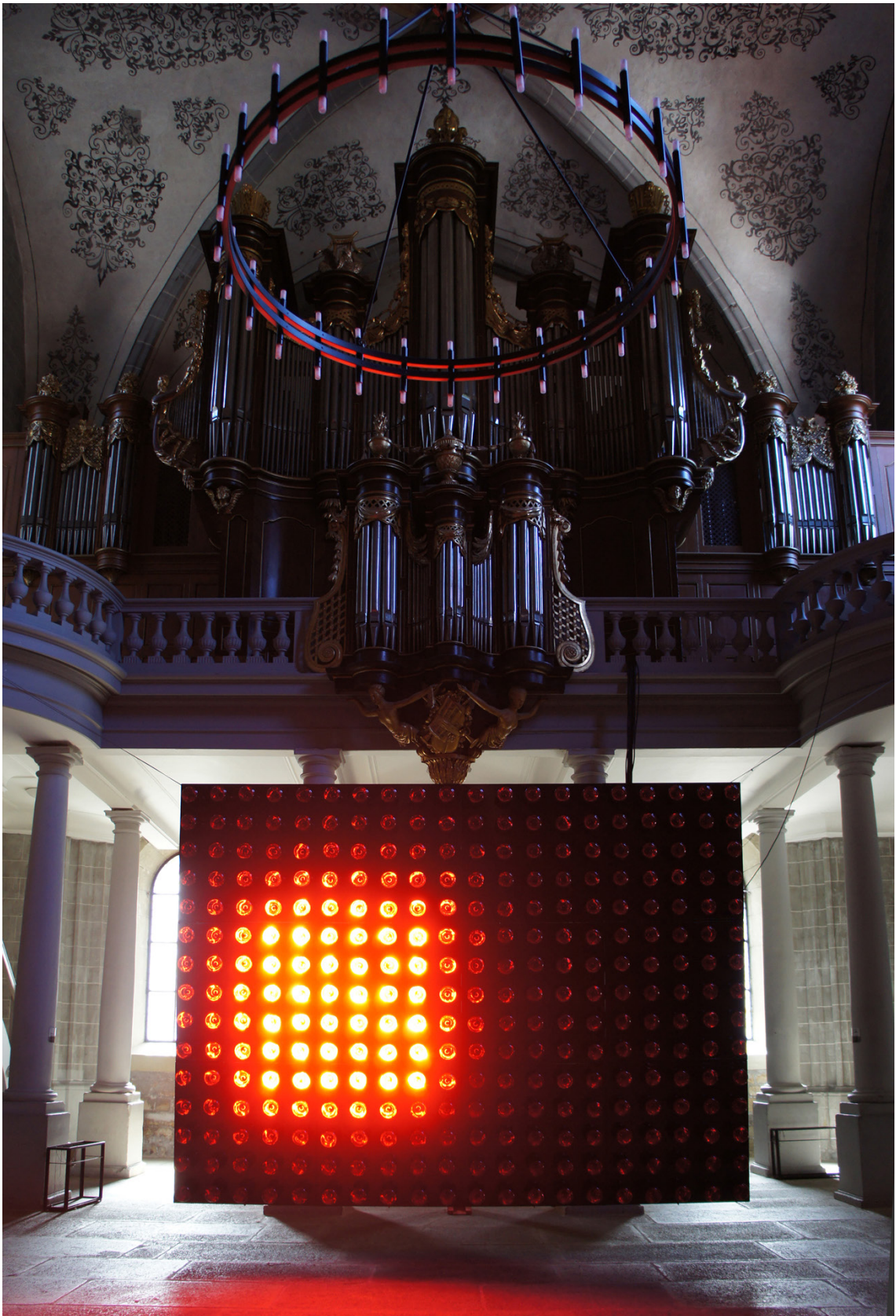
[Img. 15, 16]



[Img. 17]



[Img. 18, 19, 20]



[Img. 21]

Image captions:

- [Img. 1] Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE, outdoor installation in Lyon for Lyon Lumières 2005. Sun, moon & beginning of night, rain. One large infrared & heating screen made of 300 infrared light bulbs (150W each) displays a distant and live image of the sun. Three small LCD screens in front of it show which data is currently being processed by the Perpetual Tropical software.
- [Img. 2] Installation in Lyon, full screen, end of daytime.
- [Img. 3] Snapshots of the three screens. Three states of Tropical software in which it gathered information and the live image of a located & active sun. Three different examples of distant cities captured under the tropic of Capricorn. On the left, the image of the sun, which is transmitted to the IR screen, is shown.
- [Img. 4] Tropical software phases 1 & 2: tracking for sunny locations and cities under the tropic of Capricorn, then selecting a city and its weather data.
- [Img. 5-6] Tropical software phase 3: displaying "live" climatic information about the selected city, and phase 4: locating the city on the earth map.
- [Img. 7-8] Tropical software phase 5: opening the live image of the city's sun. Checking if it's active and not behind a cloud. The image-processing software is always active and is checking for the intensity of the sun's illumination. Phase 6: displaying the selected and checked image of the active sun on one of the LCD screens.
- [Img. 9] The selected and processed image of the live sun displayed on the infrared screen: a heating image in Lyon, a captured summer and day condition displayed within the northern hemisphere's winter and night.
- [Img. 10] People lying under the abstract IR sun.
- [Img. 11] An artificial tropical sunrise in Lyon, December 2005.
- [Img. 12] Lyon, December 2005, 4:45 pm.
- [Img. 13] Lyon, night condition, 10:35 pm.
- [Img. 14] People warming up in front of Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE and witnessing the three screens dedicated to Tropical software activity.
- [Img. 15] Installation at the Swiss Art Awards 2006, lateral view (cabling is location dependent and can be fully integrated into the sun's screen, which is suspended).
- [Img. 16] Installation of Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE during the Swiss Art Awards 2006, as part of Art | Basel. Sun for the 27th of May 2006, Rio de Janeiro / Basel.
- [Img. 17] Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE's atmosphere in Montpellier.
- [Img. 18-20] Installation during Paris' Nuit Blanche in the Church Notre-Dame-du-Travail, October 2008.
- [Img. 21] Installation during Transat Festival, Lausanne in the Church of Saint-François, June 2012.

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Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE

Perpetual (Tropical) Sunshine is an architectural, climatic, and temporal installation made of heat and light. Thanks to a "screen" composed of several hundred infrared light bulbs, Perpetual (Tropical) Sunshine retransmits non-stop the journey and intensity of the sun on the 23rd parallel south, according to information transmitted live by weather centers all around the Tropic of Capricorn.

Perpetual (Tropical) Sunshine thereby creates a displaced architectural space, in terms of both climate and time. This stimulated space confronts the visitor with an abstract form of day and endless summer. It represents the increasingly artificial nature of our environment and suggests a form of "static mobility" or "displaced tropicality." Facing Perpetual (Tropical) Sunshine, the visitor can experience an abstract journey through tropical sunshine without any apparent movement, across longitudes and time zones.

Context:

During the last twenty years, the citizens of European and North American cities have seen an increase in the number of external heating systems using infra-red lamps installed on terraces during winter. This use of urban space, characteristic of summertime, in which people sit down to linger over a coffee and check out the passersby, can thus prolong the few weeks or months of suitable climate that the summer usually grants us. Thanks to these infra-red lamps, a typically southernmost behavior permeates slowly the more northerly parts of the northern hemisphere, making it possible for people to spend more time outdoors, together in public spaces.

It is always surprising to witness such transformations in people's urban behavior. In this case, this use of public space during winter is due mainly to the use of these artificial lighting systems that generate heat (the interesting point being that the IR light doesn't heat the air, but, instead, any surface exposed to it directly and mainly, in this case, skin). Today, people can gather outdoors in the cold winters of Paris, Berlin, London and even in Oslo or Stockholm, taking advantage of these localized spaces of artificial summer. Such behavior signals the rise of new types of contemporary spaces, whereby man takes control of the natural conditions of his environment to adapt them increasingly to his cultural needs and requirements. While artificiality increases, new spatial paradigms and artifices become possible.

Perpetual (Tropical) SUNSHINE proposes to explore these new types of spaces based or built on dimensional handling. It tries to render visible and comprehensible the major variations which take place today in the Western way of inhabiting contemporary spaces.

<http://www.fabric.ch/pts>

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