



Michael Pendry

Lighting the rotor blades of a nearly 100 m high wind wheel just outside Munich is definitely one of his most ambitious projects. With the realisation of this spectacular show of lights and colour the multimedia artist Michael Pendry is setting a new highlight in his career as an artist.

Michael Peter Pendry's light installations were presented to a larger audience for the first time in 2005. On the occasion of the "Lange Nacht der Museen" (long night of museums) in Munich more than 10,000 visitors of that cultural event were able to marvel at the visual compositions created by this multimedia artist, who was born in Stuttgart in 1974. "Das apokalyptische Weib" (The apocalyptic Woman) is what the German with English roots called his opus; here, he projected a firmament onto the vaults of the Jesuit church in Munich.

The designer, constantly oscillating between Munich and London, shaped his understanding of space, light and shadow at the Rosenheim academy studying interior design (1994-1999). The basis for his productions Pendry got from the subsidiary subjects stage design and scenography, allowing today's light dramaturges to alter our familiar perception of everyday objects in a fundamental way: a concern that keeps Pendry's motivation alive. He was able to gather his first practical experience as a stage designer during his placement at the Residenztheater in Munich. The theatre lover worked for two seasons as a set assistant under the former artistic director Dieter Dorn. The "Werkraum" of the theatre, owned and run by the city of Munich, a rehearsal room for theatre youngsters, served as the playground for the artist's experiments. Pendry also underpinned his love for the theatre world as an actor on stage. As a lay actor he now has several smaller jobs at the Pathos-Theater in Munich under his belt.

In 2002, Pendry founded an architecture firm for interior design named "Zeitraum" together with Thomas Halbig. This cooperation gave birth to the interior of several restaurants and bars in Munich, giving proof of the multi-facetedness of this creative man. His interest in creative networks was the reason for founding "Café Helga" together with several others, the café being a hotspot of Munich's

subculture between 1997 and 2001, a meeting point for exchanging creative ideas, a well-established institution at the Academy of Arts in Munich back then.

Pendry is driven by his desire to get through to those people for whom visiting cultural facilities is rather unusual. Apart from "Das apokalyptische Weib" the light and video installations "Sacre Coeur" and "Störung" (Disturbance), staged inside several Munich churches, were further highlights in the career of this multimedia artist.

"Time will tell whether the wind wheel lit in an utterly new way just outside the city walls is going to become a new landmark of Munich or not. The possibility of projecting symbols such as the world ball onto that wind power plant is a way of establishing a broad acceptance and a feeling of togetherness ", Pendry says about the "Stern des Südens" (Star of the South).

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