

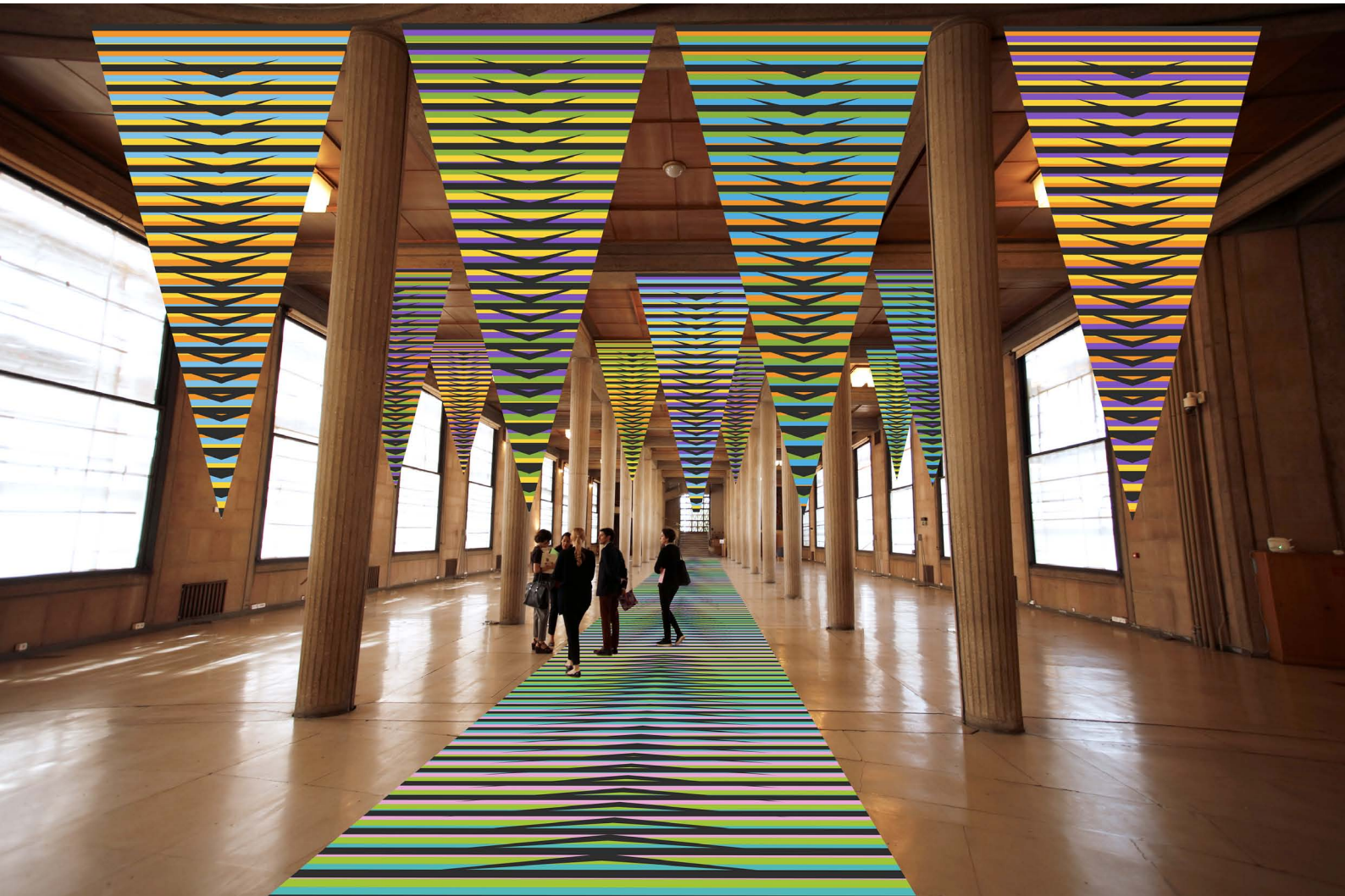
Carlos Cruz-Diez *Un être flottant*

Curator: Matthieu Poirier

Palais d'Iéna - 9 place d'Iéna, 75016 Paris

16-25 October 2016

Open daily: 12 noon - 7 pm



Project outline

Since the 1950s, Carlos Cruz-Diez has made Wassily Kandinsky's century old dream a reality: to create an image that is «a figure floating in the air.» Born in Caracas in 1923, the Venezuelan artist moved to Paris in 1960 where he still lives and works. In 1954, along with Victor Vasarely, Jesús Rafael Soto and Heinz Mack, his works were already an important part of the emergence of a new and radical form of abstraction: Optical and Kinetic Art. Cruz-Diez elaborated a series of techniques to explore pure color as a highly unstable phenomenon. Be it the background for a canvas, the three dimensions of a work in relief, or in a sculptural volume, he endeavors to trigger chromatic events by unleashing color from its base and projecting the viewer into the mystery of perception while at the same time inviting him to participate actively. The chromatic alchemy that results is a clear precedent to the environments of California *Light and Space*, like James Turrell's work, to mention only one example.

For this environment at the Palais d'Iéna, head office of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, Cruz-Diez will take over and modify the public perception of Auguste Perret's emblematic monument, its spectacular, namely «brutalist» architecture, and the delicate nuances of its colored concrete surfaces. The visitor will experience the colored plexiglas pavilion of the first *Chromosaturation* (1965). This will take the form of diverse luminous projections that immerse the viewer in successive and stunning monochromatic baths. *Chromatic Environment*, a monumental installation in situ (see ill.) will be deployed in the out-of-scale volume of the hypostyle room of the Palais d'Iéna. It will be based on Cruz-Diez's pictorial activity of vibrating effects, which in 1957 already foreshadowed the Op Art movement. Integrating his work in various architectures since the 70s, Cruz-Diez invades the perceptual space, in a rich dialogue with the spirit of the place, its *genius loci*.

Matthieu Poirier, curator

Contacts

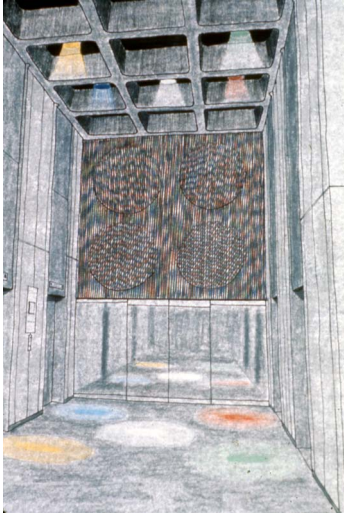
Special thanks to the Atelier Cruz-Diez Paris, Caroline Smulders and the Galerie Mitterrand.

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CRUZ-DIEZ

Images



Carlos Cruz-Diez

Dessin pour Ambientación Cromática [Environnement Chromatique], 1973

Torre La Previsora, Caracas, Venezuela

Architectes : Francisco Pimentel, Bernardo Borges

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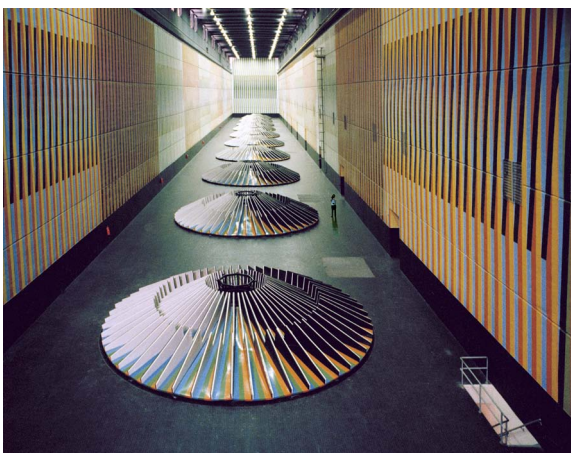
Carlos Cruz-Diez

Ambientación Cromática [Environnement Chromatique], 1973

Torre La Previsora, Caracas, Venezuela

Architectes : Francisco Pimentel, Bernardo Borges

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Carlos Cruz-Diez

Ambientación Cromática [Environnement Chromatique], 1977-1986

Centrale hydroélectrique Raúl Leoni, Salle des machines n°1

Guri, Venezuela

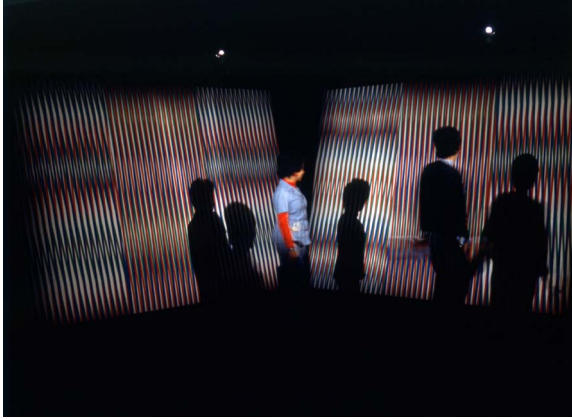
26 x 260 x 23 m

Ingénieurs : H. Roo, A. Gamboa, E. Carrera, G. Chavarri

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CRUZ-DIEZ

Images



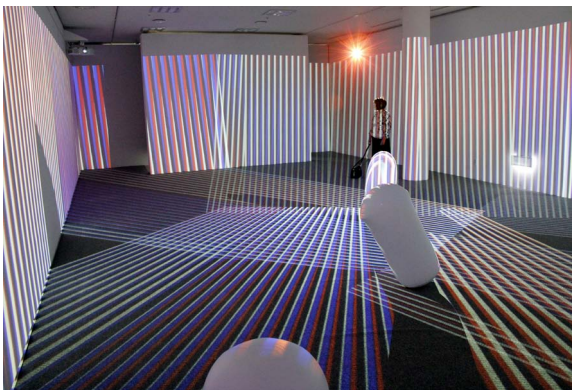
Carlos Cruz-Diez

Environnement Chromointerférent, 1974

Exposition "Carlos Cruz-Diez", Museo de Arte Contemporáneo Sofía

Imber - Sala Cadafe, Caracas, Venezuela, 1974

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Carlos Cruz-Diez

Environnement Chromointerférent, 1974/2011

Exposition "Cruz-Diez: Color in Space", Dream Forest Arts Center,

Sang Sang Tok Tok Gallery

Séoul, Corée du Sud, 2011

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Carlos Cruz-Diez

Labyrinthe de Chromosaturation (Chromosaturation pour un lieu public), 1969

Festival «Art dans la rue», boulevard Saint-Germain, Paris, France

20 cabines de 2,75 x 1,20 m chacune

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Carlos Cruz-Diez, Paris, France, 1964

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