



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Luminale 2018 – The Römer in lights Philipp Geist creating a unique spread of light in the heart of the city**

Once again lighting artist Philipp Geist will be contributing to the programme at Luminale with an extraordinary artwork. Following his installation 'TIME DRIFTS', which in 2012 attracted thousands of visitors to the Bockenheimer campus, and for which Geist was awarded the German Light Design Prize in 2013, the artist will be showing "Frankfurt FADES" on the Römerberg from 18-23 March 2018.

For the historical centre of the city Philipp Geist is developing a multimedia installation, which will plunge the visitor into an urban spread of light.

Video mapping on the facade of the City Hall and a floor projection on the forecourt will link building and terrain to form a space-snatching artwork of light. Because the ground surfaces will be incorporated into the artistic concept, the visitor walking there will become part of the walk-through installation.

On walking through this area, the visitor will find ever new views and ever new perspectives opening up before him. Atmospheric sounds will add a further level to the visual compositions on the Römerberg.

Into his work Philipp Geist will be incorporating words and concepts to indicate the significance of the location which the citizens of Frankfurt have submitted as their contribution to the artwork. These words will be visible briefly, emerging from walls of mist, and will disappear again; as an intangible projection area they symbolise thoughts, visions and inspirations, but also represent a metaphor or transience.

In his work the famous Berlin lighting artist Philipp Geist weaves a complex interplay of light, sound, space, movement and visitors. His projects take the artist all over the globe.

In Rio de Janeiro he illuminated the famous Statue of Christ, in Teheran the Azadi Tower, in Bangkok the throne of Thailand's King Bhumibol. Philipp Geist is constantly developing the installation "Time Drifts" further. After Luminale 2012 in Frankfurt he created versions of the concept for Weilheim and Cologne. On New Year's Eve 2016 he staged illuminations on the Cathedral and the pedestrian area in front, entitled Time Drifts Cologne.



### **Invitation**

On Sunday 18 March 2018, all citizens of Frankfurt and guests are invited to the Römerberg. At 7.30 p.m. Luminale will be opened with a speech of welcome by the Luminale's sponsor, Peter Feldmann, Chief Executive of the City of Frankfurt. Hessenschau TV news will be there when video artist Philipp Geist switches on the light on the Römer. All visitors are cordially invited to appear in great numbers with lights of all kinds – lamps, torches, luminous shoe laces, LED toys, candles, glow sticks etc.

### **Background information on Luminale**

With around 200,000 visitors, Luminale ranks among the biggest events in Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main region. The festival of light is held concurrently with the international Light + Building trade fair every two years. Messe Frankfurt founded Luminale in 2002 and has promoted and supported the festival extensively since then. Next year, from 18 to 23 March, Luminale will have a new concept. Frankfurt and Offenbach will not only be the settings for lighting art but also the focus of the festival. Luminale is being positioned as the BIENNALE FOR LIGHTING ART AND URBAN DESIGN with the aim of generating impulses for cities as attractive, future-oriented locations and creative hubs at the interface of art, technology and urbanity.