

“Illumination” – Artwork of Iridescent Colourfulness A Fascinating Art Installation at the Biennale

At this year’s Venice Biennale, an expansive environment made of dichroic glass and handmade paper is a special attraction. The impressive installation was created by the internationally renowned artist Lore Bert. The exhibition takes place in the church of San Samuele, in the immediate vicinity of Palazzo Grassi, which was founded in the early 11th century.



The work of art consists of several elements. On an area of 10 x 6 m, thousands of folded white pieces of paper form an ocean-like, yet geometrically shaped field with two 4.30 m-high columns of dichroic glass by Prinz Optics in the middle. Influenced by the incidence of light, they shine in different colours, which change depending on the perspective of the viewer.

“Illumination”

Photo: Wolfgang Träger

© Lore Bert

The viewer discovers how colours and light are constantly transformed by the dichroic glass, both on the structure of the columns and in the church interior. They resemble a rainbow and remind us of the moment when this fleeting, intangible phenomenon appears. The field of white paper intensifies the impression of airiness to emphasise its special radiance. And involuntarily, Venice emerges as a memory as the city of glass, in which no such “colour effect glass” has yet been produced, as well as the iridescent water reflections of the lagoons.

The name of the church San Samuele derives from the Old Testament prophet Samuel, who is considered to be the “enlightened one”, providing rich relationships to Lore Bert´s artistic concept entitled “Illumination – Ways to Eureka”.

In the international art scene, Lore Bert holds a unique position by engaging in a diverse dialogue with the material paper and light in various interpretations, which she has presented worldwide in hundreds of exhibitions and numerous publications. In the field of light art, she has created a series of extraordinary light sculptures. With dichroic glass from Prinz Optics she created “Illumination” as a work of fragile beauty and special charisma.

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