

● LUMINALE 2020  
↳ PRESSEMELDUNG

Frankfurt am Main  
25.2.2020

## Instituto Cervantes shows artwork by Bernardí Roig

For the second time, the Luminale Festival Center will be located in the Instituto Cervantes from 12 to 15 March 2020. On this occasion, an installation by Bernardí Roig will be on display in the foyer.

Since 2008, the Spanish cultural center has been located in the former America House not far from the Alte Oper. With its bright, inviting architecture, it offers the ideal setting for lectures and talks in the TALK programme category. In this category, Luminale invites people to engage during the day in interdisciplinary dialogue and discourse on light, city and future. In the evening, the Festival Center is a perfect meeting place for all Luminale enthusiasts and an ideal starting point for tours along the Light Walk.

"As a House of all cultures of the Spanish-speaking countries and with view to the importance of light in our Ibero-American culture, the Instituto Cervantes would like to bring a little bit more light to Frankfurt through its renewed cooperation with Luminale," says Ramiro A. Villapadierna, Director of the Instituto Cervantes Frankfurt. "With this, we might even be able to inspire some of you to learn Spanish and get to know our bright and diverse culture."

## "The Italian" and "The Cow"

During Luminale, the Instituto Cervantes is showing the video installation "The Italian" by the sculptor and multimedia artist Bernardí Roig. "Roig is one of the most important representatives of the contemporary Spanish art scene, to whom the Center for International Light Art recently dedicated a solo exhibition," emphasizes Ramiro A. Villapadierna. "Accordingly, it was obvious to ask him to participate in Luminale with one of his most impressive works".

Roig presents his video installation "The Italian", in which he deals with the experimental film of the same name by Ferry Radax from 1971. The film is based on a narrative by Thomas Bernhard, which deals with the silence and concealment of Austria's Nazi past, guilt and expiation. The installation is completed by the sculpture "The Cow", a polyester resin cast of a slaughtered cow from which a bundle of fluorescent tubes with different light intensities gushes out.

Characteristic of Bernardí Roig's work are his installations of white polyester resin figures with neon light, which he sometimes allows to interact with drawings, photographs or videos. In this way he portrays the human body and critically examines the flood of information and images caused by the mass media. Born in Mallorca, he currently lives and works in Madrid and Binissalem, Spain. His works have been awarded numerous prizes, including the Official Award of the XXI Alexandria Biennale in 2003. His works have been exhibited at 54th Venice Biennial, the Palais des Beaux-Arts in Brussels, the Kunstmuseum in Bonn, the Alte Pinakothek in Munich and the Institut Valencià d'Art Modern, among others.

The video installation "The Italian" and the sculpture "The Cow" can be seen during Luminale, from 10:00-22:00 at the Instituto Cervantes, Staufstraße 1, Frankfurt am Main. During this period, drinks and tapas will be available at the festival center.

If you want to see more of Bernardí Roig and are not afraid of travelling, you should visit the exhibition "Neon Delight", which can be seen from 14 March to 16 August 2020 at the Centre for International Light Art in Unna. With "Neon Delight" the museum dedicates an exhibition to the material that is most commonly used in light art: Neon. In the underground exhibition rooms, works from the past 60 years of the internationally most famous representatives of neon-based light art are on display. John Jaspers, director of the museum, is a member of the Advisory Board of Luminale 2020.

Further information at [↳ luminale.de](http://luminale.de)

## About the Luminale

Since 2002, the Luminale has been held in Frankfurt every two years. Originally initiated by Messe Frankfurt in close cooperation with the exhibiting industry of the Light + Building, the light festival is now one of the biggest cultural events in Frankfurt and the Rhine-Main region. Since 2018, the Luminale, as a biennial for light art and urban design has pursued the goal of creating a popular and, at the same time, artistically and contextually high-quality program and to make a sustainable contribution to urban design. The city thus becomes not only a stage, but also the subject of the festival. Projects that deal with urban visions in light, architecture, technology, ecology and social interaction in the city or with its history and culture make this tangible – accompanied by an interdisciplinary dialogue on related issues. The Luminale 2018 presented 150 light productions in Frankfurt and Offenbach, attracting almost 250,000 visitors. The heart of the Luminale in the urban space is the Light Walk. A city walk and a public gallery of light art, created by places that can be reached on foot. Luminale e. V. was founded in June 2017 as a non-profit organization to promote and organize the Luminale as a biennial for light art and urban design.

## Press contact

Luminale – Biennale für Lichtkunst und Stadtgestaltung  
12th–15th March, 2020

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