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Lighting

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City People Light Winners

Vienna, Austria
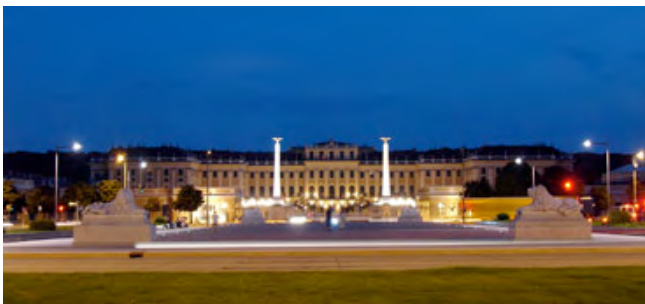
"Vienna is illuminated"

Project type :

The city of Vienna's municipal public lighting department operates more than 150,000 street lights and uses floodlighting to cast the best possible light on more than 200 public buildings at night. The master plan was drawn up with the aim of improving the strategic focus and development of public lighting, and it will serve as a basis for the realization of all future lighting projects. The city's application included five specific projects that form part of its vision for the planning, construction, operation and maintenance of the lights.

Karlsplatz Square: A lighting concept was developed that increases people's sense of security and safety by creating a functional illumination and involves buildings of architectural importance. This concept also devotes space to the 'Chromotop' interactive art installation by Victoria Coeln.

Reichsbrücke:
This bridge is one of the main arteries that extends towards the old city centre and St. Stephen's Cathedral. The illumination system using LED RGB technology generates a wide variety of light effects and reduces the level of energy consumption substantially.

Wiener Ringstrasse and historical buildings:The illumination concept is based on a historically inspired design that uses state-of-the-art technology. The concept for the footpaths and cycle tracks aims to eliminate 'anxiety' zones.

Forecourt of Schönbrunn Palace:
To ensure homogeneous illumination, design luminaires were mounted on slender masts in the lawn area. Fitted lighting fixtures were installed flush at ground level in the stone borders, in parallel with the lateral elements formed by the lawn and the rounded box hedges.

Schwarzenbergplatz:
This is one of Vienna's most important traffic junctions, which has been completely redesigned and transformed.

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Illumination increases the safety level, and the rest of the lighting design creates a new, dynamic ground arrangement that interacts with passing tramcars and other vehicles.

Project philosophy: each project guarantees a high level of quality, a cost-conscious approach and economical use of resources. Additional aims include: energy saving, the use of new technologies and a considerate approach to ecological aspects.

2nd prize: Leipzig, Germany
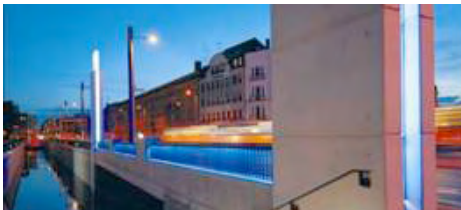
Rivers exposed to light

Lighting design: Architecture office Wandelt, Leipzig Project type: Until 1950 the Pleisse, Elster, Parthe and Luppe rivers and their canals were significant landmarks in the city. However, because they became polluted they were filled in and thus disappeared from the landscape. Since 1991, the "New River Banks" association, which consists of architects, artists and interested citizens, has taken it upon itself to re-open and design the Leipzig waterways. The city of Leipzig now aims to integrate these waterways into an overall urban development plan. The first seven stages of the construction of the Pleissemühlgraben (ditches) were realized between 1996 and 2006.

Project philosophy: The careful use of light is as important as the well-planned arrangement of lighting fixtures to support the identity of specific urban areas. The individual lighting concepts focus on specific locations in the relevant areas of the city. Each concept is integrated into the overall plan with the help of certain recurring elements (lanterns, railings, light pillars, etc.) that give the rivers their own characteristic features and identity.

3rd price: San Luis Potosi, Mexico

Lighting design: Gustavo Aviles (Lighteam)

Project type: Plaza del Carmen is an important part of the city of San Luis Potosi. It is here that the Del Carmen Church stands, which was built in the Baroque style. Other features here include the Virreinato Museum, the La Paz Theatre and the National Mask Museum. The City Lighting Master Plan for San Luis Potosi was developed with the following main goals and strategies: to promote social and historical awareness of the city to rediscover the main aspects of the urban structure and to highlight distinctive features of its morphology to restore the city's identity, to bring to life its past and to raise people's expectations.

Project philosophy: Artificial light can influence people's natural perception of a place and how they experience it. It can project unexpected geometries and shadows on streets, plazas and buildings and it can create narrative sensations of space and time, giving order and hierarchy to architectural structures and social behavior. San Luis Potosi is the first Latin American city to have a lighting master plan

for its historical centers that promotes energy saving, safety and orientation as well as the city's identity and beauty. The main aim of the project is to encourage the exchange of information and experiences relating to global urban development, to work together and communicate with others at an international level about outstanding lighting activities, realizations for festivals, workshops and conventions for light culture, and to develop a long-term vision as part of a six-year government program based on economic, material and social phases.

SPECIAL MENTION

Two cities in Germany received a special mention – Frankfurt am Main for the quality of its lighting master plan, and Bochum for its lighting concept "KunstLichtTore Bochum" for sixteen bridges.

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