For The Metropolitan Museum of Art’s Spring 2016 Costume Institute exhibition, OMA designed translucent white volumes to transform a postmodern interior into a “Ghost Cathedral.” Fixtures in catwalks above create ghosted views of the stone and brick interior of the Robert Lehman Wing and reveal silhouettes of the temporary structure supporting the scrims.

The central, domed “cocoon” and four surrounding “chapels” display dresses exemplifying handmade and machine-made details, using projections to magnify the construction details of each garment. Fixtures controlled by DMX dim in response to the projection sequences, maintaining the 5 fc maximum. Signage, case lighting, and projections are all tuned to preserve the white balance throughout the exhibition.

After testing a range of available halogen and LED fixtures, Dot Dash determined that a custom LED fixture and mounting system was the best solution. A zoom lens and integral dimmer adjust both beamspace and output based on the throw distance. In display cases around the perimeter of the central dome, custom, polished stainless steel fixtures integrate within the millwork to light each book. Inside niches, theatrical fixtures are cross-aimed to achieve a mysterious, shadow-free gradient of light across the back wall.