



Award of
MERIT

Janet Echelman's Pulse at Dilworth Park

Philadelphia, PA

Arup

Brian Stacy, Joe Chapman, Christoph Gisel, and Star Davis

The plaza at Philadelphia's beloved City Hall, a civic icon, interfaces to a major transportation hub below. But walking through the heart of Center City at dusk used to bring an edge of uneasiness to pedestrians. Today, the plaza-become-park includes a reimagining of urban lighting.

In September of 2018, after the completion of upgrades, phase one of *Pulse*, by artist Janet Echelman, was revealed. This artistic installation into the park's infrastructure features a dynamic, interactive line of fog and light that live-traces the subway path below. As the first transit-activated public art piece, *Pulse* attracts a diverse group of visitors and offers an uplifting, playful, and personal interaction with Philadelphia's transportation infrastructure.

The line of fog creates a stunning wall that blasts into the surrounding landscape, racing across Dilworth Park. The line traces the path of the underground trolleys – traditionally depicted in green on transit maps – using custom, linear LEDs below grade. Fog and lighting are simultaneously triggered, giving a seamless effect.

Using existing poles from the initial landscape phase of the design, additional RGBW fixtures with gobos add layered color and dimensionality to the ethereal fog. The experience stops pedestrians in their tracks and encourages playful interactions.

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