



# CITATION

for Environmental Awareness

## WATERLICHT

New York, NY

**Studio Roosegaarde**

Daan Roosegaarde

**Columbia University School of the Arts**

Carol Becker



**W**ATERLICHT is Studio Roosegaarde's dream landscape about the power and poetry of water. Inside a virtual flood, Waterlicht spectators encounter the heights sea level could reach with continued melting of polar ice and more extreme weather. Illuminating the power of light, WATERLICHT is a collective experience of wonder, reminding us of the importance of water innovation and the impact of climate change.

WATERLICHT was created as a dynamic, site-specific artwork for Dutch District Water Board Rijn & IJssel, Museumplein in Amsterdam. Exhibited in cities across the globe, the work was the centerpiece of Columbia University's Year of Water, a year-long interdisciplinary examination and celebration of the planet's most precious resource.

Combining LEDs, lenses, and fog, WATERLICHT creates an ever-changing layer of light – a virtual flood influenced by wind and rain. For three nights in October 2019, New Yorkers immersed themselves in the glow, traversing the space or lying down beneath the waves, wondering what they want their future to look like.

"I think we should work towards a society where we live and work with nature instead of against it. Waterlicht is, for me, about that — nature, technology, people, landscape; trying to form a new harmony, a new sense of balance... We all know the numbers. But numbers won't change us, imagination will."

— Daan Roosegaarde, Studio Roosegaarde

**OWNER**

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