

# INTERNATIONAL LIGHTING DESIGN INDEX

2010

Edited by Helmut M. Bien, Markus Helle

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**Office/Studio:**

Lab[au]

Street: Laekensestraat 104

City / Country: Belgium

Number of employees: 4

Founded: 1997

Website: [www.lab-au.com](http://www.lab-au.com)

**Project:**

Binary Waves, Paris

Date of completion: 2008

Light designer / team:

LAB[au]

Responsible architect / office:

LAB[au]

Multimedia design:

LAB[au]

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## LAB[AU]\_Flux, Binary Waves

Flux, Binary Waves is an urban and cybernetic installation based on the measuring of infrastructural (passengers, cars) and communicational (electromagnetic fields produced by mobile phones, radio, etc.) flow and their transposition into luminous, sonic and kinetic rules. This relation between the installation and the urban activity happens in real time and makes each person an element of the installation, as a centre of the public realm.

The installation is located in the area of Saint-Denis railway station (a

northern area of Paris) used by an average 60,000 commuters a day. Technically it is constituted by a network of 32 rotating and luminous panels (3m high, 60cm wide), placed every 3m to form a kinetic wall. The panels rotate around their vertical axes and have a black reflective surface on one side, the other being plain matt white.

Their rotation is controlled by microprocessors, making it possible to determine the rotation speed and angle, while their networking allows the synchronisation of the movement

of the 32 panels. The microprocessors are connected to infrared sensors, capturing the surrounding infrastructural flows and defining the frequency and amplitude of the rotation.

According to this set-up, each impulse is transmitted from one panel to the other, describing visual waves running from one side of the installation to the other and then bouncing back while progressively losing oscillation.

## **The First Professional Guide for the International Lighting Design Scene - Appearing Every Two Years**

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Both editors are well known in the lighting design scene: Helmut M. Bien is curator of the "Luminale" festival in Frankfurt, and Markus Helle is editor in chief of "Highlight" magazine.

- **Current international trends in lighting design**
- **Round about 100 projects for urban spaces, buildings, retail and night life**
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