Euroluce 2023: the future of lighting (also) comes this way.

Digitisation, miniaturisation, electrification, sustainability, new materials, holistic thinking and the abolition of the line between decorative and technical illumination form the basis for the new generation luminaires that combine looks and functionality, and are ripe for discovery at the new edition of Euroluce.

Light is increasingly at the heart of our hyper-connected world, of thinking around sustainability, and digitisation processes, as well as holistic reflection on people's wellbeing. We know that light influences our perceptions, performance, preferences, behaviours and even our moods. Consequently, lighting designers today have to contend not just with technological evolution but also with philosophical thinking around light, in order to come up with new concepts that will change the way luminaires are designed in the future. This is what Euroluce will be showcasing at this 31st edition which, with **more than 30.250 m2 of exhibition space** (thus excluding the exhibition and public spaces) split between 4 pavilions (9-11 and 13-15) and **321 exhibitors** (around **45% of them from other countries**), confirms its status as the benchmark international exhibition for the lighting world.

SUSTAINABILITY

Energy saving is one of the main issues facing the lighting industry over the last decade. This has led to numerous new actions being taken, both when it comes to **design** and to **production**. On the **design side**, there's been the **development of new, low energy and high efficiency LED sources**: the new solutions are increasingly smart and capable of channelling light accurately and continuously, avoiding unnecessary waste. The new network control systems allow for **timed start-up and dimming** functions which, combined with the use of built-in sensors, individual control systems and tunable white technology (regulating the colour of white light) make for **dynamic lighting that responds to the needs for energy optimisation**, by coming on only when necessary, with just the right amount of light to combine with the natural light and to carry out the specific task for which they have been designed. On the **production side**, **circular economies have been applied to the manufacture and distribution** of the appliances – the quest for **innovative materials** has seen products become more durable, but using **recycled or recyclable, low impact raw materials** is fundamental, as is the intelligent production of **luminaires suitable for multiple applications**, thus reducing the number of moulds required and manufacturing machinery emissions. Furthermore, the issue of sustainability also forces companies to come up with concrete solutions as regards **recycling components at product end-of-life**. Lastly, lighting designers are increasingly rethinking the relationship between natural and artificial life, so as to combine them to best advantage, innovatively and sustainably. **Indoors**, the aim is to make the most of natural sources in order to cut waste and safeguard the environment, while **outdoors**, the focus is on light bodies capable of harnessing solar energy for self-powering.

DIGITISATION

Great strides are being made towards a connected future in the technical lighting field, which will enable devices to **communicate with artificial intelligence systems**, thus allowing users to manage their light sources easily and efficiently. **The integration of IoT control systems** has led to the creation of luminaires that not only produce **actively changing light**, but also support the **gathering of data, and can be controlled by smartphones and tablets to create personalised lighting**. The market, the companies and the designers are trying to develop light bodies that don't just provide light, but also become **sources of information and signal tools**, especially in workspaces, in retail, in museums and in public places such as hospitals, stations and airports. Early applications of **LiFi (Light Fidelity)** technology are already a reality. It uses LED-emitted light waves to **transmit data wirelessly** – an evolution that will potentially transform all LED sources into information transmitters. Advanced digitisation will **influence the design of products**, which will provide a **more dynamic light**, in that it will be capable of reacting to external stimuli, in terms of **quantity, quality and light beam direction** – a more fluid and versatile light which, like a chameleon, will take on the qualities of the surrounding space.

HUMAN CENTRIC LIGHTING

Neuroscience has become an innovative factor in the technical lighting field, having clarified the relationship between the physiological and neurophysiological characteristics of people and the architecture of the spaces they live in. The work of lighting designers is thus increasingly influenced by scientific discoveries relating to **the effects of light on man** – it's no longer just a question of illuminating a space but of **designing in order to improve human performance and amplify the feelings of wellbeing and comfort that** scenic lighting is capable of awakening. **Human centric lighting** therefore aims to make people "feel good" through the provision of **high quality, dynamic light** - the intensity of which can be varied and modulated throughout the course of the day to alternate times of concentration and rest, regulating our circadian rhythm, inhibiting or stimulating the production of melatonin, both in terms of light spectrum and in terms of the specific needs of the user – and **as close as possible to natural sunlight**. It is a powerful incentive for innovation. Today, thanks to intelligent systems, the most advanced products are capable of picking up on people's physical reactions and to **intervene** in situations of stress or malaise, **by modifying the lighting parameters**, colour temperature and light colour in particular, and recreating conditions of wellbeing. The final frontier of HCL is likely to be the integration of sophisticated sensors into the technical lighting device, capable of deciphering **ciliary and eye movements**, capturing people's **posture**, **sweating and movements**. Based on this information, products can be designed that will respond effectively even to the unconscious needs of users.

DESIGN

Aside from technology, **poetry, emotion and beauty** will be the protagonists of this edition. Having overcome the limitations of a univocal style lending itself to "trend" status, lighting design takes different suggestions and stimuli on board, devising new, multiple aesthetic and decorative suggestions in a bid to eschew the obvious and the banal. The seductive power of minimalism, made up of simple shapes and soft colours, seen in many products, is counterbalanced by luminous objects with powerful personalities and a return to a more figurative and markedly decorative style; natural materials and craft-inspired techniques will alternate with super-technological composites; petite proportions and portability will vie with the grandeur of objects guaranteed to produce scenic and dramatic effects.

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