



Photo: Cecile Arragon

It took about 120 years to build St. Peter's Basilica in Rome. It takes less than an hour of work to construct one of the "Nomadic Prayer Spaces" by the American architect Michael Herrman. His series of temporary structures will serve the faithful all over the world as a place of worship. Generated by the interest in the connection between architecture and migration, the prayer tents are conceived independently of a specific religion. On an aluminium frame, translucent projection areas made of fibre-reinforced plastic panels or polyurethane fabric are stretched. This makes it possible to project images of actual sacred rooms from different religions onto these surfaces. After prayers, each "Nomadic Prayer Space" can be folded up in such a way that it fits into a small car. Michael Herrman is already planning to erect durable prayer spaces in camps in disaster areas.

Temporary Pavilions:
Nomadic Prayer Spaces
 Design: Michael Herrman
 Erected for instance on the occasion of the "Nuit Blanche" in Paris in October 2006 in front of the church of Saint-Denis du Saint-Sacrement. Further exhibitions are planned in Europe and the U.S.A.

While Michael Herrman's "Nomadic Prayer Space #1" (above) was designed for Christian religions, its further development, the "Nomadic Prayer Space #2" (right), can be adapted to all religions: also as a prayer niche or cupola for Muslims and in the rectangular form of a temple for Buddhists.



For the ninth time, at the end of last year, the city of Turin welcomed people to "Luci d'Artista". After the light festival had attracted attention during the Olympic Winter Games, it has now returned to its regular cycle: From 4th November to 28th January, the installations by 22 renowned artists were aglow around the city's landmarks. Among the installations were many works already familiar from the past years, some of them staged in new locations. The work by the artist Enrica Borghi was even exported to Salerno and thus built a bridge right across Italy. Whoever was not able to visit "Luci d'Artista" can still look at of the five light installations. They will outlast the duration of the exhibition and can be viewed for the whole year as permanent installations - much to the regret of the "CieloBiuo" campaign against light pollution that would like to pull the plug.



Mario Merz's permanent installation "Il volo dei numeri" puts the Fibonacci sequence of numbers onto the cupola of the approximately 170 metres high landmark of Turin, the "Mole Antonelliana".



Photo: Ufficio Torino Contemporanea della Città di Torino

With his work "Vento Solare" in the Piazzetta Mollino, the recently deceased Luigi Nervo represented the flight of elementary particles which are hurled down to the earth by solar winds and release light when entering the atmosphere.

Urban Light Art:
Luci d'Artista
 Permanent Installations
 4.11.2006 - 28.1.2007
 Turin
www.torinoarte.comtemporanea.it/luci-artista