

Ryoji Ikeda: spectra

Victoria Tower Gardens and the night sky over London

Dusk until dawn, 4 - 11 August 2014

FREE



Ryoji Ikeda, spectra (2014). View from Lambeth

Bridge by Olivia Rutherford

One hundred years after Germany declared war on Russia, thereby putting into motion events that would devastate Europe during the decades that followed, the UK commemorated this day with LIGHTS OUT: a nationwide black out.

As lights across the country were extinguished, a single source remained on the tomb of the Unknown Warrior at Westminster Abbey. Simultaneously a column of white light soared into the sky over London.

A twenty-metre grid containing forty-nine searchlights installed at Victoria Tower Gardens forms spectra by Ryoji Ikeda. Unannounced, it appeared in the sky at dusk Monday 4th August and for seven nights only it will be visible across the city between sunset and sunrise. People can walk within the grid of lights, experiencing a specially composed soundtrack by Ikeda. Walking through these sinewaves, a personal musical score is created for each visitor at the source of this architectural intervention in the sky.

spectra is produced and presented by Artangel, co-commissioned by Mayor of London and 14-18 NOW, WW1 Centenary Art Commissions, supported by the National Lottery through Arts Council England and the Heritage Lottery Fund. Presented with the kind support of The Royal Parks

Technical partner: Skylight (Paris)

Production partner: Unusual Services Ltd. (UK)

Co-produced by Museum of Old and New Art (MONA) in Hobart (AU), Sharjah Art Foundation (UAE) and Ryoji Ikeda Studio (Paris)

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