

CENTRE
FOR
INTERNATIONAL
LIGHT ART
UNNA

14.03.—
16.08.2020

Tracey Emin ^(GB)
Jeppe Hein ^(DK)
Brigitte Kowanz ^(AT)
Mario Merz ^(IT)
François Morellet ^(FR)
Jan van Munster ^(NL)
Maurizio Nannucci ^(IT)
Bruce Nauman ^(US)

Bruno Peinado ^(FR)
Anselm Reyle ^(DE)
Bernardi Roig ^(ES)
Keith Sonnier ^(US)
Olivia Steele ^(US)
Giny Vos ^(NL)

NEON DELIGHT MARCH 14 – AUGUST 16, 2020

With **NEON DELIGHT**, the Centre for International Light Art in Unna dedicates an exhibition to the material used most frequently in light art. From March 14 until August 16, the museum brings together the most well-known international artists working in neon-based light art in its unique, underground, raw spaces. Works from the 1960s to the present provide a representative overview of neon in light art.

The unique work *Never Move Far From Color* (2017–18) by **Maurizio Nannucci** shows that neon art is often language-based art in the form of text, writing, and its design. **Tracey Emin** lets us know in yellow-neon writing: *You Never Should Have Loved Me The Way You Did* (2014). Neon art is poetry, it reveals something personal—it gets close. **Jeppe Hein's** work *Who Am I Why Am I Where Am I Going* (2017) addresses the viewers directly. On the other hand, the work *It Is Both A Blessing And A Curse To Feel Everything So Very Deeply* (2016) by **Olivia Steele** does not pose any questions but relies solely on the power and opposition of just two words: “blessing” and “curse.” But neon art is also geometric abstraction entirely without words and is often highly fragile. **François Morellet**, **Keith Sonnier** and **Anselm Reyle** are artists in the exhibition who have created geometric-abstract, tangible neon art—in some cases in a very complex and expansive way. Several works presented in the exhibition—featuring immaterial light sources shimmering in various hues—are extremely subtle, such as those by **Brigitte Kowanx** or **Bruce Nauman**. Nauman's work *The True Artist Helps the World by Revealing Mystic Truths* (1967) refers to the immaterial, mystical power of light, the energy and the role of the artist. Others participating in the show include **Bruno Peinado**, **Giny Vos**, **Jan van Munster**, **Bernardi Roig** und **Mario Merz**.

The exhibition was realized in close partnership with:

Kröller-Müller Museum, Otterlo | Froehlich Collection, Stuttgart | Picasso Museum, Málaga & Kunsthalle Bremen | Studio Bruce Nauman, Galisteo, New Mexico, US | Galleria Fumagalli, Milan | White Cube LTD, London | Galerie Nikolaus Ruzicka, Salzburg | Studio Kowanx, Vienna | MAM Mario Mauroner Contemporary Art, Vienna | Studio Olivia Steele, Berlin | Studio Anselm Reyle, Berlin | Studio Jeppe Hein, Berlin | RHC Eindhoven, Collection Kunstlicht in de Kunst.