

# Aether & Hemera

Aether & Hemera is a collaborative contemporary art and design practice formed in 2008 by Gloria Ronchi and Claudio Benghi in the North of England. With an interest in perception and spatial experiences, their collective works combine digital media, human interaction and physical environments to provoke new metaphors and explore what it means to be human in an age of technology.

## **Exhibitions and Temporary Commissions**

- 2017 E-luminate, Cambridge, UK
- 2017 Crocus Valley, Croydon Heritage Festival, commissioned by the Whitgift Foundation, UK
- 2017 Enlighten Canberra, Australia
- 2016 Flower Strip, Amsterdam Light Festival, Netherlands
- 2016 Georgetown GLOW, Washington D.C, US
- 2016 Illumination, Irvine, Scotland
- 2016 Voyage for Lightwaves, Salford Quays MediaCity, UK
- 2016 Coloured Origami, Jerusalem Light Festival, Israel
- 2016 Voyage for Baltimore Light City 2016, Baltimore, US
- 2016 On the Wings of Freedom, Canary Wharf Winter Light Festival, London
- 2015/16 Generation Tour: a year-long touring exhibition of interactive lighting artworks in 4 galleries; DLI Museum, Durham; Towneley Hall Art Gallery; Central Art Gallery, Ashton-under-Lyne; The Gymnasium, Berwick-upon-Tweed.
- 2015 My Smile, Enchanted Park, Saltwell Park, Gateshead.
- 2014 Enlighten Canberra, Australia
- 2014 On the Wings of Freedom, Amsterdam Light Festival, Netherlands
- 2014 Voyage on Nervión River, Noche Blanca, Bilbao, Spain
- 2013 Fluidity project, Central Library, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
- 2013 Canal Convergence, Scottsdale Public Art, Arizona, US
- 2013 Kinetica Art Fair, London, UK
- 2013 Synaesthesia, Vivid festival, Sydney, Australia
- 2013 NAE, Culture Cloud Exhibition, Nottingham
- 2012 Voyage on Middle Dock, Canary Wharf Public Art, London.
- 2012 Which is your brass voice?, Pop-up shop, International Brass Festival, Durham.
- 2012 Growing Forest, historic building, Blinc Digital Fest, Conwy, Wales, UK.
- 2012 Glowing Wheels, the Links, Shimmer Festival, Whitley Bay, UK
- 2011 The Colour of Phi, DLI Museum and Art Gallery, Durham, UK.
- 2010 100% Design, London, UK
- 2010 Stories, Wolverhampton Art Gallery, Wolverhampton, UK
- 2010 Conversation, The Shed Open Studios, Gateshead, UK
- 2010 My Place In The World , Roker Fest, Sunderland, UK
- 2009 Dreamt Vessels, Gallery One, Queen's Hall Art Centre, Hexam, UK
- 2009 Rose's Halo, Enchanted Park, Saltwell Park, Gateshead, UK
- 2009 Reflections, Gardens of Cannon Hall Museum, Barnsley, UK
- 2008 The Twelve Days Star, Enchanted Park, Saltwell Park, Gateshead, UK

### **Permanent Public Art Commissions**

- 2013 A dichroic glass suspended sculpture, main entrance of Morpeth Care Centre, UK.
- 2011 Two lighting landmarks, Harbottle Park's main entrances, Newcastle upon Tyne, UK.
- 2011 Dichroic glass suspended installation, Selby Hospital, Selby, UK.
- 2010 Four 4.5m long dichroic glass suspended installations, Whiston Hospital's, St. Helen, UK.
- 2008 Tree suspended light installations, entrances of Truro Health Park, Cornwall, UK.

### **Awards and Residencies**

- 2017 EPSRC, Maths Foresees grant to collaborate with mathematicians Prof. Lombardo and Dr Huard from Northumbria University for delivering interdisciplinary outreach workshops, based on their research on nonlinear waves.
- 2017 LUTN Light Lab in Blackpool, an artist-in-residence program for height artists to enable critical discourse around light art.
- 2016 Voyage, winner of the "Top 20 Greatest Raspberry Pi Projects ever made" in the official Raspberry Pi magazine.
- 2013 Grants for the Arts by Arts Council England, to develop 'Fluidity' interactive installation, departing from the binary logic of gender representation to question audience pre-assumptions. Presented at Newcastle City Library
- 2011 Grants for the Arts by Arts Council England, to develop 'The Colour of Phi' light installation, using the concept of the Golden Ratio as a mathematical and aesthetic principle shown at the DLI Museum and Art Gallery, Durham, UK.
- 2011 Grants for the Arts by Arts Council England, for R&D of 'Growing Forest', an interactive video installation featuring a bespoke software application to render algorithmic-based trees.
- 2010 7 month 'Connect2' Residency, to develop an Art Strategy for two new cycle routes in Blyth and Bedlington as well as engaging with the local community. Commissioned by Sustrans and Inspire Northumberland.

### **Other Art Activities**

- 2014 Delivery of an innovative Art Strategy for Scottsdale (US), commissioned by Scottsdale Public Art: <http://prezi.com/lbg3zmk21hg-/constellations-by-aether-hemera/>
- 2013 Presentation at ArtsIt, Hangar Bicocca, Milan, Italy

### **Recent Publications**

- Ronchi G., Benghi C., 2016, Demo Hour: Pollinators, ACM Interactions XXIII.5, doi:10.1145/2973920.
- Ronchi G., Benghi C., 2014, Interactive light and sound installation using artificial intelligence, Int. J. Arts and Technology. Vol.7, No.4, pp.377 – 379; DOI: 10.1504/IJART.2014.066456.
- Ronchi G., Benghi C., 2014, Demo Hour: new prototypes and projects that exemplify innovation and novel forms of interaction: Fluidity, ACM Interactions XXI.2, DOI: 10.1145/2579050
- Ronchi G., Benghi C., 2013, Demo Hour: new prototypes and projects that exemplify innovation and novel forms of interaction: Heart\_Bit Lamp, ACM interactions, DOI 10.1145/2405716.2405719, ISSN 1072-5520
- Benghi C., Ronchi G., 2013, An Artificial Intelligence System to Mediate the Creation of Sound and Light, Proceedings of the Fourth International Conference on Computational Creativity 2013, Sydney, NSW, Australia. Short paper and exhibition artwork.
- G.Ronchi, 2012, 'Share Your Inner Rhythm', HESA Inprint #12, April edition.

## **Selected Media and Catalogues**

- 2017 Telegraaf, Meer bezoekers Amsterdam Light Festival
- 2016 BBC Radio Scotland, The Janice Forsyth Show, interview
- 2016 The Times, 12 January 2016, Bright Idea featuring On the Wings of Freedom
- 2016 ABC2, Final touches underway ahead of inaugural Light City Baltimore, interview
- 2016 CNN, 16 intriguing things to see and do in the U.S. in 2016
- 2015 SuperLux, Thames & Hudson, edited by writer Davina Jackson
- 2014 NRC Handelsblad, featuring On the Wings of Freedom
- 2013 Kinetica Art Fair Catalogue, Kinetica Museum Edition, London.
- 2013 Aesthetica Art Prize Anthology, 100 Contemporary Artists.
- 2013 Art ltd, Canal Convergence | Water + Art + Light featuring Voyage
- 2013 The Arizona Republic, featuring Voyage
- 2012 The Independent, London Evening Standard, City AM, London Metro, Art Daily, Designboom, Notcot, ThisIsColossal, Fubiz, AAJ Press, Design Week, Artlyst, featuring Voyage in Canary Wharf.
- 2012 Culture Magazine, Seeing the Light, interview with David Whetstone
- 2010 100% Design Insider Guide, 100% Futures, featuring 'The Mood Chair'

## **Education, Training and Teaching**

### ***Gloria Ronchi***

- 2009-2009 Newcastle University- Masters level module: Arts as Enterprise.
- 2003-2004 Brera Academy of Fine Arts in Milan, Italy - MA Lighting Design.
- 1994-1999 Polytechnic University of Milan, Italy- MEng Engineering Science.

### ***Claudio Benghi***

- 2009 - Present Senior Lecturer at Northumbria University, Newcastle upon Tyne
- 2007 Doctorate at Polytechnic University of Milan, Milan, Italy
- 2000 - 2005 Lecturer, Polytechnic University of Milan - School of Design.
- 2000 M.Sc., Architecture, Polytechnic University of Milan, Milan, Italy