

FEBRUARY 18, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



C. GRIMALDIS GALLERY

LIGHT/LICHT/LUMIÈRE

ON VIEW: MARCH 24 - MAY 14, 2016

OPENING RECEPTION: THURSDAY, MARCH 24, 6-8 P.M.

Baltimore, MD - Light has been a subject of interest for generations of artists, however only in the last century has light itself become a material for art. With the technological advancements of the 20th and 21st centuries, light became notable for its ability to transform space and alter perception. This spring, five international artists who use light as a primary medium are featured at C. Grimaldis Gallery: Chul Hyun Ahn, François Morellet, Erwin Redl, Annette Sauermann, and Jan Van Munster. The exhibition's title reflects its international scope: "Light/Licht/Lumière" opens on March 24 with a reception in the evening from 6 to 8 p.m., and will be on view through May 14, 2016.

Light carries a variety of meanings across the world, though there are universal associations with spirituality and energy. The artists in "Light/Licht/Lumière" are attracted to the medium of light for different reasons. Baltimore-based Korean artist **Chul Hyun Ahn** creates sculptures using light, color, and illusion as physical representations of his investigation of infinite space. His works slow viewers down to look deeply into the void and within themselves to enter a meditative, contemplative space.

First generation light artist **François Morellet** began using neon in 1963, attracted to its luminosity, manufacturing nature, and the fact that it was unburdened by any previous history with art. His elegant floor-to-ceiling installation of neon lights "Pitiful" (2008) consists of eight arching segments of a circle, suspended from a cord in the ceiling, and plays with the surrounding architecture and viewer's perception of space.

Austrian-born **Erwin Redl** is known for his large-scale installations that make use of light's transient properties: color-changing and moving light reflect his interest in the ephemerality of light and its connotations with virtual reality. The wall-work "Reflections, on Patterns and Signs" (2015), paints the surrounding space with a prisms of color-changing lights that rotate around a grid similar to the movement of a clock.

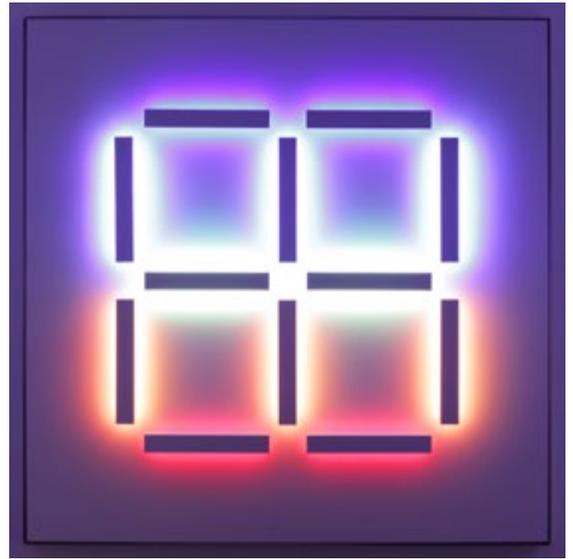
Giving physical presence to light is a primary concern for German artist **Annette Sauermann**. She uses industrial materials such as concrete, light filters, and fluorescent panels to construct geometric sculptures that give form to immaterial light. The sculpture "Light Tower" (2011) captures the glow of black lights in fluorescent tinted panels and can be viewed in two modes: "Day" and "Night" depending on whether the environment is lit or darkened.

Dutch artist **Jan Van Munster** is attracted to light as a manifestation of energy, a subject he has explored as a metaphor for life in over sixty years of sculpture and installation-based works. His neon and argon works show enlarged segments of his brainwaves, using light to portray energy, consciousness, or enlightenment. ■

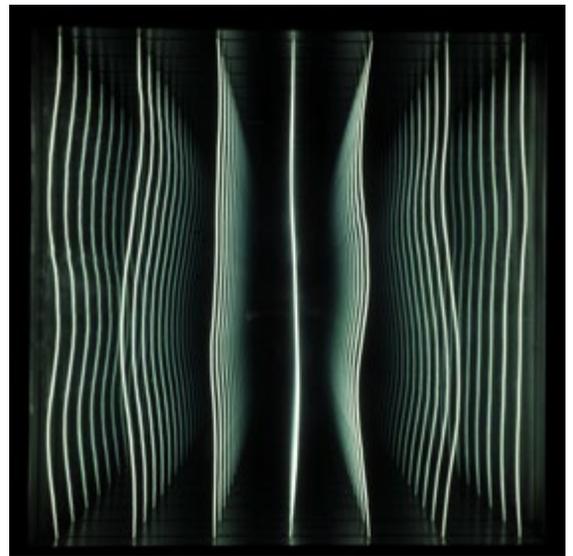
Hours for C. Grimaldis Gallery, which is free and open to the public, are Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.

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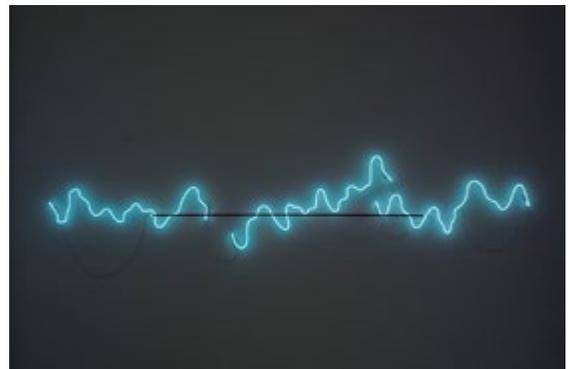
C. Grimaldis Gallery has continuously operated in Baltimore since 1977. It has established itself as Baltimore's oldest contemporary art gallery, and an important venue in the region. The gallery specializes in postwar American and European art with an emphasis on contemporary sculpture.



ERWIN REDL, *Reflections, on Patterns and Signs*, 2015, Edition of 10, light painting 12 RGB LED-bars on white board with stainless steel frame, microprocessor, 36.5 x 36.5 x 3.5 inches (93 x 93 x 9 cm)



CHUL HYUN AHN, *Mirror Drawing 730*, 2015, Unique, plywood, LED lights, mirrors, 31.5 x 31.5 x 5.5 inches (80 x 80 x 14 cm)



JAN VAN MUNSTER, *Ratio*, 2008, glass and argon, 150 inches (381 cm)