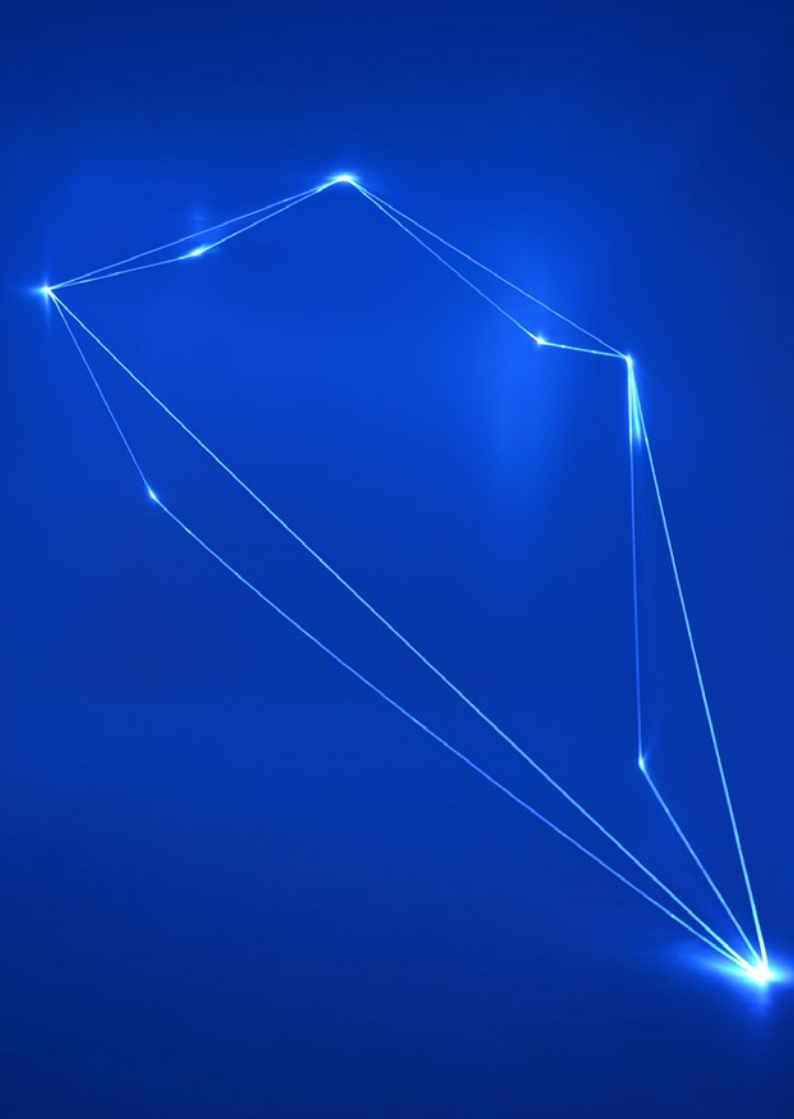




Fondazione Neri  
**/ Carlo Bernardini**

As a Foundation dedicated to the study of urban décor, we have always looked at architecture and light with interest and passion. This is the reason why last year we decided to embark on a little project showcasing – through annual monographic publications – the work of artists using light as a medium and the built environment as a setting for their installations. The first monograph – published last year – was dedicated to the work of American artist Matthew Schreiber, this year is the turn of Carlo Bernardini and his interventions in the urban space.

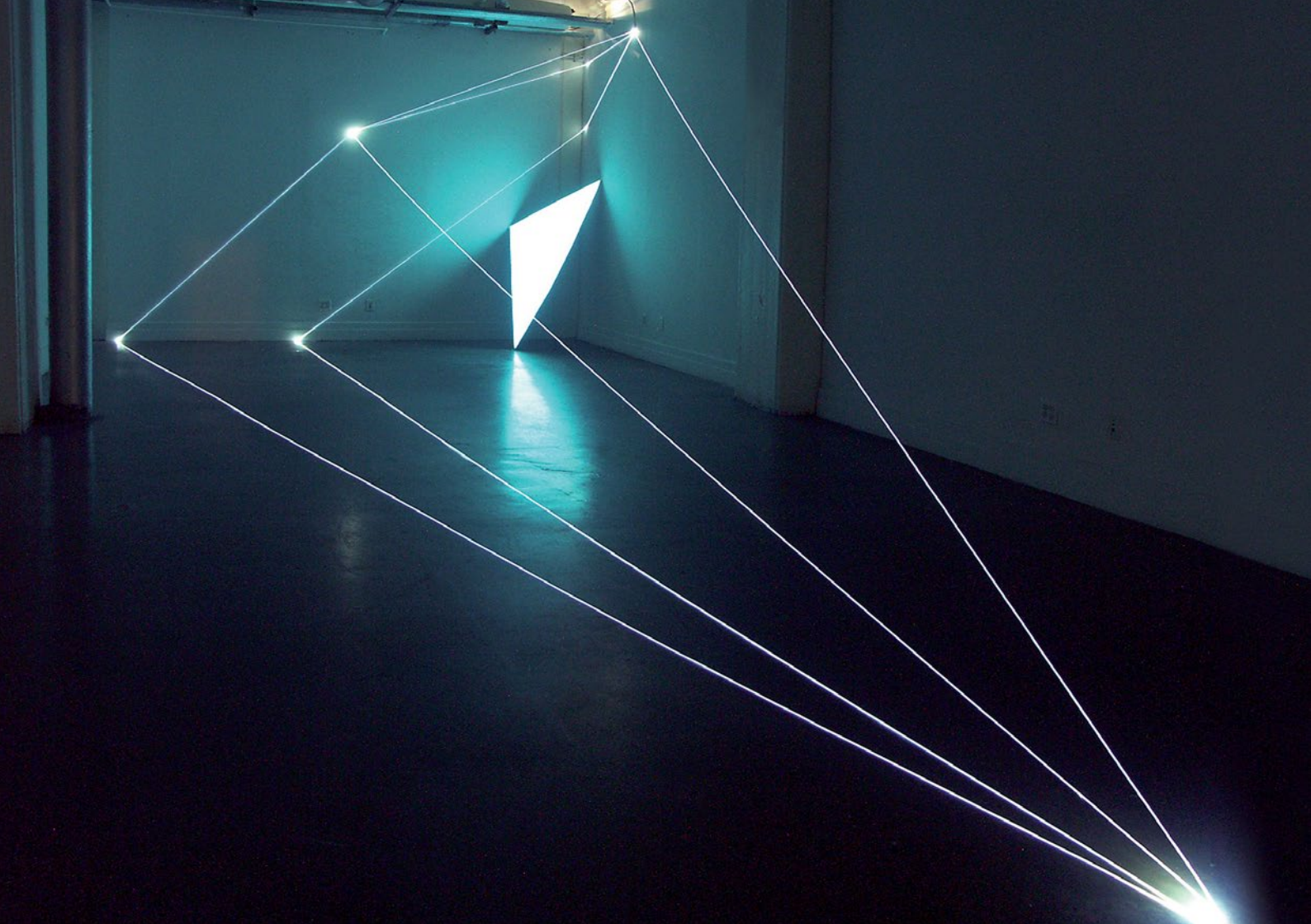


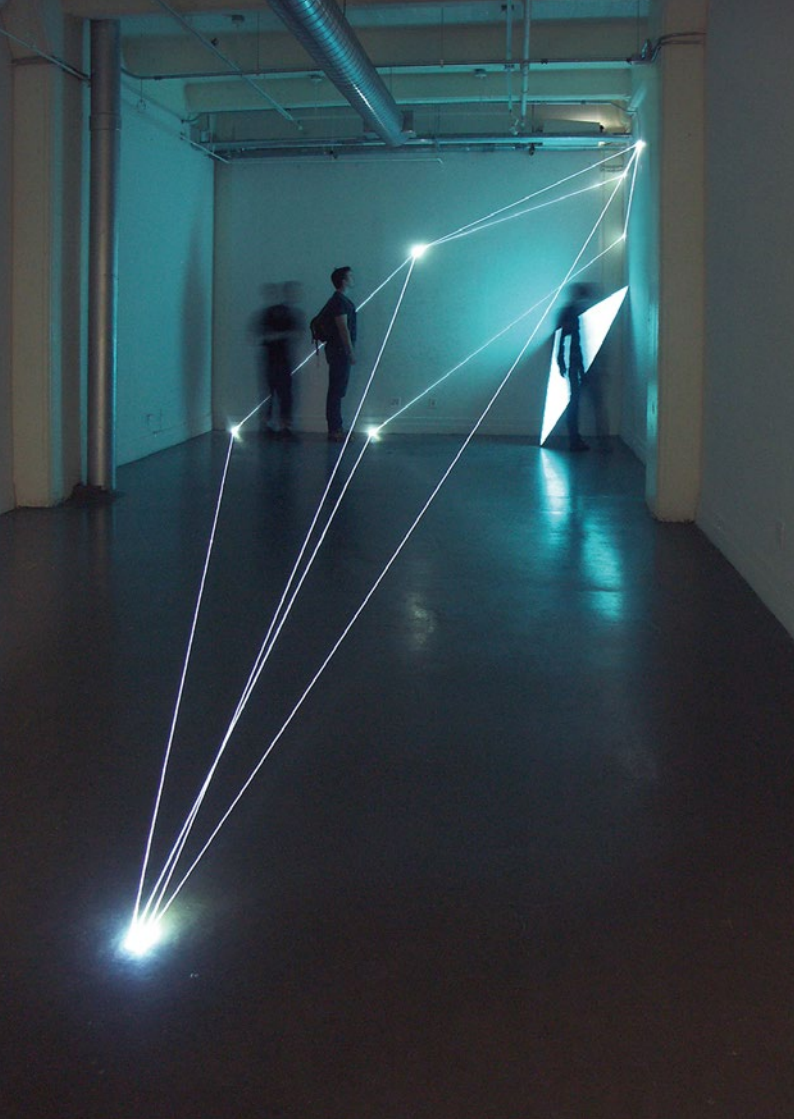
*Infinity*  
(optic fibers installation, 3x3x4m)  
The House of Peroni, London, UK  
2013

## Invisible dimensions

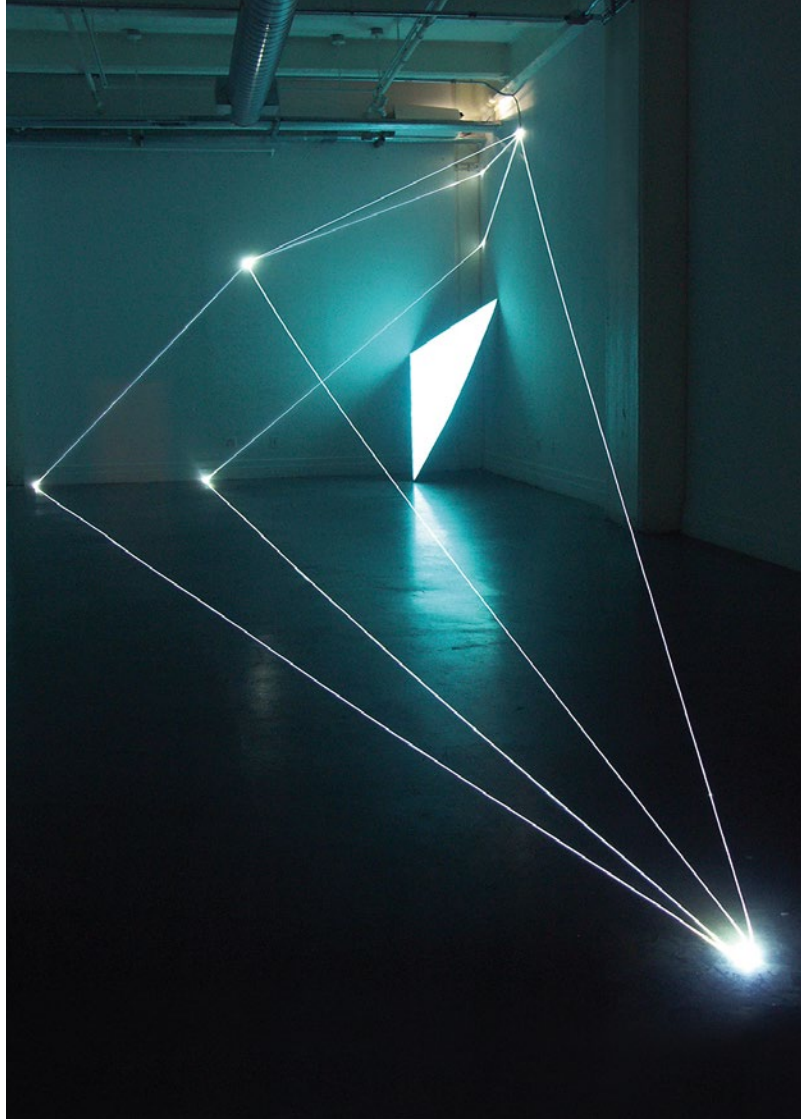
In the work of Bernardini, light irradiated by the structures in optic fibre generates space, that places at the origin of perception a void. The installation set in dialogue with the architecture, confers a prior importance to the light and the mental drawing materialised by it, able to change and transform the perceptive coordinates of visual space. A great intervention of light in the outside space, cutting the emptiness between buildings, imposes itself on the level of air like an illusory form. Aimed at transforming the space from the container of the artwork into an open and 'permeable' form, the project materialises by the physical light of optical fibre that is carried out through the free expressionism of space drawing the lines of light in negative in such a dark environment as if on a dark leaf.

In the urban space, the presence of a sign and contemporarily its virtuality is determined as the more invisible its support, the more evident its presence is. It is also more physical as the greater immateriality of the light itself creates the drawing of its space. The installation takes over the space and phagocytes it inside. The dominant relationship with the place is created by the spatial form, which penetrates it, fertilises it, reduces it with its power until transforming it into itself. The optical fibres reveal the empty space they enclose in a subsequent phase of perception. The observer can enter into a sort of illusory space, experiencing the installation from within and without in a subsequent phase of perception. The painstaking path of abstraction, far from being a sole intellectual strategy, is a gradual research of the line element in order to conquer its essence, as if to trace the invisible.





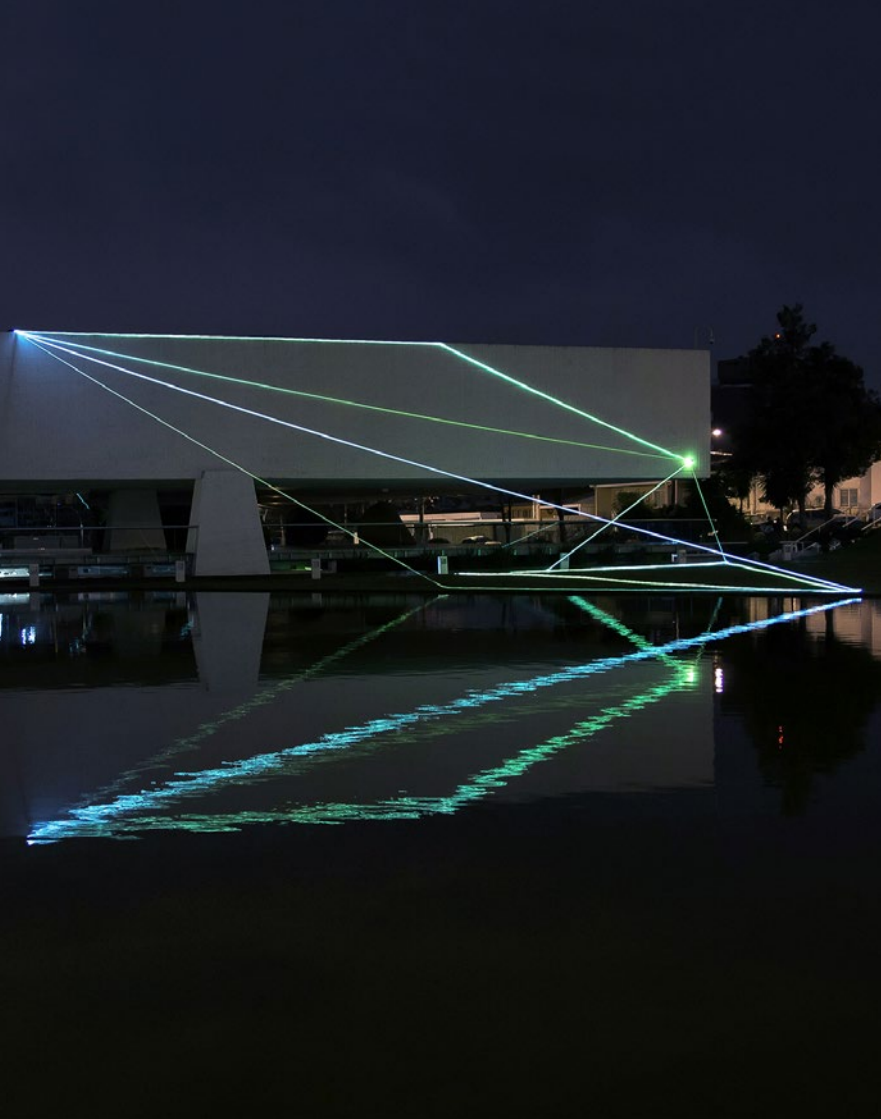
*Permeable space*  
(optic fiber, elettroluminescent  
surface, 3.6x10x7,5m),  
D.U.M.B.O. Art Under the Bridge,  
New York, NY, US  
2009









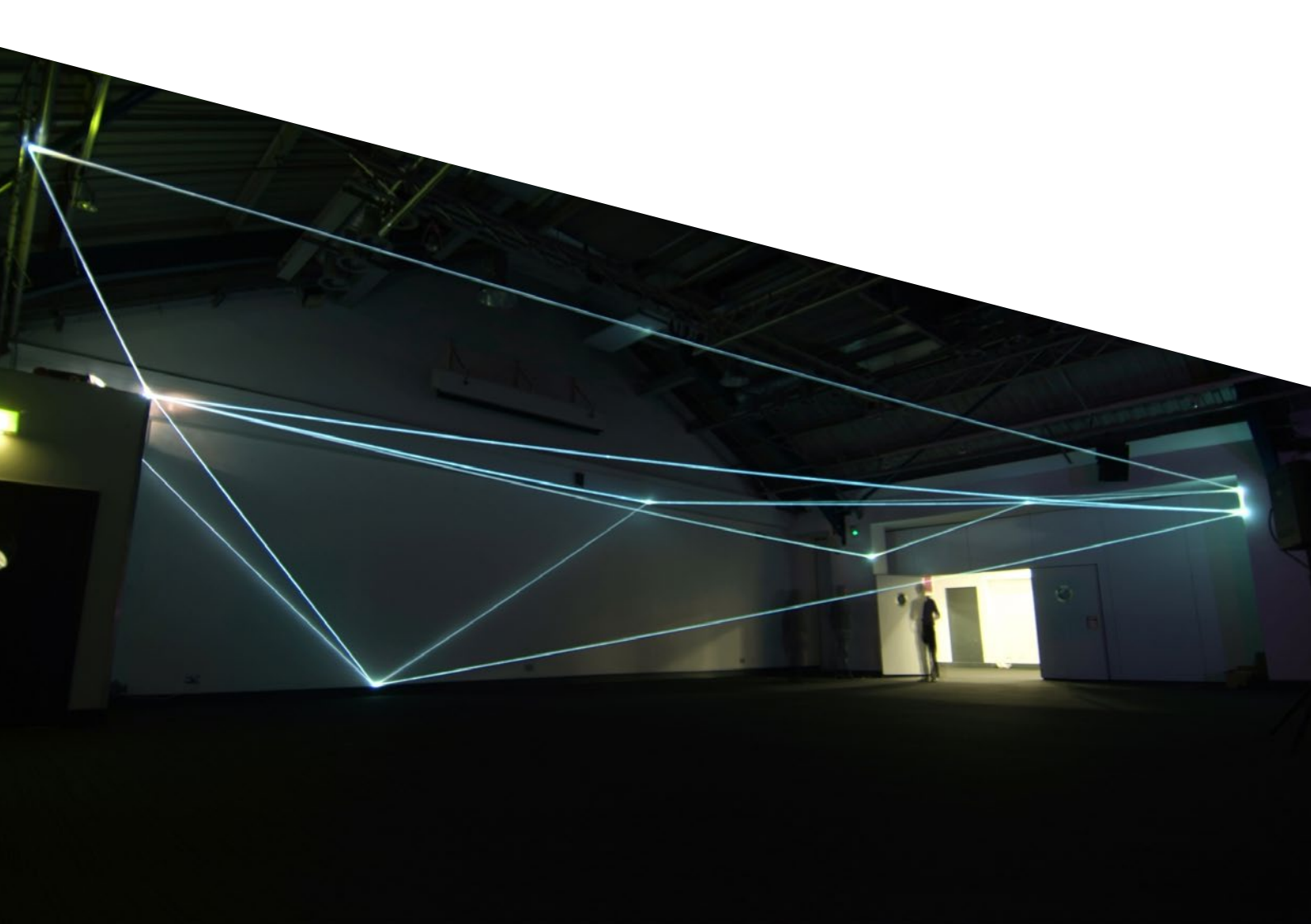


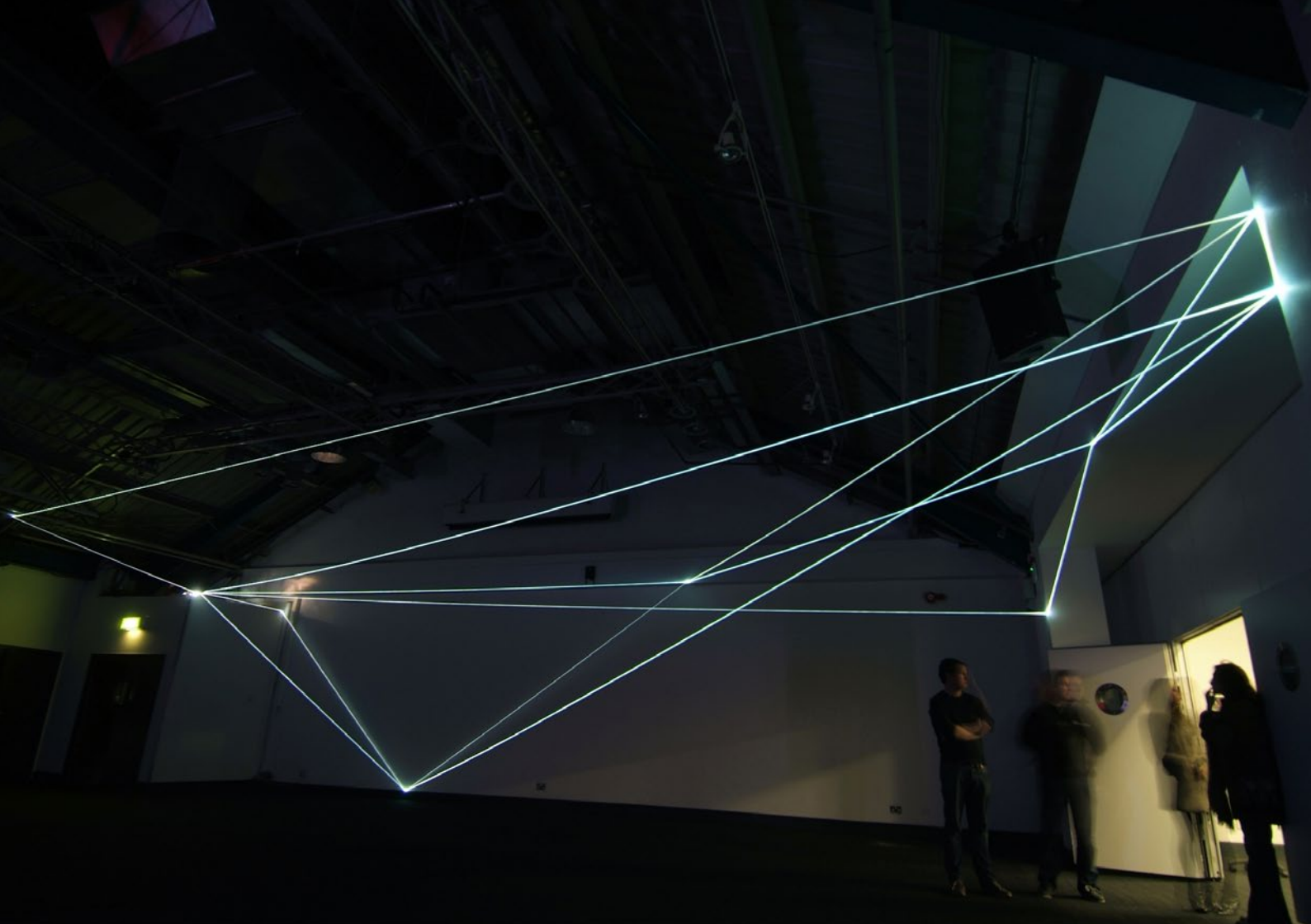
*Invisible dimensions*  
(optic fibers installation, 10x28x27m)  
Oscar Niemeyer Museum,  
Bienal de Curitiba, BR  
2015



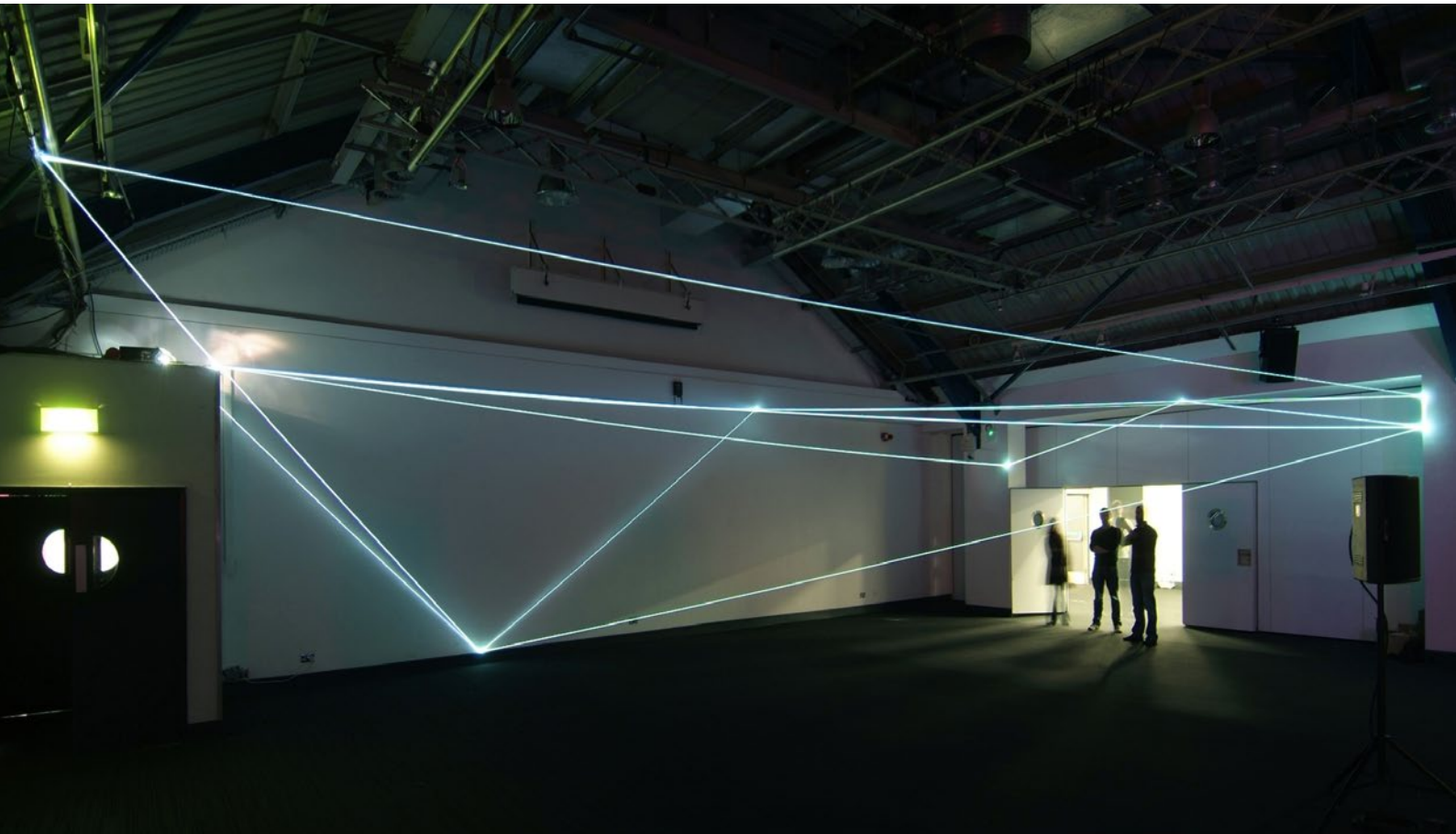


*The light that generates space*  
(optic fibers installation, 18x25x27m)  
Palazzo Litta, Milan, IT  
2009

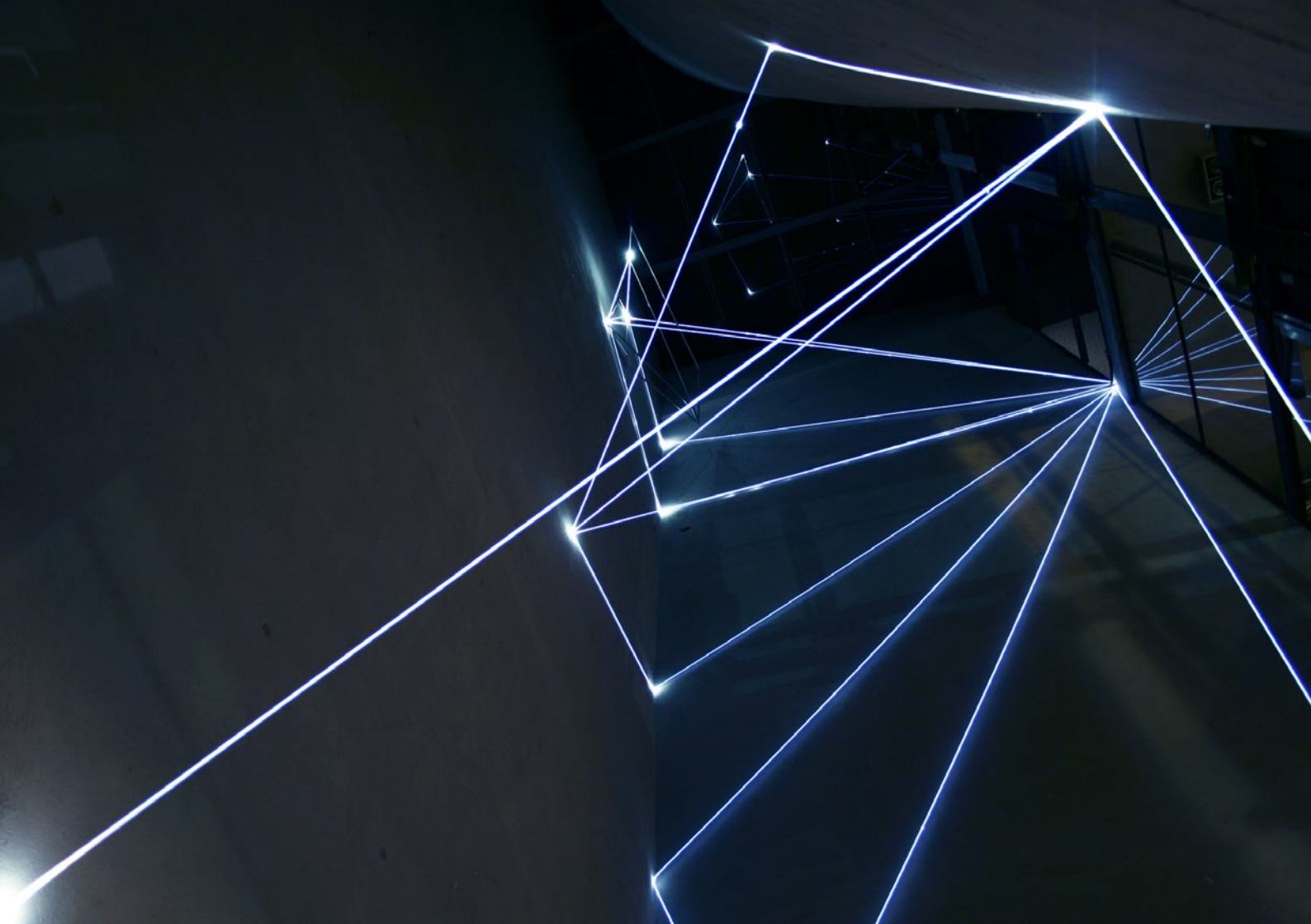




*Drawing of the vacuum*  
(optic fibers installation, 5x20x10m)  
Kinetica Art Fair, Prewiew – The Arc Show,  
Business Design Centre, London, UK  
2011

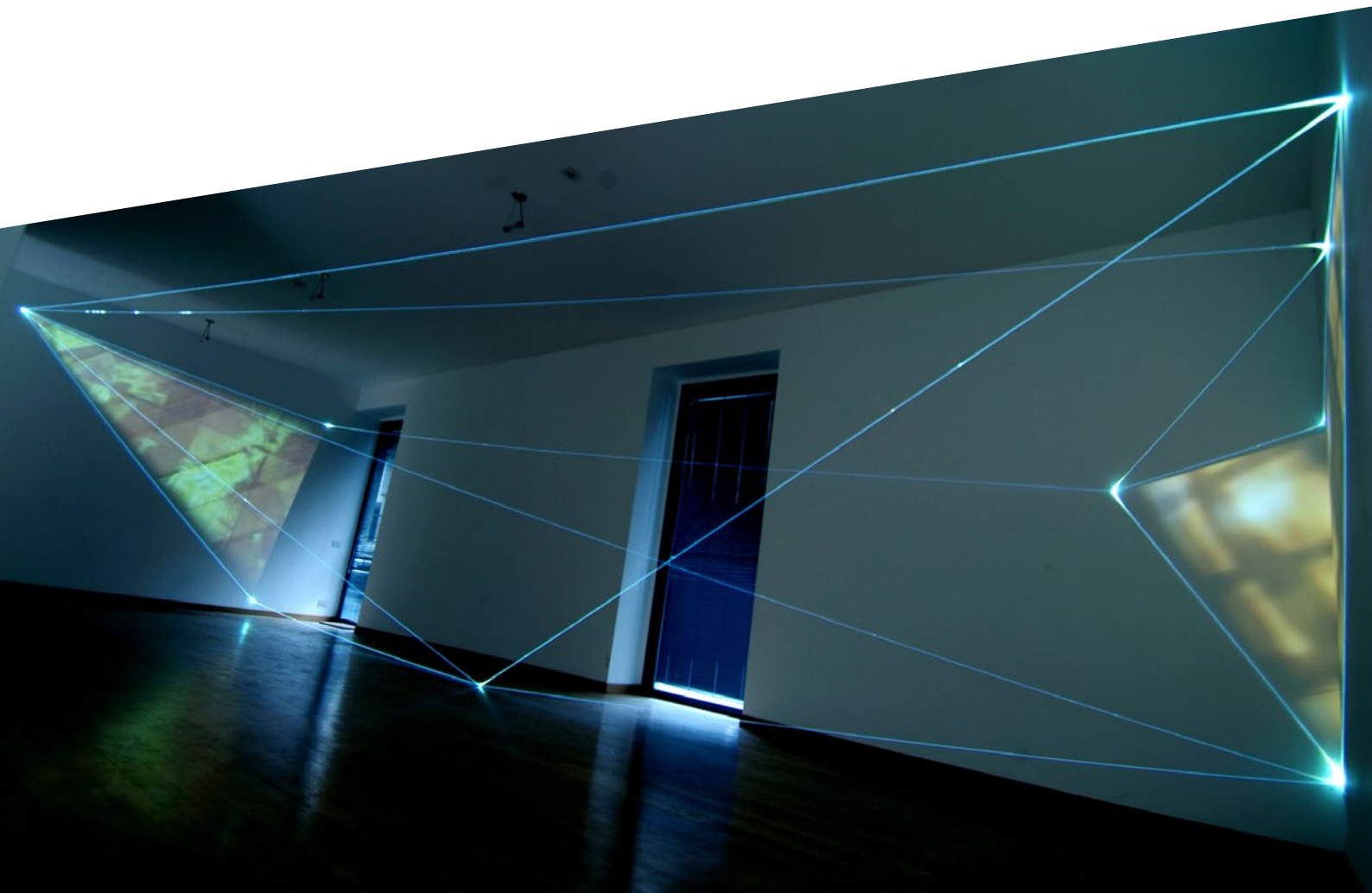






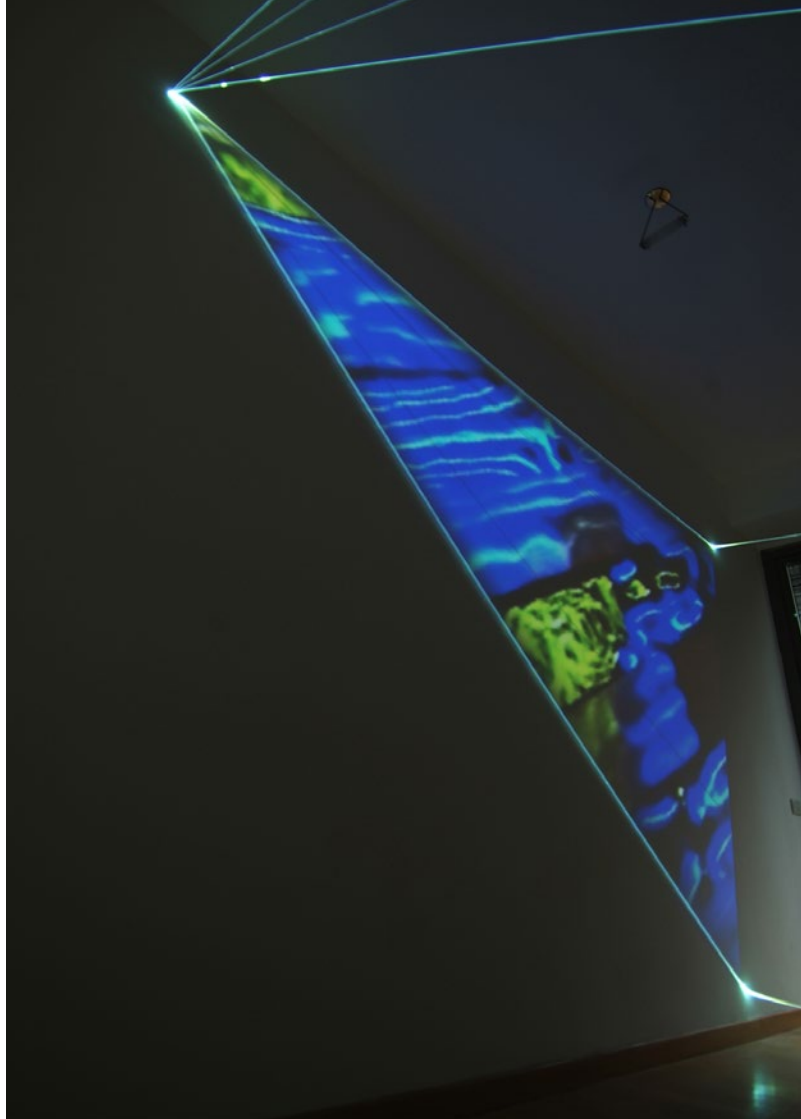


*The corner's revenge*  
(optic fibers, stainless steel, 18x3x4m)  
MACRO – Museo d'arte  
contemporanea di Roma, Rome, IT  
Courtesy Delloro Arte Contemporanea,  
Rome | Berlin  
2011

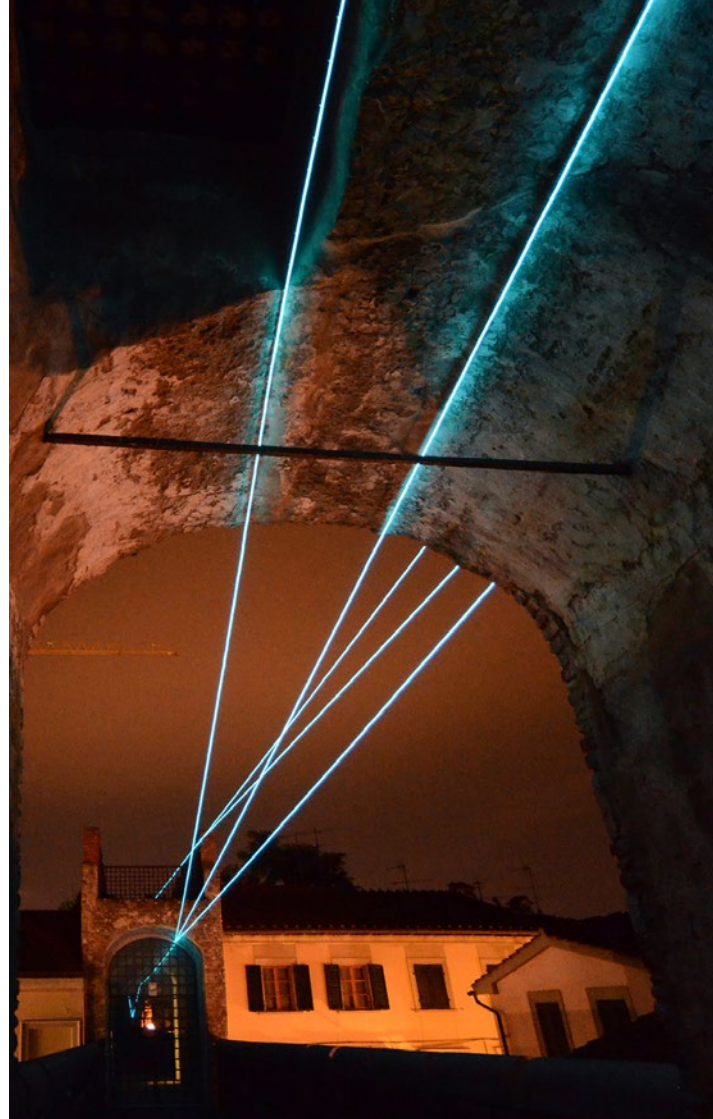




*The fourth direction of space*  
(optic fibers, interactive video,  
sound, 3x5x13m)  
Bruna Soletti Gallery, Milan, IT  
2008







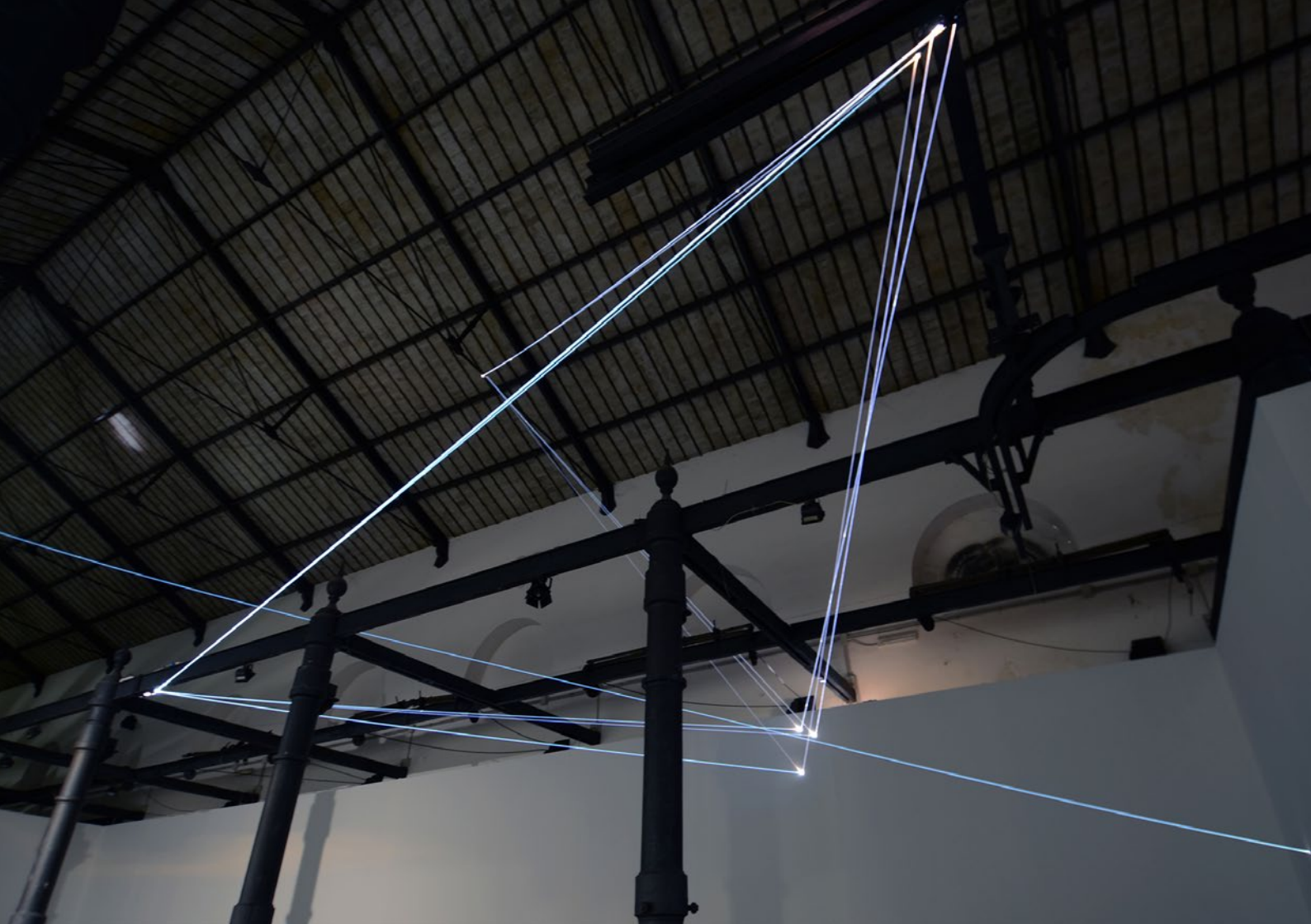


*The light walk*  
(environmental  
installation,  
electroluminescent  
cable, optic fibers,  
olf – optical lighting film,  
glass, 13x180x3m)  
Castello dell'Imperatore,  
Cassero Medioevale,  
Prato, IT  
2014











*Suspended vacuum*  
(optic fibers installation, 12x22x9m)  
Digital Life, MACRO Testaccio, Rome, IT  
2013







*The light that generates space*  
(optic fibers installation, 8x15x10  
and 4.5x30x3m)  
NIMk – Netherlands Media Art Institute,  
Sonic Acts, Amsterdam, NL  
2010

Carlo Bernardini was born in Viterbo in 1966 and obtained his diploma at the Fine Arts Academy in Rome in 1987. In 1997 he wrote the theoretical essay on *The division of visual unity*, which was published by Stampa Alternativa. In 2000 and 2005 he received a grant *Overseas Grantee* from the Pollock – Krasner Foundation of New York, and in 2002 the prize Targetti Art Light Collection *White Sculpture*. He works with optic fiber since 1996; he has created and installed permanent public sculptures in stainless steel and optic fibers in various Italian cities, and in 1996 and 2003 he has installed site specific works at the XII and XV Quadriennial National of Rome. Carlo Bernardini is devoted to the dialectic relation between lines and monochrome, representing different moments of the figurative conception of space and light. The painstaking path of abstraction, far from being a sole intellectual strategy, is a gradual research of the line element in order to conquer its essence, as if to trace the invisible. His is a form of creativity that works on the basis of a code of modifications in space reflecting variants produced by light. So much is confirmed by the present research of Carlo Bernardini, who handles light and shade like materials and substances, using electro-luminescent surfaces and optical fibers with internal lighting in a context of total darkness. In these works with interior and exterior environmental light installations, the optical superimposition of lines traversing a space and lines running along the planes of the same space, viewed from a certain position, can produce two-dimensional visual conditions. Closing one eye, transforming it into a single lens, the image becomes two-dimensional; as soon as the viewpoint shifts volumetric changes come about, generating mirror image-forms. The first impression is not of the optical fibers themselves, but rather of transparent plates of glass lit up along the sides. The optical fibers only reveal the empty space they enclose in a subsequent phase of perception. The observer can enter into a sort of illusory space, experiencing the installation from within and without. He currently teaches at the Fine Arts Academy of Brera in Milan. He lives and works both in Milan.

#### Solo exhibitions

- 2015** *Invisible dimensions*, Sculpture and Object XX, Milan Dobeš Museum, Bratislava, SK
- 2014** *Il passo della luce*, Castello dell'Imperatore – Cassero Medioevale, Prato, IT, curated by Museo Pecci di Prato
- 2013** *Infinity*, The House of Peroni, London, UK
- 2012** *Corporeità della luce*, Palazzo Bagatti Valsecchi, Milan, IT  
*Campo magnetico*, Palazzo Clerici, Milan, IT
- 2011** *La rivincita dell'angolo*, MACRO Summer 2011, MACRO Museo d'Arte Contemporanea Roma, Rome, IT  
*Vacuum*, Delloro Arte Contemporanea, Berlin, DE  
*La luce oltre la materia*, Basilica di S.Maria in Montesanto, Rome, IT, curated by Silvia Marsano, Marilena Borriello  
*La materia è il vuoto*, Castello Cinquecentesco, 'Re Place 2', L'Aquila, IT, curated by Germana Galli
- 2010** *La luce che genera lo spazio*, Antonella Cattani Contemporary Art, Bolzano, IT  
*Cristallizzazione sospesa*, CRAA, Centro Ricerca Arte Attuale, Villa Giulia, Verbania, IT, curated by Francesca Referza
- 2009** *La luce che genera lo spazio*, Palazzo Litta, Milan, IT, curated by Grossetti Arte Contemporanea  
*Codice spaziale*, Galleria Grossetti Arte Contemporanea, Milan, IT  
*Codice spaziale*, Velan Centro Arte Contemporanea, Turin, IT  
*Permeable space*, 13th annual D.U.M.B.O. Art Under the Bridge, New York, NY, US, curated by Dumbo Arts Center  
*La luce che genera lo spazio*, Delloro Arte Contemporanea, Rome, IT
- 2008** Galleria Bruna Soletti, Milan, IT, curated by Giorgio Verzotti  
*Interrelazioni nello spazio*, Castello di Rivara, IT, curated by Franz Paludetto  
*Spazio permeabile*, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Lissone, IT, curated by Luigi Cavadini  
*Trasformazione dello spazio*, Galleria Teknè, Potenza, IT, curated by Silvia Pegoraro
- 2007** *Event horizon*, Swing Space LMCC, New York, NY, US, curated by LMCC.
- 2005** *Luminosistemi*, Antonella Cattani Contemporary Art, Bolzano, IT, curated by Nadja Perilli

- 2004** *Catalizzatori di luce*, Velan Centro Arte Contemporanea, Turin, IT  
*Espaço permeável 2004*, Museo Passo Imperiale, Rio De Janeiro, BR  
*Stati di illuminazione*, Galleria Milano, Milan, IT, curated by Marco Meneguzzo  
*Stati di illuminazione*, Galleria Bruna Soletti, Milan, IT, curated by Marco Meneguzzo  
*Linea di luce*, Galleria Spazia, Bologna, IT
- 2003** *Sistema di luce*, Galleria del Naviglio, Milan, IT, curated by Rachele Ferrario and Nadja Perilli  
*Sistema di luce*, Galleria Spaziotemporaneo, Milan, IT, curated by Rachele Ferrario and Nadja Perilli
- 2002** *Permeable space*, Sculpture Space, White Room, Utica, New York, NY, US
- 2000** *L'Ambigua luce dell'arte*, Galleria L'Isola, Trento, IT, curated by E. Giovagnoni
- 1999** *La luce come materia dei sensi invisibili*, Galleria Spaziotemporaneo, Milan, IT, curated by Claudio Cerritelli  
*Light*, Galeria Arsenal, Białystok, PL, curated by Magdalena Godlewska – Siwerska and Alexandra Petrova  
*Divisione dell'unità visiva*, Museo Laboratorio di Arte Contemporanea, Università 'La Sapienza', Rome, IT, curated by Nadja Perilli
- 1998** *Accordi di luce*, Galleria Nazionale della Pilotta, Parma, IT, curated by Vittoria Biasi

#### Environmental public installations

- 2015** *Invisible dimensions*, *Luz do mundo*, Bienal Internacional de Curitiba, Museu Oscar Niemeyer, Curitiba, BR
- 2014** *Respiro del vuoto*, *Icastica 2014*, Palazzo Comunale, Piazza della Libertà, Arezzo, IT
- 2013** *Submerged breath*, Nuit Blanche, Moselle Canalisée, Square du Luxembourg, Moyon Pont, Metz, FR  
*Corporeità della luce*, Via dei Priori – Torre degli Sciri, Perugia, IT
- 2012** *Corporeità della luce*, *Door to Door*, Museo Diocesano, Salerno, IT
- 2011** *Disegno del vuoto*, Bocconi Art Gallery, Università Bocconi, Milan, IT
- 2010** *Cristallizzazione sospesa*, *Luci d'Artista Torino XIII Edizione*, Palazzo Bertalazzone di San Fermo, Turin, IT  
*Crystallization suspended*, Artlight Domaquarèe, Redefining Centre, CityQuartier DomAquaree, Berlin, DE  
*The light that generates space*, NIMk – Netherlands Media Art Institute, Sonic Acts, The poetics of space, Amsterdam, NL  
*Space interrelations*, Theater a/h Spui, Spuiplein, Today'sart, The Hague, NL

- 2009** *Codice spaziale*, Art First – Fiera di Bologna, Piazza S.Stefano, Bologna, IT  
*Codice spaziale*, Open Minds – Villa del Grumello, Como, IT  
*Codice spaziale*, Twister – MAM – Museo Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Gazoldo degli Ippoliti, IT
- 2008** *Light waves*, Aeroporto del Salento, Brindisi, IT  
*Permeable space*, Ciudad De Las Artes Y Las Ciencias, Valencia, ES  
*Catalizzatore di luce*, Museo d'Arte Contemporanea, Lissone, IT
- 2003** *Linea di luce*, Piazza del Campidoglio, Rome, IT
- 2001** *Permeable space*, Fundación Valparaíso, Mojàcar, Almería, ES  
*Ancona lights*, Piazza Cavour, Ancona, IT
- 2000** *Light accords*, Palazzo della Ragione – via Fiume, Padua, IT
- 1999** *Spazio permeabile*, Chiostrì di S.Domenico, Reggio Emilia, IT  
*Spazio permeabile*, Torre del Museo Civico, Reggio Emilia, IT

#### Group exhibitions

- 2015** *Luz do mundo*, Bienal Internacional de Curitiba, MUSA Museu de Arte da UFPR, Curitiba, BR  
*Puszta Fény-PureLight*, Vasarely Museum, Budapest, HU  
*In the spirit of light*, Mucsarnok Kunsthalle, Budapest, HU  
*Heart modulation*, Silos Art Inside, Venice, IT  
*Open18*, Venezia Lido, Molino Stucky, Isola della Giudecca, IT
- 2014** *La Bienal del Fin del Mundo*, 4th edition, Mar del Plata, AR  
*Islamic Arts Festival*, 17th edition, Sharjah Art Museum, Sharjah, AE  
*Light Art Ensemble*, ex Chiesa di San Carpofo, Milan, IT
- 2013** *Digital Life*, Liquid Landscapes, MACRO Testaccio, Rome, IT  
*Artisti nello Spazio*, da Lucio Fontana a oggi: gli ambienti nell'arte italiana, Complesso Monumentale del S.Giovanni, Catanzaro, IT  
*White&White nel dialogo tra Corea e Italia*, Museo Bilotti, Rome, IT  
*Art Interactions – Temporary Museum for New Design*, Superstudio Più, Milan, IT  
*Sessant'anni di astrazione italiana dalla collezione Garau*, Museo Piaggio, Pontedera, IT
- 2012** *FAD festival de arte digital*, Funarte fundação de arte, Belo Horizonte, BR  
*Meet in town*, Auditorium Parco della Musica, Rome, IT  
*Claim*, Lützowstraße 70, Berlin, DE  
*Oltre l'attimo*, ArteFiera Off, via Belle Arti 15, Bologna, IT  
*Quadratic equation*, Kepes Institute, Eger, HU
- 2011** *Kinetica Art Fair Preview*, The Arc Show, Business Design Centre, London, UK  
*Kinetica Art Fair*, Ambika P3, University of Westminster, London, UK



- Principia. Stanze e sostanze delle arti prossime*, Padiglione Molecolare, Piazza Duomo, Milan, IT
- 2010** *The light that generates space*, NIMk – Netherlands Media Art Institute, Sonic Acts, The poetics of space, Amsterdam, NL  
*XXL – Extraextralarge*, Superstudio Più, Milan, IT  
*Primavere del Bianco*, MOA, Museum of Art, National University, Seoul, KR  
*La scultura italiana del XXI secolo*, Fondazione Arnaldo Pomodoro, Milan, IT  
*Opening Contemporary*, Palazzo Bertalozzone, Turin, IT
- 2009** *Cromofobie*, Ex Aurum, Pescara, IT  
*Primavere del Bianco*, Art & Culture Centre, Bangkok, TH  
*Twister*, GAM – Civica Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Gallarate, IT  
*Corpo, Automi, Robot. Tra arte, scienza e tecnologia*, Museo d'Arte Villa Ciani, Lugano, CH
- 2008** *Digital Media*, LA NAU – Universidad de Valencia, Valencia, ES  
*Springs in White*, Lalit Kala Akademi, Rabindra Bhawan, Ferozshah Road, New Delhi – Calcutta, IN  
*Drawing all over – the power of the line*, Kunstverein KISS Kunst im Schloss Untergröningen Temporares Museum, Abtsgmünd Untergröningen, Stuttgart, DE  
*Sculpture and Object XIII*, GMB-Mirbach Palace, Bratislava (SK)  
*Tina B*, Alternative Space, Prague, CZ, curated by Monika Burian and Rosanna Musumec
- 2007** *Come along to the future*, Vychodoslovenská Galéria, Kosice, SK  
*International Light Workshop*, Gallery A22, Budapest, HU
- 2006** *Filophilo*, Ville de Montrouge, Paris, FR  
*Targetti art light collection – White Sculpture*, MUAR, Museo Nazionale di Architettura Schusev, Moscow, RU  
*Light On*, Artiscope, Brussels, BE
- 2005** *FiloLuce*, Museo della Permanente, Milan, IT  
*Sculpture in the Public Arena 2005/06*, Sculpture Now, Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts, US
- 2004** *Enter invito al futuro*, Premio Casoli, Barbara Behan Gallery, London, UK, curated by Valerio Dehò.
- 2003** *Preview*, XIV Quadriennale Nazionale, Palazzo Reale, Naples, IT  
*Targetti art light collection*, Centre for Contemporary Art Ujazdowski Castle, Varsavia, Chelsea Art Museum, New York, NY, US
- 2002** *Light Accords-East of West*, Nacional Gallery of Contemporary Art, Bangkok, TH  
*Le città Invisibili*, XX Triennale di Milano, Palazzo della Triennale, Milan, IT, cured by Gianni Canova
- 2001** *Oriente d'Occidente*, Museo Nazionale d'Arte Orientale, Rome, IT  
*Glimmers*, Inner Spaces Multimedia, Poznan, PL
- InPressione*, Bovisa, Officine del gas AEM, Milan, IT
- 2000** *2000 Anni Luce*, Galleria Parmiggiani, Reggio Emilia, IT  
*Thai – Italian Art Space 2000*, Art Gallery Silpakorn University, Bangkok, TH
- 1999** *Translacje*, Collection De La Fin Du Siecle, Piotrków Trybunalski, PL
- 1998** *Nuove contaminazioni*, Galleria d'Arte Moderna, Udine, IT
- 1997** *Arte a Roma*, Galleria Comunale d'Arte Moderna e Contemporanea, Rome, IT
- 1996** *Ultime generazioni*, XII Quadriennale Nazionale di Roma, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, IT
- 1992** *Giovani artisti IV*, Palazzo delle Esposizioni, Rome, IT

## **Fondazione Neri**

Fondazione Neri is a not-for-profit organisation created in 2005 by a private collector. Since 2010 it has been a cultural institution officially recognised by the Italian state. Through its very unique collection the Fondazione has been researching and looking at the past to understand the future of cities from points of view like décor, quality of life and sociability.

Part of Fondazione Neri is Mig, Museo Italiano della Ghisa (Italian museum of cast iron), with its collections, permanent exhibition and research centre. The museum is split in three locations: a main exhibition inside an industrial building, a former painting plant owned by Neri SpA in Longiano (FC), a former medieval church on the hills of Longiano (FC) and an open-air museum, a public garden in Cesena (FC). The permanent collection consists of lamp-posts coming from different cities in Italy and other European countries, all produced between the 19th and 20th centuries as well as fountains, benches, door-knockers, railings, brackets, moulds, books, catalogues, photographs.

**Fondazione Neri**  
**Museo Italiano della Ghisa**  
**Ss. Emilia, 1671**  
**47020 Longiano (FC), Italy**  
**T +39 0547 652171 - 652172**  
**info@museoitalianoghisa.org**

**With the contribution of Neri SpA**

Photographs ©Carlo Bernardini

