

art & radiation



the exhibition entitled “Did you say Radiation Protection? Stories of X-rays, radioactivity, etc.” is an absorbing display of artistic interpretations of the concepts of radiation and radiation protection. Dealing with a complex subject, the artists entice the audience to formulate new opinions about radiation protection through their works.

The exhibits stimulate visitors to interact with these scientific concepts at a sensorial level rather than rationally trying to explain them. As visitors are drawn through these displays, they are forced to confront these artworks engaging all their senses: touch, sight, hearing, smell and taste.

The artists aim to educate the visitor about the key elements that surround the subject of radiation, such as the difference between X-rays and radioactivity, the context in which radiation was discovered, the hazard it poses and how to protect one self from it.

This combination of science and art is a travelling exhibition co-produced by the Institute for Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety (France), Montbéliard Science Pavilion (France) and the Pays de Montbéliard Metropolitan Region (France); The Curie Museum (Paris), the Röntgen Museum (Remscheid, Germany) and the Deutsches Museum- (Munich, Germany), also contributed to the exhibition.

The exhibition travelled around France, then to Buenos Aires, Argentina. In the future it is schedule to go on display in Lusanne, Switzerland (late 2009-early 2010) and Helsinki, Finland (2010), before returning to France. ☸

For further information, visit the exhibition website at www.vous-avez-dit-radioprotection.fr

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This work evokes gala soirées where an upscale public rubs shoulders with spiritualists and great minds, eagerly jostling to attend extraordinary shows featuring X-rays.

Artist: Piet.sO



The Radiant One

A mysterious vessel in the shape of an atom-smasher resembling the one used by the Joliot-Curie team, or maybe rather a giant radish as suggested by the large, metallic mesh leaves, the work oscillates open and shut to reveal a ring of dazzling lights. The Radiant One, rather than banking on our knowledge gleaned from a contemporary laboratory, takes us back to the root, the Rad of radioactivity and radical. At the same time, it already reveals how this invention eventually led to state-of-the-art technology serving mankind today.

Artist: Piet.sO and Peter Keene

The Fantastic Family Becquerel

This work pays tribute to a dynasty of great minds, the Becquerels: Antoine Cesar, the grandfather; Edmond, the father; Henri, the son; all renowned physicists. It is a special tribute to Henri Becquerel who, following in his father's footsteps, became France's expert on luminescence.

Artist: Peter Keene

