

Name of research institute or organization:

**Christian Waldvogel, Artist**

Title of project:

Space from Space #3: Suspended Eternity

Project leader and team:

Christian Waldvogel, artist, project leader

Tomas Germann, artist

Tobias Madörin, photographer

Project description:

In 2006, Christian Waldvogel had asked Astronaut Jim Voss (who had spent 6 months in the International Space Station) to participate in his art project «How does Space look from Space?». During the project phase, Jim Voss told Waldvogel, that from the highest mountain, in the darkest night, one would see half as many stars as one would see from the international space station.

In 2008, Waldvogel went to High Altitude Research Station Jungfrauoch in order to photographically produce a work which – digitally doubling the photographed stars – represented a section of the sky as Voss had described it. This was «Space from Space #2», called «As if the Stars were countless».

In 2009, Waldvogel returned to the High Altitude Research Station Jungfrauoch in order to install a real, artificial cloud of stars, made from LED lights suspended from tethered helium balloons in order to double the stars visible.



The images show the cloud of balloons at the lab (photo by Tomas Germann), the digitally fabricated sight with floating points of light, and the installation in reality (see next page), where a fierce snow storm lumped the balloons instead of having

them cover a large portion of the sky. Instead of having LED shine light and act as stars, we used the camera flash to make the snow flakes shine, and so not electricity dubbed as stars, but frozen water...



«Space from Space #3» is still in the final development stages, it should have been called «Suspended Eternity», but more likely will be named something along «H<sub>2</sub>O Stars».



A work that was produced «by the way» is called «Multi-day» (the fourth image). It shows three times of the day simultaenously: day (the shadows, which are in reality those cast by the light of the moon), sunset (the lights of Milano which light the sky) and night (the stars in the clear and dark sky). Also, the artificial light of the Konkordiahütte can be seen. Unfortunately, a technical problem (scattered light in the zoom lens, which becomes significant at exposure times above 30s, which we painfully had to discover), rendered the image blurred and unsuitable for professional use. A second try during a full moon in fall 2009 has failed too, since the moon was too bright and faded the visibility of the milano shine. It is planned to reshoot the image in 2010 during a night with the same moon phase as during the original night.



Key words:

View of Space from Space, Simulation, Stars, Sky, Helium Balloons, Astronaut, Art, Photography.

Collaborating partners/networks:

Tomas Germann, Tobias Madörin

Scientific publications and public outreach 2009:

Space from Space #3 will apperar in a book published by Institute GTA ETHZ, originally scheduled for publication in Fall 2009, now rescheduled for publication in Summer 2010.

Besides this, Space from Space #2 & #3 (both realised at HFSJG) will be part of the 300 page monographical publication about Christian Waldvogel's work, which will be published by renowned Zurich publisher Scheidegger & Spiess in Summer 2010.

Book sections

Experiments, GTA Institute ETH Zürich, Dr. Àkos Moravànszky (Ed.), Jovis Verlag, Berlin, 2010

**Edited books**

Christian Waldvogel: Earth Extremes, Dr. Jacqueline Burckhardt (Ed.), Scheidegger & Spiess Publishers, Zürich, 2010

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