



## Media Backgrounder

September 25, 2015

### **Runners up, Special Mentions and People's Choice awards at City.People.Light Awards 2015**

#### ***Second prize - Artistic escapes at twilight, lighting masterplan, Valenciennes, France***

Renovation of 41 existing architectural lightings and the creation of 9 new space and architectural lightings have been realized, including the lighting of two major nocturnal journeys of 1100 meters and 700 meters long that meet in the very center of the town. The interactivity of city lights with inhabitants strengthens the nocturnal polarities, to inspire people to walk during the night, to discover again the magnificence of their architectural heritage. The people of Valenciennes are proud of this new night landscape. And finally poetry and humor is brought in the public space to make it more welcoming and generous. The lighting design was done by CONCEPTO French lighting studio.

#### ***Third prize – Rehabilitation of Fortress Square, Baia Mare, Romania***

The project is part of the urban masterplan that started in 2005 and is a cultural component of the entire Baia Mare city center reconstruction in north-western Romania. The purpose of this project was to restore the memory of the most important city monument – St. Stephen's Church - related to the birth of the city. The lighting provides an ambient lighting atmosphere that highlights buildings, trees, major city routes and emphasizes the main landmarks of the city: St. Stephen's Tower, the ruins of St. Stephen's Church and of the two other churches that were discovered, the Church of Saint Catherine and the Saint Martin Church. The lighting design was created by Mitru Ildiko, chief architect for the project.

### **Special Mentions for Taipei and Amsterdam projects**

#### ***Treasure Hill Village, Taipei, Taiwan***

The Treasure Hill community is located in the Gonguan district of Taipei by the Xindian River, an important lifeline for the village. The community used to have extensive urban farms between the settlement and the river. The lighting concept emphasizes the former practice of urban farming in this area to redefine the borders between nature and urban life. The lighting design was developed by Ivan Juarez from x-studio.

#### ***Railway bridge underpass "Hang in there", Amsterdam, The Netherlands***

The design is based on a composition of 36 beams of light positioned above the water upon an old railway bridge next to Amsterdam's central train station. The beams light up and fade away randomly and create a mesmerizing spectacle of light and reflection, making the underpass a more attractive place to pass through. The poorly lit underpass with the ground shaking noise of trains passing overhead has become an important route for buses, trams, bike riders, cars and pedestrians (both locals and tourists) due to its position connecting the old historic city on one side with the new urban developments on the harbor front on the



other side. The lighting design was developed by Jasper Klinkhamer and Matthijs ten Berge.

### **People's Choice award 2015**

The People's Choice award is a public award, part of the City.People.Light award contest, where people vote for their favorite lighting project. In this public award the top 16 ranked lighting projects from the City.People.Light award each year compete via online voting. In 2015, the city of Melilla in Spain received the most votes from the public. Melilla succeeded partly because it activated the People's Choice award through social media in its local community.

### ***Victoria Grande" Fortress, Melilla, Spain***

This fortress was a military construction conceived as a defense bastion, which later became a prison, and finally a damaged ruin. Since its reconstruction, it is now a well visited complex open to the public. The lighting design enables interesting nocturnal displays at nights. The lighting design was done by Javier Górriz from DCI Design study and lighting consultancy.

### **For further information, please contact:**

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