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Art works on church tower...Beatles on organ...

by Asbjorn Lonvig

I am continuously trying to find new ways to communicate art.

On 24 August 2007 during the "Hedensted by Night" festival, I and organist Carsten Thomsen performed an ART EVENT.

It started shortly after sunset at 9.05 p.m. and it ended with a fireworks display at 11 p.m.

By means of a projector, a computer and other equipment, I showed my recent art works in size 20 x 30 feet on the top of the crystal white Hedensted Church Tower.

At the same time organist Carsten Thomsen played an organ concert.

Beatles music of course.

A brand new composition of 18 Beatles melodies was created for this purpose.

This composition is conceived and performed from the point of departure which my art represents "Colorful Simplicity".

Never before has Beatles' music been interpreted in this way. "Colorful Simplicity".

The Beatles' music is played very true to the Beatles' original concept of the music, but without the organist focusing on anything else but communicating the Beatles' music to the audience melodically in a seemingly effortless performance.

Very close to the essential ideas of the Beatles' music are the ideas of my art.

I had the idea about this Art Event and the Parochial Church Council of Hedensted Church has supported the idea all the way through, morally and financially.

The council's intention was to emphasize "the roomy church", "the roomy Christianity".

To emphasize that the church is a cultural centre on many levels.

120 art works in 7 categories were shown in 2 sessions of 40 minutes leaving 20 seconds to show each art work on the church tower:

Christ and Christianity: "Christ", "Christ – Blue", "San Francesco", "Adam and God" inspired by Michelangelo's Creation of Adam on the ceiling of The Sistine Chapel in the Vatican in Rome, "Sagrada Familia" by Gaudi etc.

New Hedensted Motifs: Interpretation of the huge metallic sculpture by the motor way (by Asbjorn Lonvig), "The Mayor's Wife's Golf Hat", "The TV2 Antenna at Kragelund Common", "The Windmill at Agersboel Manor House", "Agersboel Manor House", "Hedensted Church" "The Priest's Tie", "The Sexton's Mug", "Postcard to Ant Oda", US Postal Stamp with Hedensted Church, "Oester Snede Church", "Sindbjerg Church", "Williamsborg Manor House", "Korning Church", inspiration from Gl. Sole etc.

Motifs from the surrounding area: Vejle, Haderslev, Aarhus etc..."Vejle Inlet Bridge", "Niels Kjeldsen's Helmet", "The Egtved Girl's Belt", Boerkop Water Mill", "Haderslev Cathedral", "Cafe Faust", "22 North Street" (Jyske Bank), "7 North Street" (Kreditforeningen Danmark), "Aros Aarhus Art Museum", The City Hall Tower in Aarhus, "Aarhus Theatre", "The Mansard House" in The Old Town in Aarhus, "Marselisborg Palace", "Aarhus Cathedral", "St. Clemens Courtyard", "1 Cathedral Place" (Nykredit)

Beautiful houses in the surrounding area: Churches, Palaces, Manor Houses...."Oerumgaard Manor House", "Rohden Manor House", "Ussinggaard Manor House", "Loendal Manor House" etc.

Denmark: "Christiansborg Palace", "Erich Erichsen's Mansion" at the Kongens Nytorv in Copenhagen (Den Danske Bank), "2 Guardsmen", "The Ugly Duckling", Post Denmark's "Post Box", "Tranekeer Palace", "Koldinghus Castle Ruin" etc.

The world: "Guggenheim?" in New York, Victorian house in San Francisco, Alcatraz in San Francisco Bay Area, Killer Wales in The Pacific Ocean, Grand Canyon seen from a helicopter, Chicago's Gangster Past in 1920s, Canadian Maple Leaves, "Toronto Skyline", "Thunderbird" from British Columbia, Mona from Paris, Champs Elysees in Paris, Septimus Severus Arch in Roman Forum, Rome, "Spanish Bull", Kaiser Wilhelm Gedächtnis Kirche in Berlin etc.

The Mystery of The Orient: Is the theme of "Hedensted by Night"...motifs from Fujiyama, Tokyo, The Wall of China, Shanghai, Mount Everest, Mediterranean etc.

As a spectator you saw these motifs quietly slide across the church tower while the Beatles music was sent out over huge loudspeakers from Nordic Rentals A/S.

Nordic Rental A/S.

Nordic Rentals A/S is one of Denmark's leading rental and production companies within the field of technology for show business.

Nordic Rentals provide solutions which include budgeting, dimensioning, planning, rental, crew, transport and on site project management, while also possessing considerable experience from the planning and running of tours and other events internationally.

Nordic Rentals assume responsibility for all aspects of the heavy backstage work which goes into creating the perfect concert experience.



Nordic Rentals references show that Nordic Rentals A/S has the capacity and expertise needed to handle anything from the Eurovision Song Contest in Copenhagen to major business conferences, fashion shows, theatre musicals and small scale solo performances.

The Beatles.

The Beatles music that was performed:

- 1) Yesterday
- 2) All My loving
- 3) A Hard Day's Night
- 4) Norwegian Wood
- 5) Blackbird
- 6) Eleanor Rigby
- 7) Penny Lane
- 8) With A Little Help from My Friends
- 9) Lucy in the Sky With Diamonds
- 10) Leaving Home
- 11) A Day in the Life
- 12) Lady Madonna
- 13) All You Need is Love
- 14) The Fool on the Hill
- 15) Hey Jude
- 16) Let it Be
- 17) Imagine
- 18) When I'm 64 + Yesterday

There were two sessions with a break.

I showed my fairy tale characters during the brake: Octo-Pus the Cuttlefish, Crab-Mac-Claw the Crab, Frederic The Frog, Elias the Elephant, Farmer Jack etc.

We intend to explore the results of the synergy between my art and organist Carsten Thomsen's Beatles inspired music in the near future.

More music composed in "colorful simplicity"?

A children's song book with "colorful simplicity" songs based on my fairy tale characters and with whimsical texts?

The recording company REFLEKS considers publishing a DVD with the the Beatles on organ and my show on the church tower. For this purpose the Beatles on organ might be directed even more towards "Colorful Simplicity".

Response - happy.

I'm so happy this event turned out to be a tremendous success.

Lots of people saw it.

People from Denmark and abroad said: "Great experience", "Wonderful" and much more.

"Inspiring", was a general feed back.

Letters, e-mail, phone calls tell me it was worth all the trouble.

Later in the evening the church disappeared in the dark night and you could see nothing but the white screen with my art works in the sky and it seemed like the music made it fly.

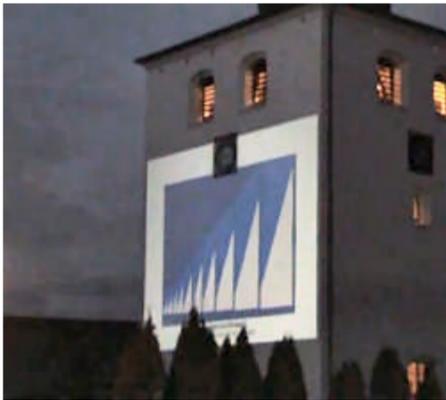
And Peter O. was excited and he said: "Second to none, not even to Jean Michel Jarre".

Jean Michel Jarre is a famous French musician, who performs huge events using electronic music effects and light effects in spectacular places.

The minister who had supported the event in many ways was happily jumping up and down in the churchyard aisles smoking lots of cigarettes, mumbling strange words.

Our sound technician, who recently worked for Madonna and Rolling Stones was excited, too – he shook my hand and said: "So cool".

You had to be present.



No photo, no CD, no video would ever be able to tell the story about this event. You had to be present.

To see the art works in colorful simplicity shown on the church tower in simple shapes and bright colors, 120 motifs one by one every 20 seconds with a little bit of text.

To stand there listening to the Beatles music in colorful simplicity played expertly on the organ and presented in sublime sound quality in a specter of 50 to 18000 Hz.

To be present in a state of religious silence with this combination of impressions totally overwhelms you.

So, the photos above only intend to document that the event took place. To the left



"Vejele Inlet Bridge" projected on the church tower and to the right the organ virtuoso in action.

What's next - Thoughts?

Based on my cooperation with Nordic Rentals, which has powerful projectors (many times stronger than the one I used on the church tower) and huge screens, which can produce sound that makes birds somersault, which in short can support any event with sound and light.

Based on my cooperation with organist Carsten Thomsen.

Based on that most of my art is digital and can be projected anywhere.

The only limit is my imagination.....

The only limit is my imagination.

Every Thursday, starting tonight from 19 to 22, I'll show the images and play the music from the church tower art event as well as past and future art events in my gallery in "Lille Fejringhus". The art events are shown on a wide screen size 118.1 x 88.6 inches with a 3000 lumen HP projector and managed by a HP computer. The music is presented by a Bang & Olufsen stereo amplifier and 2 large loudspeakers.

And?

And?

And?

And?

An art event in Aarhus Cathedral showing my art works with Aarhus motifs and more on a huge screen in the square in front of the cathedral, while Carsten Thomsen skillfully plays the Beatles concert on the organ with loudspeakers in the square?

An art event in Haderslev Cathedral showing my art works with Haderslev motifs and more on a huge screen in the square in front of the cathedral, while organist Carsten Thomsen skillfully plays the Beatles concert on the organ with loudspeakers in the square?

An art event in the Christiansborg Palace Church showing my art works and more on a huge screen in the square in front of the church, while organist Carsten Thomsen skillfully plays the Beatles concert on the organ with loudspeakers in the square?

And?

And?

And?

And?

A huge white cloth waving in the wind hanging down as a screen to show my art works high above and across Fifth Avenue outside Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church where organist Carsten Thomsen expertly plays the Beatles concert with loudspeaker on the pavements of Fifth Avenue?

And?

And?

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And?

Auditoriums at US Colleges and Universities - followed by an interactive lecture?

And?

And?

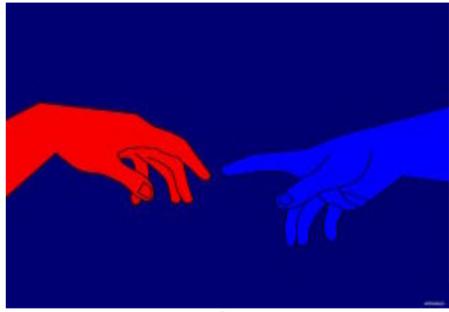
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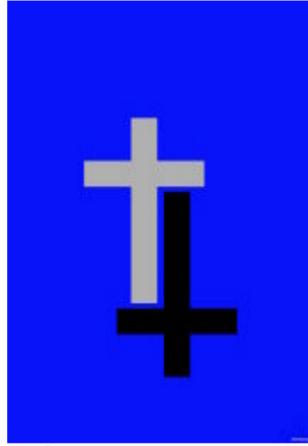
Samples of art works shown in 20 x 30 feet on the top of the crystal white church tower:



"Christ"



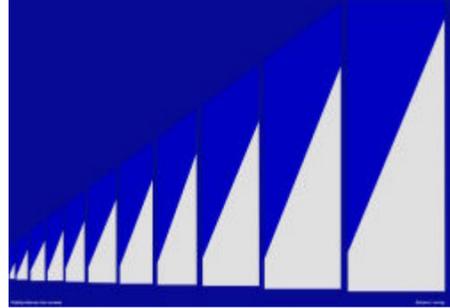
"Adam and God"



"San Francesco"



"Agersboel"



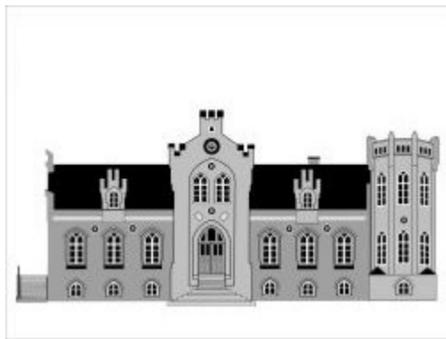
"Vejle Inlet Bridge"



"The Arne Jacobsen Tower"



"Haderslev Cathedral"



"Ussinggaard Manor House"



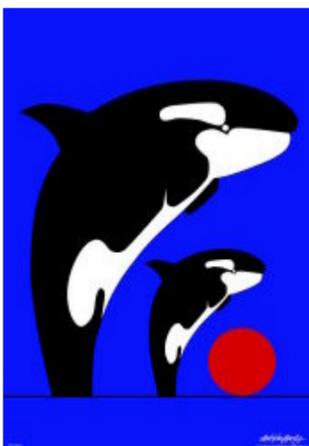
"Piazza S. Marco"



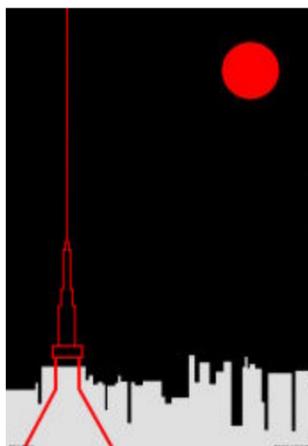
"Spanish Bull"



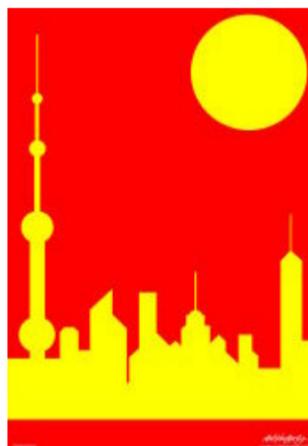
"Guggenheim?"



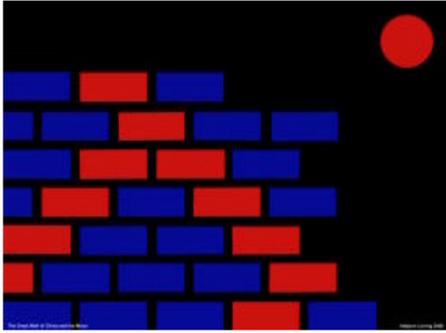
"San Diego"



"Tokyo Tower"



"Shanghai Sunshine"



“Great Wall of China”

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- in Seattle at Imagekind.com
- in Palo Alto at Zazzle.com
- in Salt Lake City at ArtWanted.com
- in San Francisco at ArtistRising.com
- in Paris, France at Poosteers.com

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