



Imagine Peace: A European Light Art Collaboration Illuminates the Path to Unity

Imagine Peace is a bold and visionary European project that brings together five renowned light festivals from across the continent in a shared artistic initiative to reflect on the meaning of peace. Co-funded by the European Union, this cross-border collaboration transcends the traditional framework of individual festivals and creates a powerful cultural platform to promote unity, sustainability, and hope.

The project links the [Brixen Water Light Festival](#) in Italy, [Copenhagen Light Festival](#) in Denmark, [Essen Light Festival](#) in Germany, [Fjord Oslo](#) in Norway, and the [Visualia Festival of Light](#) in Pula, Croatia. Each of these festivals brings its own distinctive identity and artistic vision, while collectively embracing a shared mission: to explore how light, as a universal medium, can inspire dialogue, connection, and a more harmonious future.

At the heart of *Imagine Peace* lies a commitment to artistic excellence and diversity. The first group of participating artists includes Eva Esmann Behrens (Denmark), who creates poetic projection art grounded in natural materials; Alessandro Lupi (Italy), whose immersive installations explore the perception of reality; Claudia Reh (Germany), a pioneer in analogue light performance; Petar Šćulac (Croatia), who combines painting and scenography with spatial light environments; Julia Shamsheieva (Ukraine), internationally awarded for her 3D digital artworks and video mapping; and VOID (Norway), a multidisciplinary studio working at the crossroads of architecture, computation, and interactive design. Further artists will join the initiative as it evolves, enriching the project with new perspectives and creative approaches.

To ensure long-lasting impact and critical depth, *Imagine Peace* also draws on the expertise of two academic institutions: the [University of Innsbruck](#) (Austria) and [Eurac Research](#) (Italy). These partners contribute valuable insights into public and quality management, sustainable local development, and place identity. Their involvement enhances the project's role as a model for how art, science, and civil society can collaborate, providing a foundation for critical scientific discussion and ensuring the project's depth and relevance.

As light installations travel from city to city, *Imagine Peace* becomes more than a collection of festivals — it becomes a pan-European conversation, a luminous journey through shared values and collective imagination. It invites communities not just to

observe, but to engage, reflect, and envision peace as a lived and shared reality. The first wave of festival events and installations will begin rolling out across the participating cities in 2025.

Beyond the luminous installations, *Imagine Peace* extends its impact through a series of creative workshops hosted in each participating city. These initiatives actively involve local communities—inviting both the younger Generation Z and the older Boomer generation—to collaborate with artists in exploring the values of peace and the pathways toward it. With a strong emphasis on fostering dynamic, inclusive, and curious interactions, these intergenerational encounters encourage participants to express themselves freely while respecting diverse perspectives. Whether through personal dialogue or communal creativity, each gesture contributes to a culture of peace. Several workshops have already taken place—such as those in Essen, led by the Norwegian collective VOID; in Copenhagen, by German analogue light artist Claudia Reh; and in Brixen, by Danish visual artist Eva Esmann Behrens. Others are planned for the coming months, including in Pula with Italian installation artist Alessandro Lupi and in Oslo with Croatian visual artist Petar Šćulac. These community-driven experiences enrich the project's artistic journey, affirming that peace begins with connection—and that everyone has a role in illuminating the way forward.

Press materials and further information are available at:

<https://imaginepeaceproject.eu>