

Peasholm Park Winter Lights Trail: Interesting Facts

The Lilies (on Peasholm Lake)

- Although it is a Hungarian piece, the materials are actually made in Bristol in the UK.
- There are 720 individual addressable LEDs.
- The radio control refreshes the light colours 400 times in every second.
- The ability to sensor the radio-controlled colour change makes you feel in direct touch with the flowers, even though they are a relative distance away on the water.
- The Lilies have previously been exhibited in Sydney, Paris, Bucharest, Sneek (Netherlands) and Jyvaskyla (Finland).
- The main inspiration for the flowers is to reinterpret the beauty of nature.
- The inflatable technique was chosen because of its advantage in sizing and logistics.

Fluxit (Bonfire)

- Every LED tube contains a separate computer.
- Each pole is a length of bamboo with a metallic covering.
- The most important thing is the randomness of it all. It is a chaotic bunch of bamboo.
- It is an abstract piece but something very obviously recognised as a fire.
- This work has toured to 21 cities worldwide in the Netherlands, Sweden, South Africa, China, Sydney, Switzerland, and is going to Saudi Arabia soon.
- There are two other versions of this work currently on display in Monza (Italy) and Athens.

Under the Garden (Tulips)

- Each tulip uses 120m (400ft) of stitching & were created to emphasise nature's beauty.
- They are inflatable, and remain inflated 24 hours a day, each with an internal pump.
- They have been displayed in Hong Kong, Sweden, Amsterdam, Dubai and Pula (Croatia).

Tubes (Red Words)

- The words show the opening stanza to the old folk song 'Scarborough Fair'.
- Come closer to have a look! It is a complex, pneumatic working installation (it moves on compressed air).
- The piece contains 104 lamps to create the 8 sets of 13 digits that make up the words.
- It was originally made to present poetry during the dark winter months in the glass pavilion of Swiss star architect Bernard Tschumi in Groningen (Netherlands).
- Before being in Scarborough it has been displayed in Amsterdam, Groningen and Leeuwarden (all Netherlands) and Milan.

Stardust Boogie (Water Fountain on Peasholm Lake)

- The projection is controlled directly from the Netherlands and is being adapted throughout the festival season.
- Working with shadows and silhouettes is the main theme in all their works.
- A motion tracking suit was used to record one of the sequences.
- There are three different 'shows' which together last in excess of 30 minutes.

Fragments (White Frames)

- The inspiration for this artwork is working with the architecture of the environment.

- The frames reflect how society is divided, and individual geometric shapes symbolise precisely these changes in society, which is divided or broken into pieces or fragments.
- The LED light technology is controlled by digital control.
- Individual light changes symbolise the aforementioned themes.

Fireflies (White Lines and Floating Lights)

- There are around 100 fireflies, each with their own cable and control.
- Each firefly is handmade using a spring steel rod, a single lighthouse LED (named because of the shape of the LED), a thin wire, one resistor and a connector.
- The optical fibres are custom made for a theatre performance about the deep ocean, where all kinds of magical luminescent beings live.
- There are 5 strings of 70 fibres each. Every fibre is 8m (26ft) long, so there's 2,800m (that's 1.7 MILES) of optical fibre on the island.
- The fireflies are programmed by placing them in a grid in the computer and using video to create an organic movement in the lights.

The Spaces in Between (Sunset)

- The piece uses a total of 3,100 pixels, where a pixel is a single point of light. It has 9,300 channels of control to create a technique called 'image based lighting.' This is where you push video content through LED lights, to create a kind of screen.
- The piece was first shown in Utrecht in the Netherlands in January 2023, and Scarborough Lights is its UK premiere.
- The artist, Jon M Armstrong, is also a magician, and the title - *the spaces in between* - is taken from ideas in magic and optical illusion. It plays with the idea that our brains are really clever; they take in bits and pieces of information about the world, and work hard to fill in the gaps. This means that our brains each create our own individual and unique experiences of what the world is like.
- What looks like simple strips of light, when combined with their reflection in the water, can allow our brains to create images of the sunset, the sky at dusk, starscapes & galaxies.

The Sea Dragon

- Made using traditional techniques - the shapes are constructed in willow that is then covered in layers of coloured tissue paper to create their striking designs.
- This is then waterproofed with a special mix of liquid latex to make the pieces durable for prolonged outdoor display. 4-5 layers of waterproofing were used on each piece.
- The Sea Dragon is made of 6 pieces and is lit by 45 lamps.
- The bold family-friendly style is designed to appeal to visitors of all ages.

The Octopus

- The Octopus (or *Kraken*) is made of 17 individual lanterns, requiring over 70m (230ft) of guy lines and 60 industrial tent pegs to hold in place.
- It has 90 low energy LED lamps to illuminate.
- It is such a large piece it had to be transported to the island by boat.
- Originally made for one of artist Animated Object's biggest projects to date - *The Odyssey - An Epic Adventure on the Yorkshire Coast* (funded by the Yorkshire Coast BID).
- It has featured at events in Filey and Hornsea, and has now been brought to Scarborough for the first time, as part of the Winter Lights Trail.