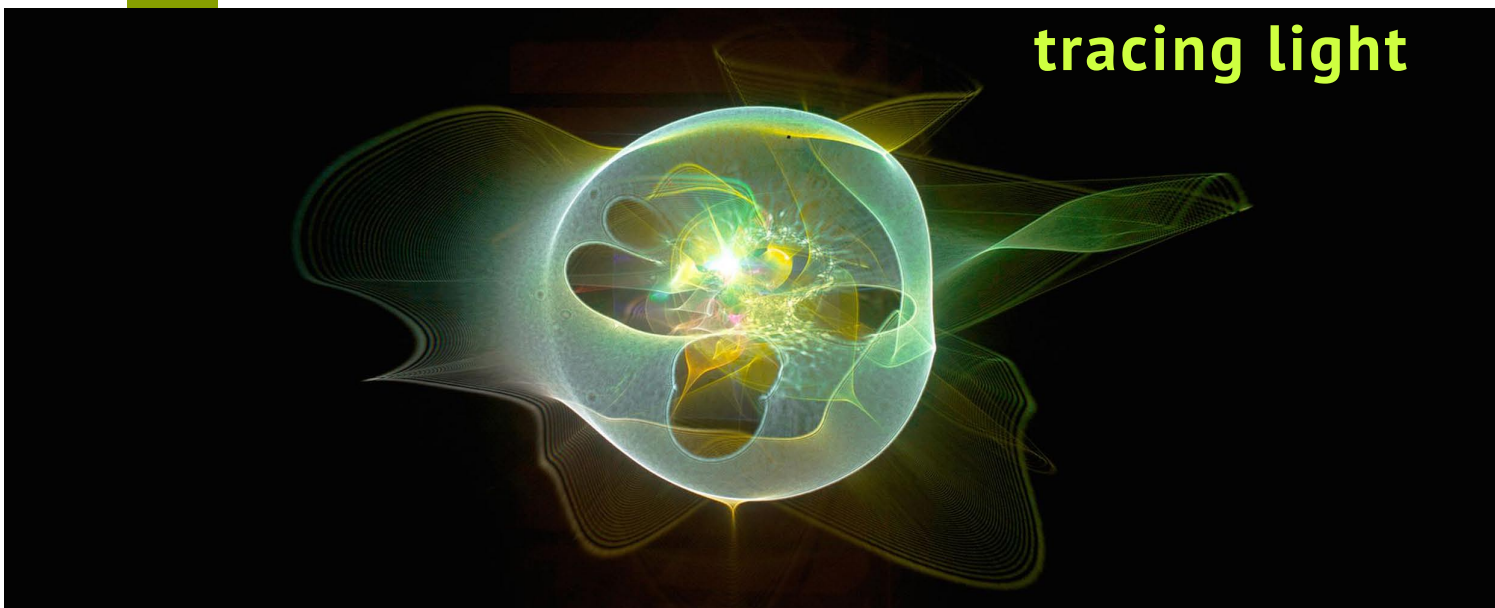


## LOGLINE

**L**ight is the energy of life, the language of matter. As we move towards understanding light, we also learn something of ourselves. Three renowned artists, three foremost physics institutes and one filmmaker are fascinated and inspired by the magic singularity of light.



mood teaser

<https://vimeo.com/636291107>

lightislife

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## SYNOPSIS

**T**RACING LIGHT is an exploration of the most fascinating and important of all natural phenomena: light. We encounter light every day, let it warm and inspire us, we use it to transport data and as a tool. Few of today's technical processes operate without light and its mysterious properties. But light often eludes our understanding and our simplified view of the world. It defies classification; rather it pervades everything. It does not exist discretely, but as interconnectedness, and while it determines our experience of time, it apparently lives outside of it. Whoever engages with light must expect to acquire a new perspective on existence.

In order to elucidate light, TRACING LIGHT will observe how three acclaimed artists, in collaboration with three renowned institutes, develop works of art that bring the medium of light into the imaginative sphere. Filmmaker and cameraman Thomas Riedelsheimer will accompany these processes, and will make of light, in the world as we see it, a mysterious and fascinating protagonist in its own right. His constantly poetic vision, allied with uncanny insights from science and the creative transformation of this knowledge into sensual works of art, are the narrative and dramaturgical platforms of TRACING LIGHT.

The participating artists, Rosa Barba; Robert Henke; and Ruth Jarman and Joe Gerhardt, who work together as Semiconductor, do not belong to the analogue cohort of well-known light artists. They have grown up with technology, and represent an inquisitive view of the world in which science and art complement and cross-fertilise each other. The scientists involved are also from this generation - articulate, creative, cosmopolitan. The institutes and landscapes are as diverse and exciting as the players - from the sunspots racing across the peaks and lochs of the Highlands of Scotland to the timeworn sandstone of the University of Glasgow; the ultra-modern Max Planck Institute in Erlangen, the building itself a light sculpture in the blue-white sea of sky; the mega-institute, to CERN, near Geneva, with its glistening lake and kilometre-long underground corridors.

TRACING LIGHT will follow these artists – into the institutes, into studios and also under the sky – taking time to chase the aurora borealis, Scotland's Northern Lights, to discover the tiny camera obscura in a low stone chamber on the Outer Hebrides, and an immersive solid light installation in Lower Saxony. The artists and scientists will guide the filmmaker, Thomas Riedelsheimer, to these special places, and he will try to paint very special camera images with the light encountered on his journey.