



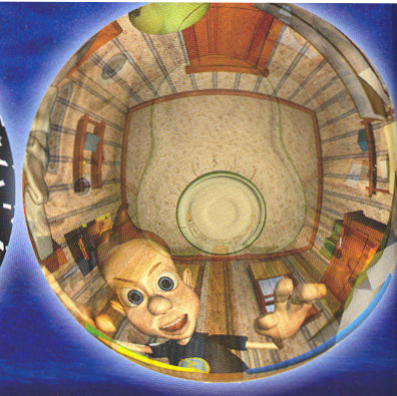
Wanderer
Creative Award



Super Golden Years
Performance Award



Above
Audience Award



Petty Tyrant
2nd Audience and Honorary Award

The 4th FullDome Festival in Jena

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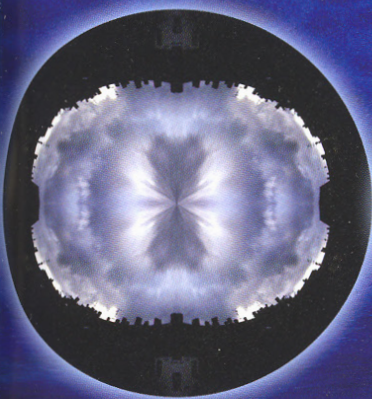
The 4th FullDome Festival at Jena's Zeiss Planetarium from May 4th to 8th, 2010, attracted a total attendance of 1000-plus to the vast spaces of fulldome projection and provided a unique survey of the rapid technical and artistic development of 360° films. In addition to student works, the schedule for the first time included professional feature shows. Jena was a meeting place, expert forum and, last but not least, marketplace of the international fulldome scene from Portugal to Canada, Kiel to Offenbach, Denver to Weimar, Melbourne to Albuquerque. During the 5-days' event, 75 fulldome productions from 12 countries were presented. The feedback to the organizers was exclusively positive.

As digital fulldome projection is gaining more and more ground, the demand for suitable content increases, as do curiosity and optimism among fulldome promoters. For the individual dome theater, though, the paths to be followed and the decisions to be made are not without risks. The fundamental question that arises is, how much fulldome does the classical planetarium need, and how much do the eager-to-experiment fulldome artists need the planetarium? Lively discussions about aesthetic positions are held, and an intensive search for the best possible way in the media jungle is going on.

The festival prompted encouraging developments: The film



Micky Remann presents "Chroma Elements" by Alexander Stephan, Weimar – a music visualization in 3D by means of a technology known as chroma depth.
Panorama photo: Torsten Hemke



In meinem Kopf (In my head)
Honorary Award



Chroma Elements
Honorary Award



Orange
Honorary Award



Trickbox
Honorary Award

"Above" by Bauhaus student Florian Meyer, which pays homage to Paul Klee, was invited to contribute to the Melbourne Film Festival. Selected films are shown as supports to the astronomical shows at the Planetarium of Wolfsburg, Germany; the "Wolfsburg 360" seminar even plays the entire "FullDome Festival Reel". The media dome of the University of Plymouth accommodated a fulldome meeting with committed video artists. The international dimension of the fulldome medium is underlined by symposiums and other events in Kiel, Denver and Perth.

None of the fulldome activists has any doubt that the young medium will progress. With which contents, at what kinds of venue and to what extent it will get established and succeed is less certain. One can be sure that many old and new enthusiasts will return to Jena for the 5th FullDome Festival on May 12th - 14th, 2011, in order to register the next interim state of development. At the 2011 Festival, a special program called "VisuaLiszt" will be run and an award of like name put out for works devoted to the visualization of compositions by Franz Liszt in the fulldome format.

Sponsored by the State of Thuringia on the occasion of the Franz Liszt Year 2011, the "VisuaLiszt Award" is an indication of the broad spectrum of topics for, and the scope of interest in, fulldome projection.

In its short history since 2007, the FullDome Festival at the Jena Zeiss Planetarium has established itself as a presentation stage and a field of experimentation. The preferences of the initiators may differ, but they all agree that fulldome expands the capabilities of 3D pictorial and cinematic presentation, that it can add new functions to the classical planetarium and win it new audiences, and that immersive 360° media are a subject that is worthwhile in many respects. Now that specifications and formats for fulldome productions are on the road to international standardization, issues of content become the focus of interest, beyond the ah and wow effects and craned necks known from amusement park rides. Questions such as: What subjects can be presented on the spherical dome better, more convincingly and stirringly than on a flat, rectangular screen? Where is the public and where are the venues at which

Award Winners – Student's Contributions

Creative Award

"Wanderer", Barbara Ryckman, University of New Mexico

Performance Award

"Super Golden Years", Hannes Wagner, Thomas Fritzsche, Florian Meyer, André Wünschler, Samuel Klemke, Weimar Bauhaus University

Audience Award

"Above", Florian Meyer, Weimar Bauhaus University

2nd Audience Award, additionally donated

"Petty Tyrant", Alexander Schumann, Weimar Bauhaus University

Honorary Awards

"In meinem Kopf" (In My Head), Hanna Bork, Offenbach Acad. of Art and Design

"Above", Florian Meyer, Weimar Bauhaus University

"Chroma Elements", Alexander Stephan, Weimar Bauhaus University

"Orange", Marcus Feist, Kassel School of Art and Design

"Trickbox", Hyun-Jea Lee, Weimar Bauhaus University

Honorary Mentions

"Spacemaus", Christoph Enzengmüller, Ina Mnich, Kiel University of Applied Sciences

"Oculus", Mitchell Marti, University of New Mexico

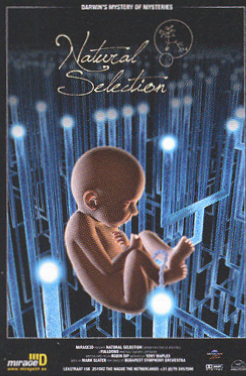
"Petty Tyrant", Alexander Schumann, Weimar Bauhaus University

"Nightmare", Daniel Egerer, Daniel Miekcarek, Kiel University of Applied Sciences

"Spiritual, Material, Intellectual – Magnetic, Itten's Color Theory", Katarina Sengstaken, Weimar Bauhaus University

"Time Squares", Simon Rauh, Mainz University of Applied Sciences





Natural Selection, Mirage 3D

the young genre can develop and prove its worth? Where are the fundamentals of the art taught? How big is the market? Will the fulldome avant-garde continue to stay put in a niche, or will it turn out the next big thing in the entertainment industry?

The wealth of ideas and the variety of styles with which the planetarium dome can be filled meanwhile was demonstrated nowhere better than at the 4th FullDome Festival. The first three days were reserved to professional full-length feature films. The program included 26 productions of widely differing kinds, some of them world premières. Four producers took home a "FullDome Award of Excellence" (see box).

As in the years before, Friday was the day of students' short fulldome films of maximally 5 minutes length. A packed house saw 34 contributions, including many clever experiments. Among the authors there were quite a number of students of the Bauhaus University of Weimar again, besides Hessian universities associated to the Hessian Film and Media Academy (HfMA), the Media Dome of the Kiel University of Applied Sciences, and the ArtsLab of the University of Albuquerque, New Mexico. At the concluding FullDome Gala on Saturday, the organizers presented the best contributions of all categories and conferred on them the coveted FullDome Awards, donated by Carl Zeiss AG and decided upon by an international jury. Finally, it was up to the audience to choose by ballot the winner of the "Audience Award" with its prize money

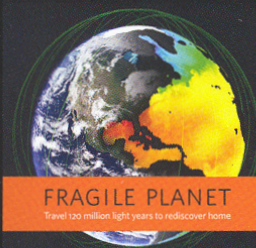
Award Winners – Fulldome Feature Shows

Awards of Excellence

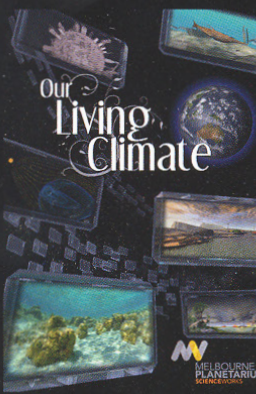
- "Natural Selection", Mirage 3D, The Netherlands (Audience's Favorite)
- "Fragile Planet", California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco, USA
- "Our Living Climate", Melbourne Planetarium, Australia
- "We Are Astronomers", NSC Creative, Leicester, England

Honorable Mentions

- "Realm of Light", Softmachine, Munich, Germany
Honorable Mention for Audio-visual Achievement
- "Rendez-Vous", Montpellier Agglomération & Cité de l'Espace, Toulouse, France, Honorable Mention for Introducing Human Emotional Perspective into Space Narration
- "Earth, Moon & Sun", Morehead Planetarium, Chapel Hill, USA
Honorable Mention for Best Use of Humor
- "Voices in the Dark", Dramatico Entertainment, Munich, Germany
Honorable Mention for Technical Achievement
- "Cosmic Dance", LivinGlobe, Munich/Berlin, Germany
Honorable Mention for Best of Live Action



Fragile Planet, California Academy of Sciences



Our Living Climate, Melbourne Planetarium



We Are Astronomers, NSC Creative

of 500 EUR, also donated by Carl Zeiss. It went to Florian Meyer of Weimar's Bauhaus University and his production "Above". The second lucky winner by the audience's choice was Alexander Schumann (also of the Bauhaus University) with his fulldome animation "Petty Tyrant". He received an amount of 200 EUR, which had been collected by the audience themselves in the course of the Festival.

Despite the extremely time- and cost-consuming and data-intensive production of a fulldome show, there is a growing circle of adherents who see the potential of this medium and its overlaps with cinema, 3D animation, science visualization, media art and edutainment. Development is hampered by the fact that there are few places at present where fulldome productions can be tested systematically and shown in public. In this respect,

too, Jena's Zeiss Planetarium with its commitment and support to the FullDome Festival is a notable exception.

The 1st FullDome Festival in 2007 began with an almost informal presentation of student films. Following growth spurts in the years after, it was possible to broaden its base, so that participants meanwhile come from further universities and production companies from Germany and abroad. The works by creative young talents and those by professional producers are not far apart. For both groups, the 5th FullDome Festival 2011 promises to be another welcome opportunity of mutual exchange and contact with an interested public.

Planetariums interested in screening the FullDome Festival Reel shall contact the Jena Zeiss Planetarium or Carl Zeiss.



Winner of the 2nd Audience FullDome Award, Alexander Schumann.



The winners of the 2010 FullDome Performance Award.



2010 FullDome Award prize winners. Photos: Torsten Hemke