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'Crown of Light' by Ross Ashton, Robert Ziegler and John Del Nero, *Lumiere* 2009
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LUMIERE, A FESTIVAL OF LIGHT FOR DURHAM 17-20 NOVEMBER 2011

Brighter, bigger, bolder: *Lumiere*, Durham's light festival, returns to create another breathtaking nocturnal landscape this winter

Producers of extraordinary events, **Artichoke**, are delighted to announce the second edition of ***Lumiere***, from **17-20 November 2011**. This year's festival programme will include a raft of new works by internationally renowned artists, and a brand new strand of commissions from local artists and creative people, '**Brilliant**'. *Lumiere* has been commissioned by **Durham County Council**, and is supported by Arts Council England.

In 2009, the inaugural edition of *Lumiere* drew an estimated **75,000** people into the city over four nights, and generated some **£1.5million** for the local economy. More than 20 artworks, projections and performances set Durham ablaze, picking out and transforming the landmarks, streets, river and bridges of the city in new and unimagined ways.

Artists included Ron Haselden, Daan Roosegaarde, the British-based collective UVA, projection artist Ross Ashton, eminent lighting designer Mark Major, London-based studio Creatmosphere, and French theatrical magicians Quidams, with a magical performance that led a huge audience through the city streets.

Lumiere will return to Durham in November 2011 to showcase all the possible uses of light that artists can imagine. Festival producers Artichoke have travelled the world to find the most exciting and innovative installations and performances for the city's audience. Witty, playful and imaginative - the festival aims to delight and surprise its audience and to stop people in their tracks. The programme will be announced Summer 2011.

Simon Henig, **Leader of Durham County Council**, said, "We are delighted to be once again working in partnership with Artichoke as they have such a strong track record of producing live events that leave a lasting impression on the people and places they transform. At *Lumiere* 2009 we witnessed first hand how culture can touch people's lives in the most remarkable way, with residents and visitors alike enjoying a series of spectacular displays, and local businesses benefiting greatly from the influx of visitors who flooded the city to be part of the event. *Lumiere* 2011 will undoubtedly further cement Durham's position as a major cultural destination."

In 2011, the producers are also looking much closer to home with a commissioning programme for ideas from local artists and creative people. Artichoke has joined forces with **NewcastleGateshead Initiative** to offer a number of opportunities for people based in, or originally from, the North East of England. Up to **£40,000** is available to support these commissions, which will be showcased throughout the festival in a new strand called '**Brilliant**'.

Helen Marriage, **co-director of Artichoke** said: "In choosing the programme for *Lumiere*, I visit festivals all over the world. I am struck by how the simplest idea, the smallest intervention, often has the greatest impact. We're hoping that through this open call for ideas we encounter some of these really special possibilities that will be liberally sprinkled throughout the *Lumiere* programme. And applicants don't have to have any previous experience – the strength of the idea will be enough for us to fund the project".

Carol Bell, **Head of Culture and Major Events** at NewcastleGateshead Initiative said, "We are delighted to be working with DCC and the team at Artichoke in the development of 'Brilliant' for *Lumiere* 2011. This commission, funded by **Northern Rock Foundation**, is a great chance for both artists and creative people in the North East to showcase their work at the UK's only world-class Festival of light."

EDITORS' NOTES:

Lumiere

Lumiere was created by Artichoke in 2009 and generated around £1.5million for Durham's economy. It was commissioned by Durham County Council, and is supported by Arts Council England. It followed the success of Durham's own light festival, *Enlightenment*, featuring outdoor arts installations by Asian and British artists and inspired by the county's religious and industrial heritage in 2008.

Durham County Council (DCC)

Durham County Council is one of the largest unitary councils in the country, serving a population of approximately 500,000 people. Artichoke has been commissioned to design, produce and deliver the *Lumiere* festival on behalf of DCC, working with local partners including Durham University and Durham Cathedral. durham.gov.uk

Artichoke

Producers of extraordinary live events, Artichoke is one of the country's leading creative companies and is a registered charity, funded by Arts Council England. Artichoke works with the best creative minds to produce extraordinary shows that live in the memory forever. Productions have included Royal de Luxe's *The Sultan's Elephant*, which filled the streets of London for four days in 2006; *La Machine's* 50-foot high mechanical spider for Liverpool's Capital of Culture celebrations in 2008; Antony Gormley's 100-day long invasion of the Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square in London, *One & Other*, and Paul St George's *The Telectroscope*, which allowed people in London and New York to communicate with each other by means of a hitherto undiscovered transatlantic tunnel. They produced the first edition of *Lumiere* in Durham in 2009. artichoke.uk.com

NewcastleGateshead Initiative (NGI)

Newcastle Gateshead Initiative is a public-private partnership supported by Gateshead and Newcastle City Councils working with 170 private sector member organisations across NewcastleGateshead and the wider North East region to promote NewcastleGateshead as a world-class destination. NewcastleGateshead Initiative has developed huge expertise in the development, delivery, marketing and promotion of festivals and events as a foundation to its destination marketing. Its Culture Team develop, produce and market high quality events such as the Winter Festival, EAT!, NewcastleGateshead's Festival of Food and Drink, Juice, the Children and Young People's Festival, as well as continuing to develop and deliver opportunities that will arise from future initiatives such as the London 2012 Olympic Games. NGI has teamed up with Artichoke as it is keen to develop creative capacity in NewcastleGateshead and the wider region. NewcastleGateshead.com

Brilliant

Brilliant is a new strand within the festival, developed in partnership with NewcastleGateshead Initiative and supported by Northern Rock Foundation, which invites artists based in or originally from the North East of England to submit proposals for a number of commissions available for 2011. Applicants are invited to visit artichoke.uk.com/lumierebrilliant to download all information necessary to apply. Application deadline for Stage One is **Monday 7 March 2011**.

Funding Available

Thanks to the support of Northern Rock Foundation a total award fund of £40,000 is available to support the commissions. The number of commissions to be awarded is not fixed. Awards will be based on the quality of the proposal, the strength of the idea, and the ability to realise the idea in line with the budget; taking into consideration the technical implications, installation and material costs.

Eligibility

This opportunity is for:

- an individual or group/collective currently based in or originally from the North East of England
- projects that are a light installation or an artwork working with the medium of light

To confirm that your idea is eligible, please contact hannah.standen@artichoke.uk.com artichoke.uk.com