

Press release

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## Lighting art in the new Hall 12

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**To mark the official opening of the new Hall 12, the installation *Flying to Peace* by Munich designer Ingo Maurer was unveiled to the public in the hall's North Foyer and set in motion.**

Maurer was the unanimous winner of the artistic design competition for the North Foyer of the new Hall 12 with a vertical pendulum in the form of an ellipsoid.

The aim of the "Kunst am Bau" (Building Art) competition for Hall 12 was to create a light art design for the upper space in the North Foyer.

Through the glass façade, the pendulum can also be seen from outside moving all the way up and down. While swinging from side to side, the striking object is drawn upwards, giving observers a view of the different access levels.



New attraction on the Frankfurt exhibition grounds: *Flying to Peace* by Ingo Maurer

Uwe Behm, Member of the Executive Board of Messe Frankfurt, was confident that *Flying to Peace* would attract the attention of visitors to the North Foyer: "I am delighted that we are able to present this expansive installation in the new Hall 12. This work of art is both endearing and comical in its profundity. The pendulum will make the North Foyer of Hall 12 into one of the most prominent sights on our exhibition grounds."

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Unlike a Foucault pendulum, the pendulum in this installation moves up and down on a vertical plane. At its resting position, the lower edge of the pendulum is three metres above the ground. When the pendulum reaches its highest point, the distance from the ground is around eight metres. The pendulum cycle is divided into five stages and lasts around an hour. To highlight the movement of the pendulum, a red light line on the ground traces the oscillation of the ellipsoid.

The mirrored, convex surface of the pendulum captures the surroundings in a kind of panorama with the observer always at the centre.

Ingo Maurer on the project: “The pendulum is a fascinating interaction of movement and reflection which gives rise to wholly individual impressions and sensations. I am delighted that Messe Frankfurt has chosen the pendulum. As my company has been exhibiting at Messe Frankfurt for decades, I am well aware that, during busy days at the trade fair, there is a very real need for moments of relaxation and inspiring situations that help to provide new momentum. It would be wonderful if the people at the trade fair were to take on board the calm, regular momentum of the pendulum intuitively and find motivation in it.”

With the regular harmonic oscillation and calming movement of the Flying to Peace installation, Maurer secured first place ahead of designs by Jan and Tim Edler (realities:united), Brigitte Kowanz, Moritz Waldemeyer and Wolfgang Winter/Bertold Hörbelt. Prof. Matthias Wagner K, Director of the Museum Angewandte Kunst in Frankfurt am Main and a member of the panel of judges for the competition, described Maurer’s work as follows: “Flying to Peace is a striking object that is a perfect fit for the space. The pendulum conveys a permanent aesthetic, even when at rest.”

Also on the panel of judges were Dr. Susanne Gaensheimer (Director of the *Kunstsammlung Nordrhein-Westfalen* art collection, Gerhard Wittfeld (architect from the Association of German Architects (BDA) and managing partner of kadawittfeldarchitektur), Uwe Behm (Member of the Executive Board of Messe Frankfurt) and Olaf Kühl (Vice President of Facility Management at Messe Frankfurt).

If you would like to see the Flying to Peace installation for yourself, you can do so by watching our film [Link zum Film].

**The digital press kit and pictures of Hall 12 can be found here:**

<http://m-es.se/Ms30>

#### **Background information on Messe Frankfurt**

Messe Frankfurt is the world’s largest trade fair, congress and event organiser with its own exhibition grounds. With over 2,400 employees at 30 locations, the company generates annual sales of around €669 million. Thanks to its far-reaching ties with the relevant sectors and to its international sales network, the Group looks after the business interests of its customers effectively. A comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organising and running their events. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. With its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State

of Hesse (40 percent). For more information:

[www.messefrankfurt.com](http://www.messefrankfurt.com) | [www.congressfrankfurt.de](http://www.congressfrankfurt.de) | [www.festhalle.de](http://www.festhalle.de)

**About Ingo Maurer:**

Born in 1932, Ingo Maurer has been developing unusual lamps and lighting systems since 1966, producing them in his own company and marketing them worldwide. His most famous designs include Bulb (1966), the low-voltage halogen system YaYaHo (1984) and the winged bulb Lucellino (1992). His many and varied commissions for public and private buildings include lighting for Munich underground stations Westfriedhof (1998) and Münchner Freiheit (2010), outside lighting for the new university district in Luxembourg (2014) and lighting fixtures for a resort hotel in Georgia (2018).

Ingo Maurer has received a number of prestigious awards, including the Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany in 2010 and the Italian *Compasso d'Oro* in 2011, both for his life's work. Further information can be found online at: [www.ingo-maurer.com](http://www.ingo-maurer.com)