

2025 ILDA AWARDS

Huntsville,
Alabama

"Rocket
City"

THE WORLD'S BEST LASER SHOWS, AS JUDGED BY THEIR PEERS



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Cover photo

“Al Khobar Water Tower” by KVANT Ltd.
First Place, Laser Photography, 2025
(central portion of larger photo)

Inside pages top photo

“LSR/CITY Rainbow Road” by Nathan Jin
2025 Laser Photography entry
(horizontal portion of larger photo)

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2025 ILDA Awards and Conference

ILDA Awards Committee Chair

Richard Gonsalves

ILDA Awards Presentation

Dirk Apitz, Matthias Frank, Derek Garbos, Horacio Pugliese,
Nicolas Squire

ILDA Technical Committee Chair and Technical Seminar Coordinator

Dirk Apitz

ILDA Conference Chair

Christine Jenkin

2025 Conference Host

Rocket City Lasers, Alex Hall

Assisted by Audio Visual Imagineering, Joanne Young

Skyzan safety software sponsorship, 2025

Roberta McHatton, Laser Safety Services LLP

ILDA Board of Directors for Sept. 2024 - Nov. 2025

President: Brian Gonzalez

Directors: Derek Garbos, Brian Gonzalez, Roberta
McHatton, Horacio Pugliese, Christopher
Short

Secretary: David Kumpula

ILDA Executive Director

Patrick Murphy

Laser Safety Information

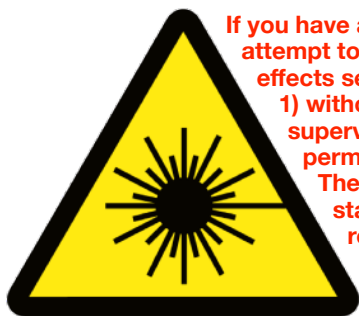
ILDA requires its Members to perform safe and legal laser shows. **All Members submitting ILDA Award entry videos have explicitly certified that the laser effects depicted meet safety standards, as well as all applicable laser safety laws and regulations** (including laws for audience scanning) in the location where the show was performed.

- Entries filmed in a studio, with no audience, can use any power and can scan anywhere, even if the original show was intended for an audience.
- However, if the video depicts an audience watching the laser show, or has lasers near performers, then the show must be safe for the audience and performers, and must comply with all applicable laws and regulations.

ILDA Awards safety review

In addition to entrant statements, ILDA reviews every entry for any potential safety issues. **ILDA has the right to remove or disqualify an entry if, in our opinion, the show violates or appears to violate safety standards, laws and/or regulations.**

Note that despite ILDA's review process, ILDA cannot absolutely certify that an Awards entry is safe and legal. This is ultimately the responsibility of the entrant.



If you have a laser or a laser projector, do NOT attempt to perform the type of audience-scanning effects seen in ILDA Award-winning videos 1) without qualified expert safety planning and supervision and 2) without prior written permission from the appropriate authorities. These authorities may include federal, state/provincial and local laser safety regulators, venue operators, and insurance companies.

Entrants, Judging and Voting

Artistic Awards

Judging was done in May 2025 via online viewing and voting. Judges were Tim Colcombe, Andrew Dranetz, Mike Dunn, Chris Favreau, Ben Guerrette, Alex Hall, Stephanie Huston, David Kumpula, Jarod Lugowski, Ruben Fosse Malmin, Julian Navarro, Alberto Kellner Ongaro, Bill Rainville, Leon Ren, Karl Rothweiler, Markus Voggenberger, and Steve Wade. Judging coordinator was Awards Committee chair Richard Gonsalves.

Together they judged 135 video entries from 33 ILDA Members. There were 46 winning video entries (not counting Laser Photography winners) from 24 different ILDA Members

For each of the artistic award entry categories, there were three judges. However, these were not always the same three people. A person is not allowed to judge any category in which they had an entry, which is one reason why multiple persons serve as judges. (Other reasons are to reduce the workload on any one person, and to help ensure a variety of judging viewpoints.)

Laser Photography and Career Achievement Award

Fourteen Laser Photography entries, and six CAA nominees, were judged by ILDA Members voting online, June 16-27, 2025.

Laser Jockey

Judged by attendees watching the Laser Jockey performances live during the ILDA Conference Lase-Off dinner & event on November 4, 2025. (Laser Jockey winners' names are not listed in the printed Award Booklet since they are not known at the time of printing. They will be listed in the online PDF version of the booklet.

Fenning Technical Awards: General and IDN

Technical entries were judged via online viewing and voting by judges Matthias Frank, Tim Hallmark, and Horacio Pugliese. They evaluated three general and two IDN entries from three ILDA Members and one non-member. (Non-members can submit for the IDN award.) The Technical winners were voted on July 18, 2025.

2025 ILDA AWARDS

Third, Second and
First Place Winners



Laser Mapping

3...2...1

Laser Grid

Visual Sensation Laser shows & technologies

Credits: Laser Designers: Jakub Marcinek, Anna Nadolna

Music: Jackson Frost, "Epic Dubstep 3"

The show on this newly opened building was a challenge due to the large number of windows and the small area on which to draw with the laser. Accents using BeamBrush technology helped to enhance the show.



Laser Mapping

3...2...1

Starmus VII Opening Concert (J.M. Jarre) 2024 Bratislava, SVK - Laser Mapping

KVANT Ltd.

Credits: Designer, Programmer & Laser Operator: Martin Gabco
Music: Various songs by Jean-Michel Jarre

Laser mapping was complete in our implementation from proposal to projection. We built two position towers, each one with 18 pieces of lasers. Lasers had a combination of rendering scanners to achieve sufficient visibility and luminosity on the glass surface facade of the building. At the same time, it was important to render a sufficient number of points for a complex graphic. Two sides of the building formed two projection zones, which were divided into 96 parts. Two PCs were used with SW because each side of the building was accurately mapped separately.



Laser Mapping

3...2...1

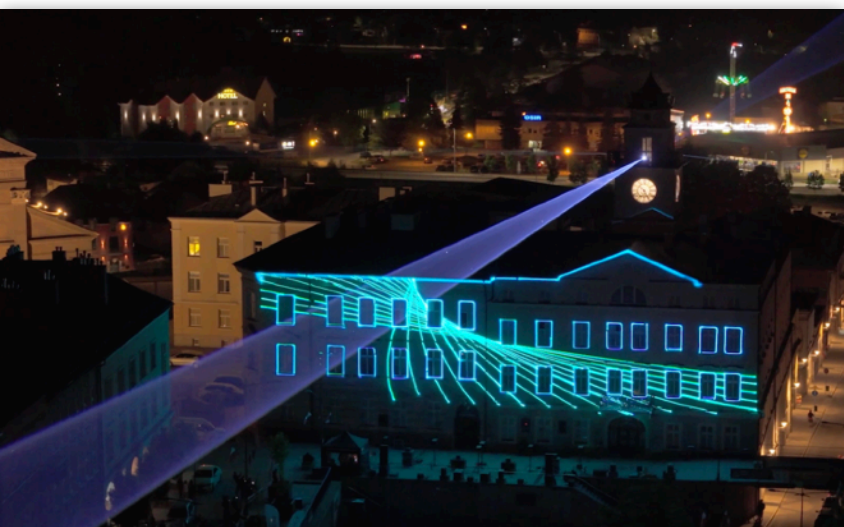
Historic Glow

Visual Sensation Laser shows & technologies

Credits: Laser Designers: Jakub Marcinek, Anna Nadolna

Music: Sanah, "Jestem Twoją Bajką"; Peter Doglov, "Inspiring Dubstep"

One of the highlights of the city days was linear laser mapping on the facade of the City Hall. The show used BeamBrush technology, which worked perfectly on the building. In addition to the standard outlining of building elements, graphic effects placed in the building's mask were added, as well as architectural lighting accents that enhanced the entire show.



Corporate Show

3...2...1

Volkswagen Group Media Night

laserwitchery

Music: *Original music track*

Our task was to give a high-tech feel to six Volkswagen concept cars on a small stage. Vehicle movement paths and stage LED setups limited where we could place lasers. Still, we found ideal spots. While these locations didn't look dramatic on camera, the shallow-depth circular venue made the laser effects stunning for the audience. We used lasers to enhance the cars' unique looks and the dance performances.



Corporate Show

3...2...1

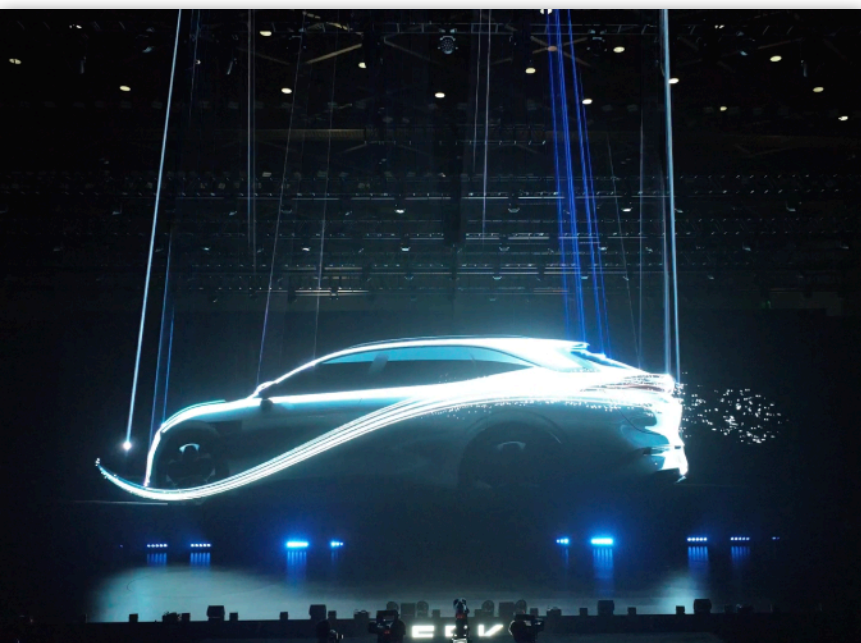
Zeekr 007GT Launch

laserwitchery

Credits: Laser Operator: Zen Xiong

Music: Original music track

We added another layer to the vehicle deployment video. The laser particles and the shuttling lines interact with the car body as the scenes change, making the video more visually appealing. The laser engraving at the end of the video precisely projects the name of the car.



Corporate Show

3...2...1

AFL Gather Round Opening

Soulstorm Lasers Ltd.

Credits: Design by Ben Lawrence (Soulstorm Lasers) and Nisha Ramnath (Phase Designs). On-site programming and operation by Ben Lawrence. Lasers supplied by Lumina Visual Productions.
Music: Luude & Mattafix, "Big City Life"; Marlon Hoffstadt & Fisher, "It's That Time" (Fisher Remix); Kevin McKay, "Freed From Desire feat. Start the Party" (Jen Payne & CAMPS Remix); Darude, "Sandstorm"; Synthony, "Levels"

This show was the opening entertainment for Australian Football League (AFL) Gather Round at the Adelaide Oval, South Australia. It was originally scheduled for the first day only, but the show was so well received that it was replayed every day of the 4 day festival. The intent of the show was to illustrate the teams coming to Adelaide, the team logos, the AFL branding stickers, AFL players, team clashes and high energy content. A key challenge was manually distributing the content across different lasers over the massive 185 m by 100 m (~600 x 300 ft) oval field



Live TV Show

3...2...1

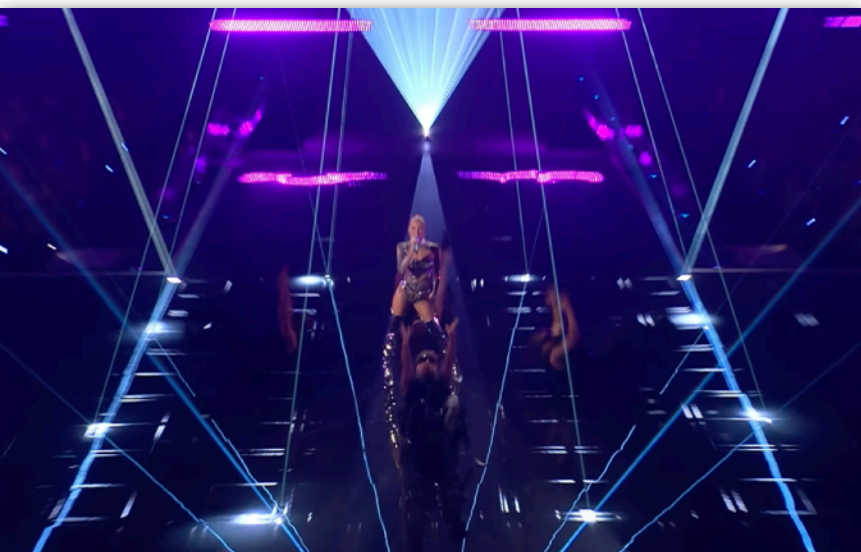
ESC 2024 Austria

Laserimage AB

Credits: Lead Programming & Operator: Love Karlsson;
Programming & Operator: Anders Edström; Laser Safety Officer:
Johan Lindell

Music: Kaleen, "We Will Rave"

We created a fully synchronized laser show for Austria's "We Will Rave" at Eurovision 2024. The design combined mapped laser effects on the LED floor with dynamic beams choreographed to the dancers. Tight integration with moving set elements and ultra-short changeovers demanded precise timing and innovative programming to ensure seamless execution during the live broadcast.



Live TV Show

3...2...1

ESC 2024 Iceland

Laserimage AB

Credits: Lead Programming & Operator: Love Karlsson;
Programming & Operator: Anders Edström; Laser Safety Officer:
Johan Lindell

Music: Hera Björk, "Scared of Heights"

For Iceland's 2024 Eurovision entry, we designed a laser show to match Hera Björk's powerful vocals with elegance and energy. The goal was to complement the performance with clean, stylish laser looks that enhanced the music's dynamic build-up without overshadowing the artist. A balance of simplicity and impact was key to delivering a classy, visually refined show.



Live TV Show

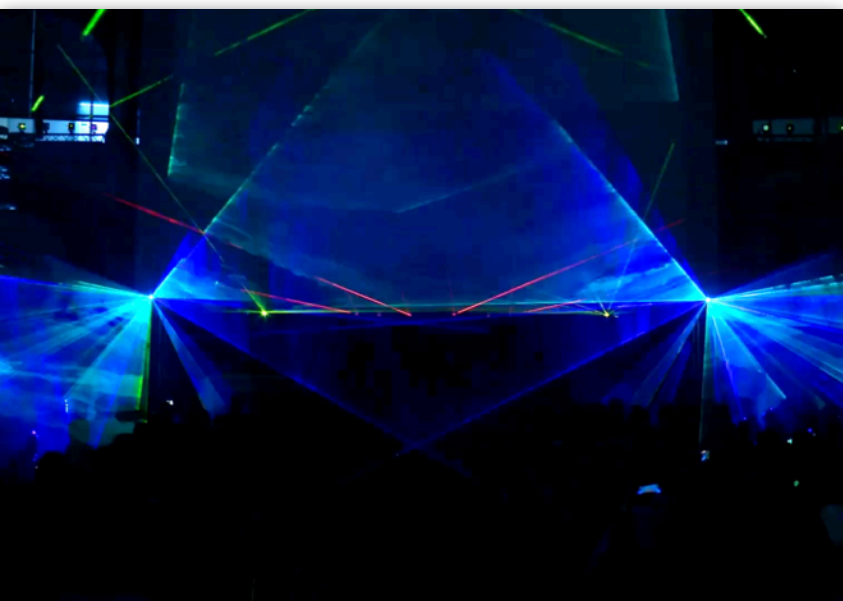
3...2...1

Innovation Award Ceremony LOBO

Credits: Show Designer: Florian Skrzypczak

Music: Woodkid, "Run Boy Run (instrumental)"

The Innovation Award is among Germany's most prestigious trophies for SMEs and Start-Ups. For the 40th anniversary of the award, the organizers had something special in mind. As the event location only had a very limited number of seats, this impressive beam show, which concluded the glamorous award ceremony, was presented to the TV audience at home via an internet live stream.



Edited Film/TV/Video Show

3...2...1

The Penguin - Bliss

Dynamic FX

Credits: Shane Martz, Matson McCrabb

Music: HBO MAX, "The Penguin Club Song"

HBO wanted to create a futuristic club scene for the new drug "Bliss" in the Batman side story of Oswald Cobblepot. Laser banding camera effect was the right choice from us.



Edited Film/TV/Video Show

3...2...1

Lukomorye

dreamlaser

Credits: Technical Specialist: Sergey Zabolin

Music: Polnalyubvi, "Komety"

During the filming of one of the scenes in the audio performance "Lukomorye", only a single laser was used. Despite the minimal technical setup, the visual impact of the scene was striking, thanks to the carefully crafted lighting design and the use of smoke effects. The laser beam cutting through the mist created an atmosphere of mystery and magic, immersing the audience in Pushkin's fairytale world.



Edited Film/TV/Video Show

3...2...1

The Last Goodbye Cinematic Experience

Lightwave International Inc.

Credits: Creative Directors: Sean Kusanagi, Luke Tanaka;
Production: Shane Crowl; Technicians: Glen Foy, John Hruska
Music: ODESZA – Various songs

The Last Goodbye Cinematic Experience offers an intimate glimpse into ODESZA's triumphant return to touring. Through candid interviews with the duo, their fans, and creative collaborators, the film explores the deep bond between the band and their audience, revealing how personal experiences shaped *The Last Goodbye*. Lasers are a common and connecting theme throughout the film. The lasers were filmed primarily for a home viewing audience, with unique camera methods employed. The ILDA Awards video includes excerpts of the laser effects that are interwoven with the primary story.



Laser Show with Added Effects/Multimedia

3...2...1

Lord Of Lasers 2025 Wroclaw

Visual Sensation Laser shows & technologies

Credits: Laser Designers: Maciej Łukaszewski, Jakub Marcinek, Anna Nadolna; Equipment Setup: Jarosław Nadolny & Team; Production: Leszek Tomaszewski; Camera: Jarosław Nadolny
Music: Tommee Profitt, "In the End (Linkin Park Cover)"; Sagan, "Fire"; Maciej Goliasz, "Now We Are Free (Hans Zimmer remix)"

Incredibly challenging, but incredibly rewarding. A laser show for 40 lasers, played in a football stadium with the addition of fire, pyrotechnics, and other special effects helped create an amazing spectacle.



Laser Show with Added Effects/Multimedia

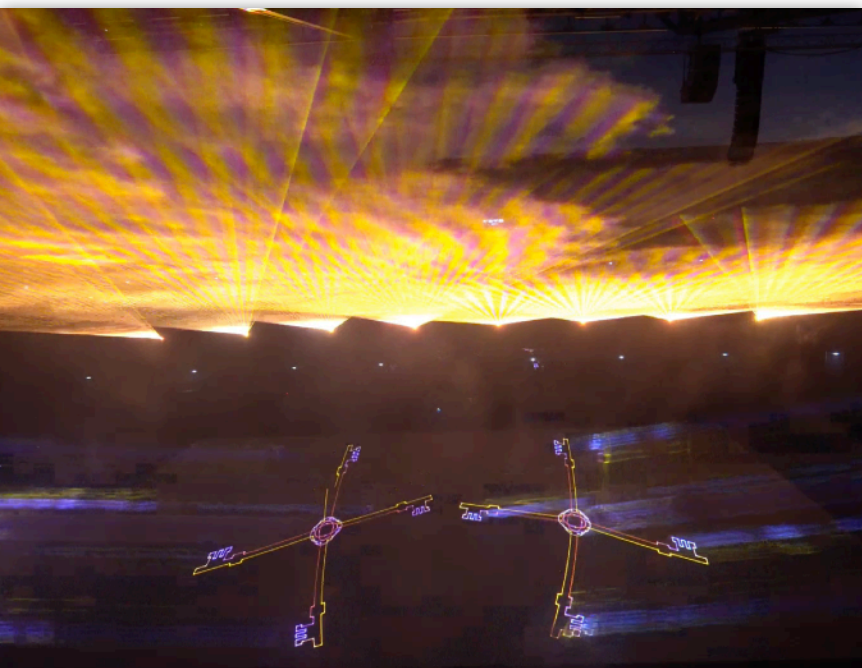
3...2...1

Lord Of Lasers 2025 Wroclaw

LaserTech Canada Inc.

Credits: Programming of Lasers, Pyro, Sparks, Flames, & Fog Jets: Nicolas Squire & Derek Garbos; Equipment Setup: Jarosław Nadolny & Team; Production: Leszek Tomaszewski
Music: Arista, "La Ziguezon (Psytrance remix)"; Outsiders, "Gimme Bass"

Emphasis was placed on creatively using 40 lasers to paint a precision timed experience for the audience.



Laser Show with Added Effects/Multimedia

3...2...1

Lord Of Lasers 2025 Wroclaw

VisuTek e.U.

Credits: *Programming of Lasers and SFX: Markus Voggenberger & Helmut Gruber; Equipment Setup: Jarosław Nadolny & Team; Production: Leszek Tomaszewski; Camera: Jarosław Nadolny; Video Editing: Helmut Gruber*

Music: *Exhale ft. Queen, "The Show Must Go On (Exhale Hardstyle Bootleg)"*

This show was specially designed for the "Lord Of Lasers" competition held in Wrocław in April 2025. Originally planned during the ILDA Conference in September 2024 it was cancelled due to flooding in Wrocław. We were able to choose the music ourselves so we decided to do a remixed 80's medley. In this video you can see the final part of the 13-minute show including 38 atmospheric laser systems, two graphic laser systems as well as SFX, like pyro shots, flames, CO₂ launcher and sparkular.



Planetarium Show

3...2...1

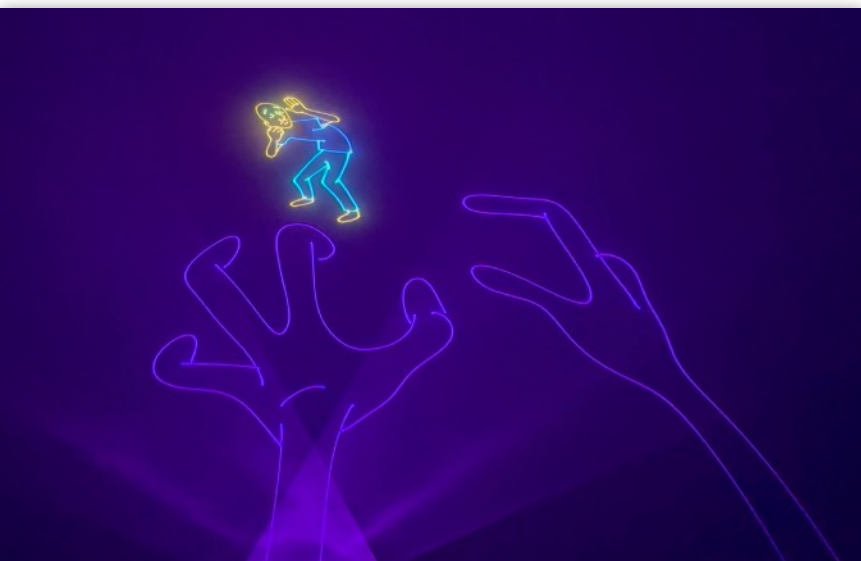
1999

Audio Visual Imagineering

Credits: Imagery and Beams: Brian Adams

Music: Prince, "1999"

We wanted to poke fun at the hysteria surrounding the lead-up to Y2K, where anything could happen. Preppers hoarded, cults were formed, some with ideas that aliens would abduct us! Before the advent of social media, we show a television as the primary news source, informing us of an alien crash. Of course, 1999 is about the need to party before the pending doom, so we focus on both the celebration and the story of alien abduction.



Planetarium Show

3...2...1

U Got The Look

Audio Visual Imagineering

Credits: Imagery and Beams: Brian Adams

Music: Prince, "U Got The Look"

The visual content focuses on the sensuality of the female form and, to an extent, the male gaze and its reliance on carnal beauty. Rastered images on the sides of the rotating cube and in the photo frame depict contours of the female face – lips, eyes, curving locks of hair. The bridge of the song describes our “skewed” outlook on relationships in modern society. During that section, pulsating hearts in states of duress are struck by bolts of lightning, symbolizing the struggles we face in pursuing the perfect mate – a folly viewed through rose-colored lenses.



Planetarium Show

3...2...1

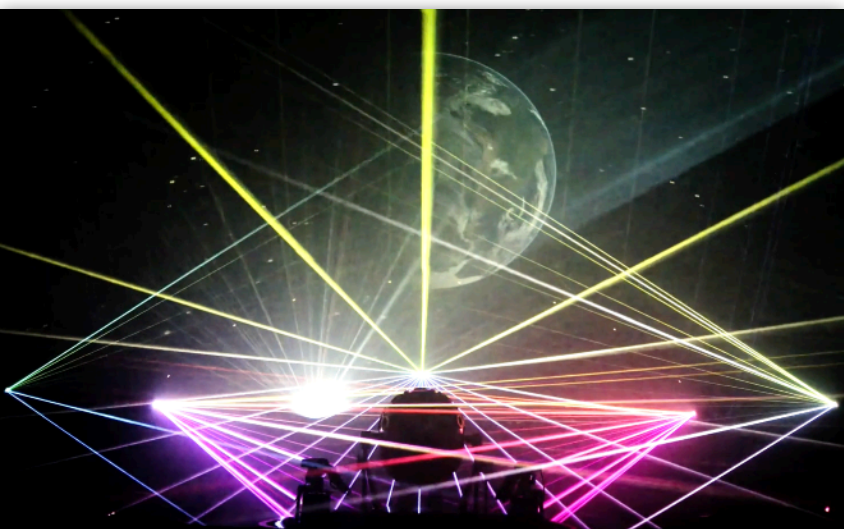
Queen of the Night

LOBO

Credits: Show Designer: Roman Schütz; Laser Arrangement Planetarium: Mirko Schinke; Videographer Planetarium: Nico Kuhn

Music: Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, "Der Hölle Rache - Königin der Nacht (Die Zauberflöte)"

Lasers vividly bring one of the most dramatic and memorable scenes of Mozart's timeless masterpiece "The Magic Flute" to life: The Queen of the Night extorts her own daughter to murder her rival, or else she be banished forever. One of the key difficulties in adapting this work to the medium laser was the lack of bass rhythm, the most typical musical feature of any beam show. The show designer masterfully solved this by synchronizing the beams to the rising and falling voice of the opera singer instead, perfectly capturing the gravitas of the moment.



Nightclub/Disco/ Music Festival Show

3...2...1

TargetOne 2024

Visual Sensation Laser shows & technologies

Credits: Laser Designers: Jarosław Nadolny, Jakub Marcinek

Laser effects performed live as well as pre-programmed during the all-night music festival.



Nightclub/Disco/ Music Festival Show

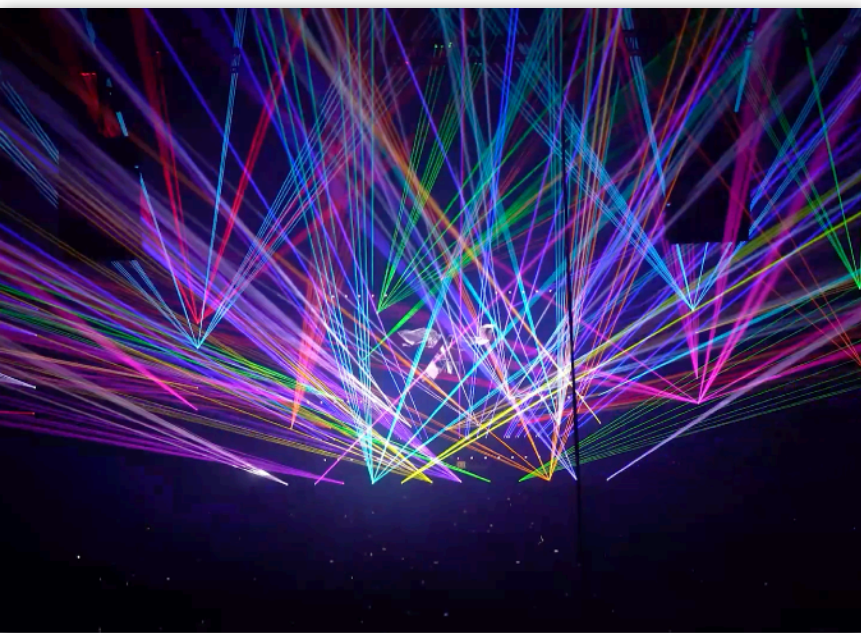
3...2...1

Tranceformations 2025

Visual Sensation Laser shows & technologies

Credits: Laser Designers: Jarosław Nadolny, Jakub Marcinek,
Maciej Łukaszewski, Michał Gaborski

Laser effects performed live as well as pre-programmed during
the all-night music festival.



Nightclub/Disco/ Music Festival Show

3...2...1

Owl Festival 2024

Laserimage AB

Credits: Programming & Operator: Anders Edström

Music: Owl Festival, "Intro"

Owl Festival is a smaller hardstyle event with big-stage ambitions. We delivered a laser show using a combination of high-power beam lasers and RGB laser bars to create a tightly programmed, high impact experience. Despite limited scale, the goal was to match the intensity of major festivals.



Live Stage Show

3...2...1

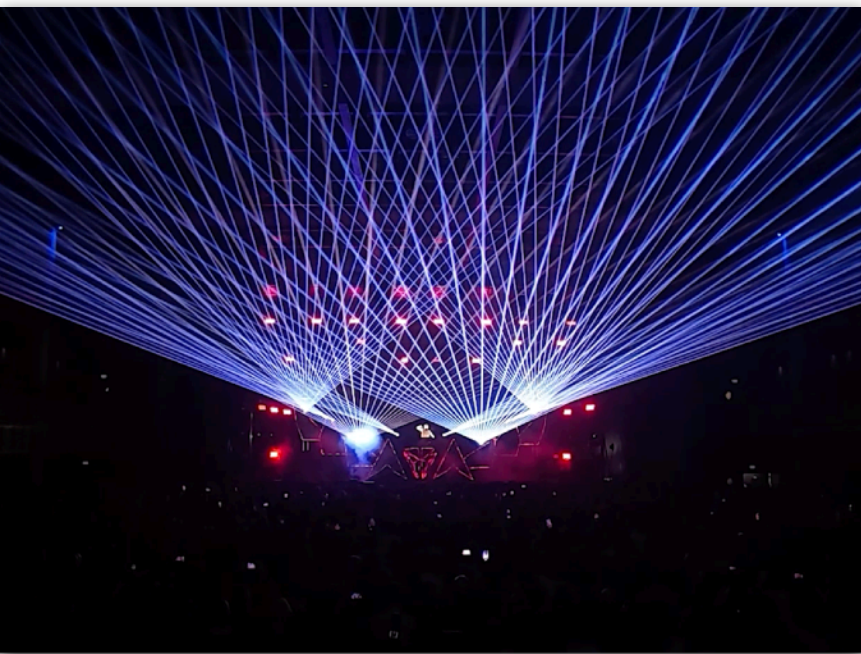
Walkerworld 2025

Laserimage AB

Credits: Programming & Operator: Love Karlsson; Laser Techs: Victor Jönsson, Henrik Hoffman; Graphics Programming: Pieterjan Ruysch; Laser Safety Officer: Johan Lindell

Music: Alan Walker songs: "Walkerworld Intro", "Lasers Remix", "Laserbeam", "Move to Da Bass", "Alone Pt2 Remix", "Welcome", "Darkside", "Man on the Moon"

For the European leg of Alan Walker's Walkerworld tour, we were tasked with introducing fresh looks to the artist's laser design. The show featured a range of elements, including laser projections on a kabuki drop during the intro, laser bars spanning the stage, and downward-terminating beams for added depth. All effects were carefully programmed and operated live; no timecode was used, allowing Alan full flexibility in his DJ performance.



Live Stage Show

3...2...1

Ambience Synesthesia 2024

laserwitchery

Credits: Laser Operators: Zen Xiong, Cong Lin

Music: MSR/Adam Gubman, *Dreamer*; MSR/BaoUner, *The Forced March of Chernobog*; MSR/Steven Grove, *Ad astra*; MSR/THE EITHER, *Invitation to Wine*; MSR/Taiga, *Extinct*; MSR/Adam Gubman, *Lord of Wolves*; MSR/Forts, *Radiant*; MSR/PMP, *Break Through the Dome*; Starset, *Monster*; Starset, *Infected*

Lasers are not merely used to create the atmosphere or capture the rhythm of the music. We delved deep into the background story of the show and created unique laser effects, including presenting the giant spiritual monster on the stage through 3D modeling and motion capture, the particle special effects that scatter and converge intermittently in scenes, the illumination of the dragon head totem representing the country of "DragonGate", using laser bars to simulate the penetrating feeling of a rainstorm, and using the lasers installed on a customized T-truss to create the head of a monster.



Live Stage Show

3...2...1

LSR/CITY: CYBERPUNK

Nathan Jin

Credits: *Designers: Allen Harsting, Nathan Jin, Patrick Willett, Garrett Gosting; Operator, Ron Lake; LSO and Supply, Rick Hale*

Music: *Gareth Emery*

The year is 2025. Humanity has become enslaved to content generated by AI. All forms of creativity have been suppressed. Come with us on a journey to rediscover what it means to be human.



Multi-Effect Laser Show

3...2...1

New Years Eve

dreamlaser

Credits: Art Director: Olga Saveleva; Laser Designers: Anna Usova, Mikhail Shebukov, Anastasia Izitsina, Dmitry Madrakhimov; Technical Specialists: Daniil Boiko, Aleksandr Balyberdin
Music: M-S-Studio, "Pathos"

A large-scale laser show was brought to life in Doha, illuminating two skyscrapers, each standing 220 meters tall. The project had extremely tight deadlines — just three days for content creation and two days for on-site setup and calibration. The show employed 36 laser projectors, with 18 units dedicated to each building. To achieve a bright and vivid image, a layering technique was used: each façade was covered by three groups of six lasers, ensuring high light intensity and sharp visuals even at such a large scale.



Multi-Effect Laser Show

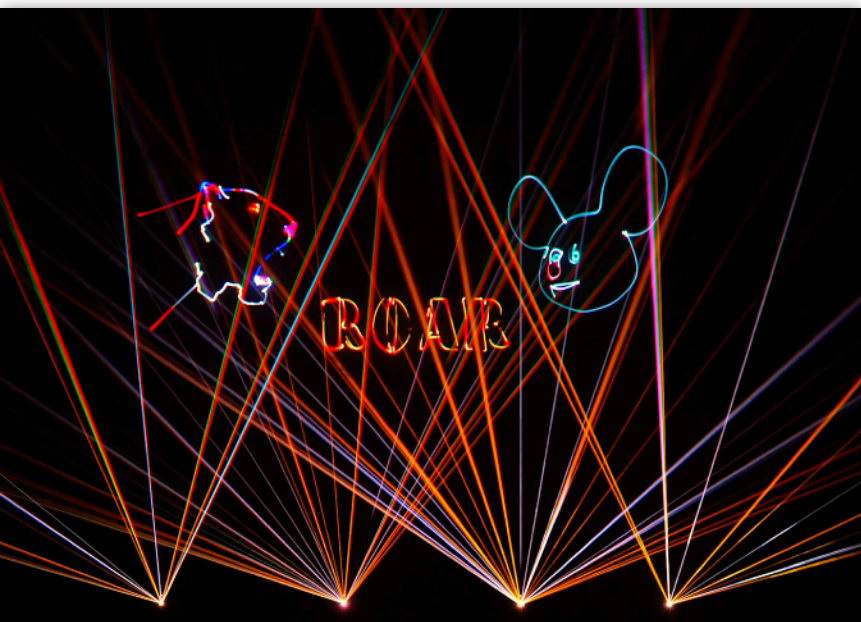
3...2...1

Roar

Nisha Ramnath

Credits: Laser Programming: Nisha Ramnath; Equipment: MaxTENN; Show Producer: Pinnacle Lasers
Music: Katy Perry, "Roar"

This show is an uplifting tale of a mouse who rises above his rat oppressors by building a robotic tiger. The mouse uses his wits to make up for his physical strength and triumphs. During the song's breakdown, the mouse feels the power of and a connection to his creation.



Multi-Effect Laser Show

3...2...1

Olympic Games 2024 Opening Ceremony Laser System Europe

Credits: Show Director: Thomas Dechandon; Programmer: Tara Winona; Project Director: Francois Vandermeeren; Technical Manager: Nathan Awouters

Music: Victor Le Masne, "Infinite"; Ceronne, "Supernature"; Victor Le Masne, "Parade IV"

Directed by Thomas Dechandon, who sought to create a spectacular alternative to traditional fireworks, this laser show created for Panam24 marks the Paris 2024 Olympic Games opening ceremony. With atmospheric and graphic designs enhanced by Eiffel Tower lighting, it features cutting-edge technology: two 600W laser beams, twelve RGBY 30W, twenty-six 80W, and fifty 60W lasers, delivering a breathtaking display of innovation and artistry.



Graphics Show

3...2...1

Wing of Destiny

Visual Sensation Laser shows & technologies

Credits: Laser Designer: Anna Nadolna

Music: Maciej Goliasz, "Arabic Mood"

This was created for the Lusail Sky Festival, which was held in Qatar. The animation tells the story of a young pilot who found his grandfather's old flight logbook and wants to follow in his footsteps.



Graphics Show

3...2...1

Merry Christmas

dreamlaser

Credits: Art Director: Olga Saveleva; Laser Designers: Anna Usova, Mikhail Shebukov, Anastasia Izitsina, Dmitry Madрахimov; Technical Specialist: Sergey Zabolin

Music: Silverman Sound Studios, "Christmas Spirit"; Jack Pierce, "Awkward Dilemma"; Silent Partner, "Sugar Zone"; Wormwood Music, "Cartoon Intro"

This vibrant and dynamic performance is designed to bring you the magic, warmth, and joy of the holiday season. Spectacular laser effects, animations, and music come together in an unforgettable display to celebrate Christmas and the New Year with you.



Graphics Show

3...2...1

Highland Gold

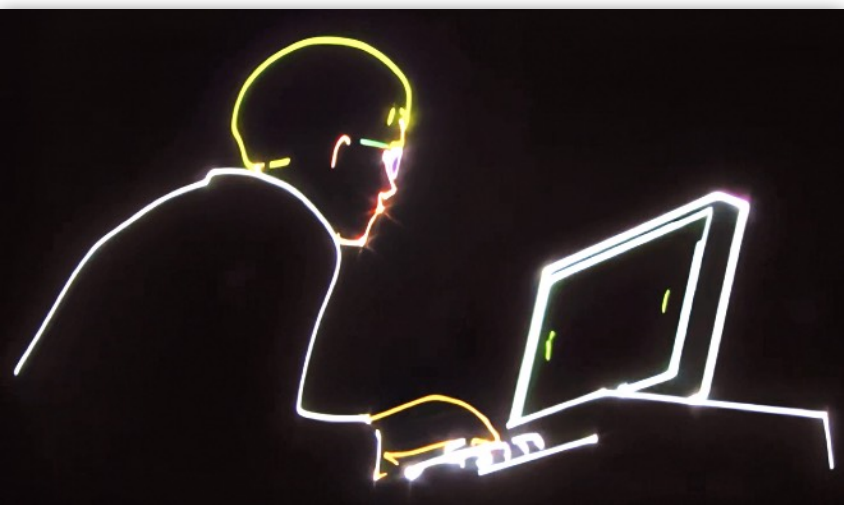
Orion-Art Multimedia

Credits: Laser Graphics: Kirill Nikitochkin; Project Manager:

Taras Viter; Lasers Operator: Mikhail Smirnov

Music: Wave Music Studio, "An History"

Highland Gold Mining Ltd. is a gold producer with a strong reputation. They are engaged in a full cycle of gold mining and casting, including geological research and the creation of many jobs for workers. The company cares not only about making a profit, but also cares about the social benefits for employees – education, healthcare, sports and recreation. This laser show was created for a business corporate event of this company.



Abstract Show

3...2...1

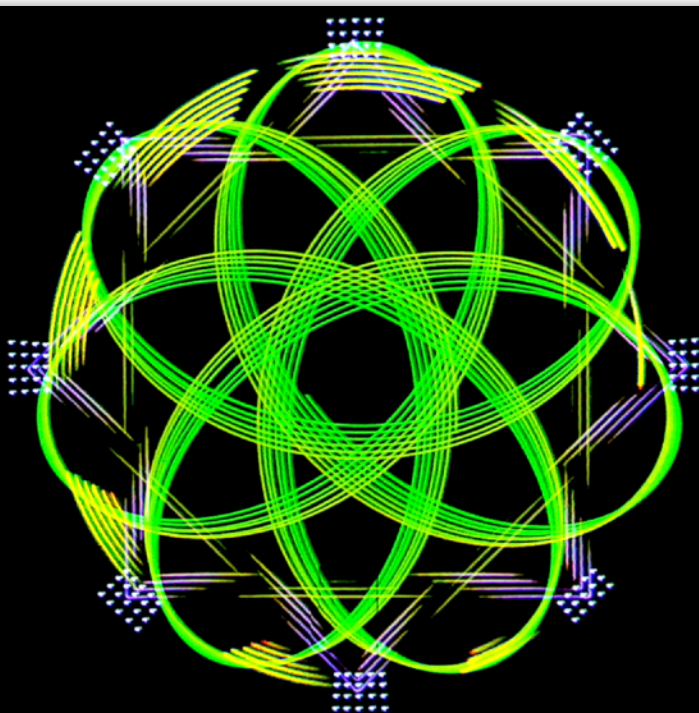
Break on Through

Christopher Short

Credits: Christopher Short

Music: The Doors, "Break on Through (Infected Mushroom Guitar remix)"

This is a three-projector show. Something that's halfway between a hallucination and a photonic assault on your eyes. Layers of geometrics and tunnels. Temple doors, mandalas, or just your brain making symbols from noise? It starts with simple cycloids and builds and builds. It was a complex, but really fun show to make because I could just slam on the abstracts and fill the screen to the fantastic music with no holding back.



Abstract Show

3...2...1

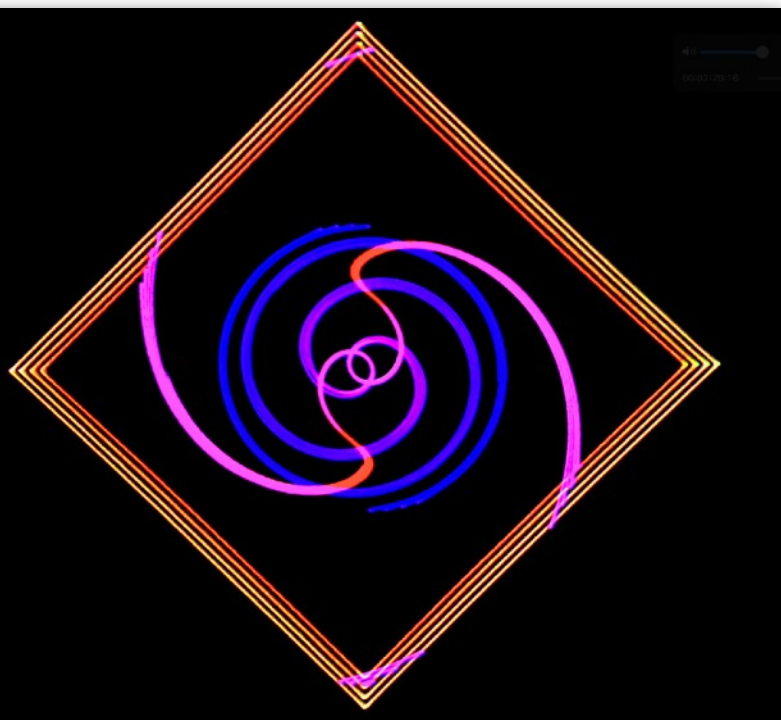
Peek-A-Boo

Christopher Short

Credits: Christopher Short

Music: Siouxsie and the Banshees, "Peek-A-Boo"; Echo 3 cover for the 2001 "Jeepers Creepers" movie.

This is a single projector abstract show. Siouxsie and the Banshees at their best. Post punk alternative goth with accordions and horns. I wanted to make a show that was seductive and a little unsettling. I used a nighttime palette with abstracts dancing in weird time and creepy shapes with tentacles. This show was so fiddly to do, but it needed to twist flow from one scene to another all graceful and strange to the music.



Abstract Show

3...2...1

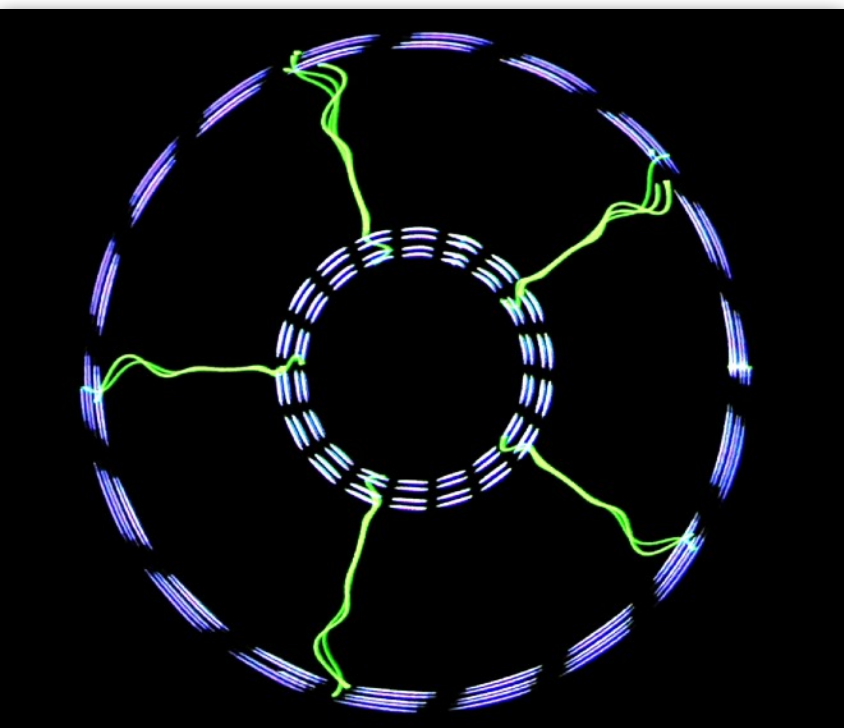
Godzilla

Christopher Short

Credits: Christopher Short

Music: Blue Oyster Cult, "Godzilla"; Bear McCreary cover for the 2019 "Godzilla: King of the Monsters" movie.

This is a single projector abstract show. Big and stompy with lots of shapes and sequences to evoke big destruction and explosions. Mechanical and natural mutations. Out of the atom was born the King of the Lizards. The hero we deserve.



Beams/Atmospherics Show with Add-On Effects

2...

Shadowless

Merlin Schaadt

Credits: Showdesign: Merlin Schaadt; Technical Management: Rico Behlke

Music: Audiomachine, Mark Petrie, "Shadowless"

"Shadowless" is a hypnotic laser and mirror show set to the atmospheric track "Shadowless." Countless mirrors reflect and multiply the laser beams into a seemingly endless space of light. As the music evolves, so does the visual journey — from soft, flowing patterns to sharp, pulsating bursts. Reflections create illusions of depth and infinity, inviting the audience into a surreal world where light exists without shadow.



Beams/Atmospherics Show with Add-On Effects

2...1

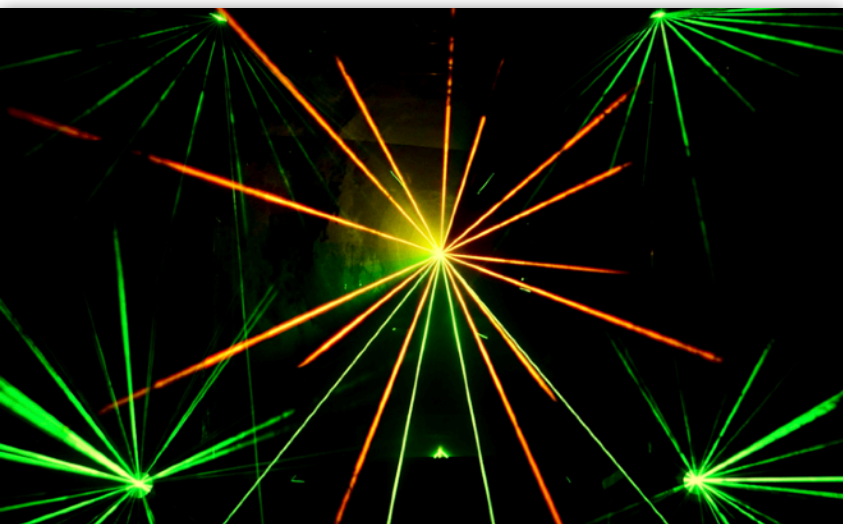
Sky

Merlin Schaadt

Credits: Showdesign: Merlin Schaadt; Technical Management: Rico Behlke

Music: Supreme Devices, Epic Music World, David Klemencz, "Sky Is the Limit"

"Sky" is an immersive laser experience that transforms the night into a canvas of light, color, and sound. Inspired by the beauty and drama of the sky above us, the show leads the audience through a visual interpretation of natural phenomena — from the soft pastels of dawn to the intense energy of the sun, lightning storms and the calm wonder of a starry night.



Beams/Atmospherics Show for Multiple-Scanner Projectors

3...2...1

Joy to the World

Lightwave International Inc.

Credits: Programmer: Mike Dunn; Live Operator: George Dodworth; Production: John Walker

Music: Lindsey Stirling, "Joy to the World"

For nearly 20 years, the Christmas Laser Spectacular has raised over \$100,000 for local charities using laser artistry to inspire attendees while providing meaningful support to those in need. The performance is fully donated and 100% of ticket sales directly support the community's most vulnerable. This annual production blends modern laser displays with high production values, creating an engaging and emotionally impactful experience that resonates with audiences. The show's enduring demand reflects its status as a cherished tradition, driven by its emotional and charitable impact.



Beams/Atmospherics Show for Multiple-Scanner Projectors

3...2...1

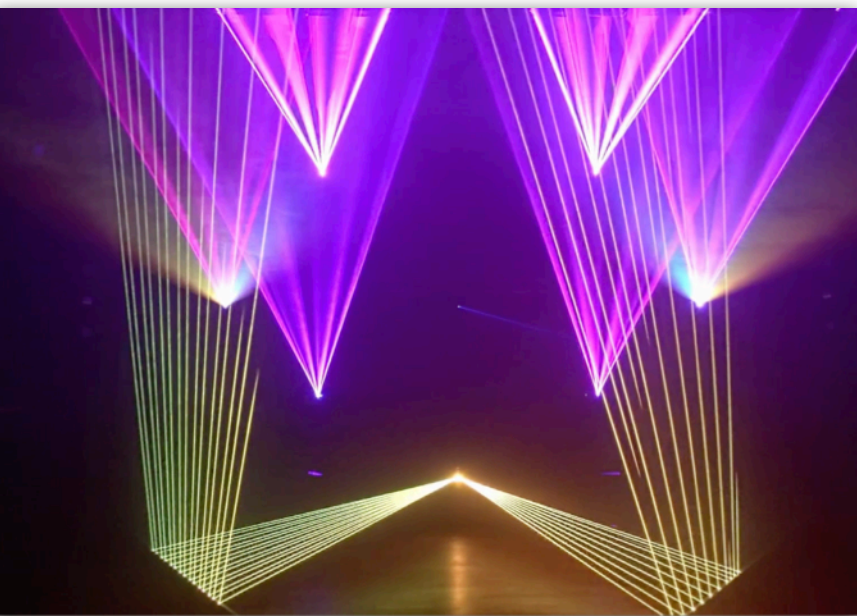
Sandstorm Reloaded

Lasershow-Creation

Credits: Show Design: Tobias Gebuhr

Music: Alex Christensen, "Sandstorm"

This was created as the opening show for an electronic dance music festival. Being well aware of and falling in love with this famous part of "techno music history", we tried to create a laser show highlight with complex and new moving beam effects to honor this new incredible orchestra version of Sandstorm. The audience's feedback confirmed our feelings. ;)



Beams/Atmospherics Show for Multiple-Scanner Projectors

3...2...1

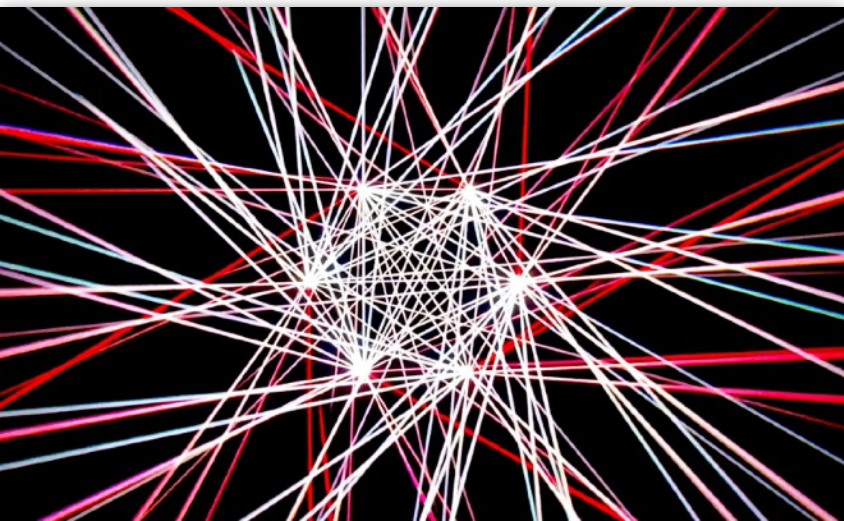
Lock In

Nathan Jin

Credits: Nathan Jin

Music: Subtronics, Wooli, "Lock In"

This show focuses on depth, perspective, eye focus and blending while creating shapes using precise geometry.



Permanent Installation

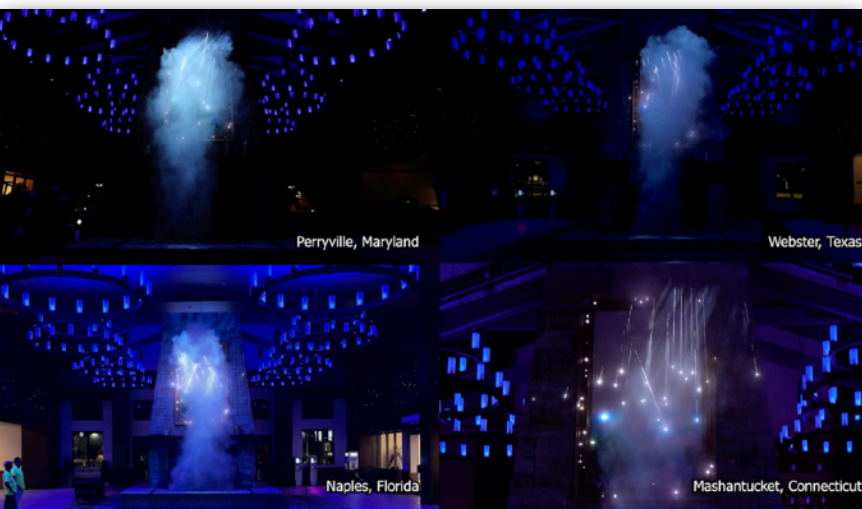
3...2...1

The Legend of Luna

Nisha Ramnath

Credits: Creative Director: Edward Hodges; Technical Manager: Alex Mackay; Producer: Steven Farnsworth; Project Coordinator: Alex Eastman; Laser Installation: X-Laser; Laser Programming: Nisha Ramnath; Laser Install Technician: Dustin Derry
Music: Original score & narration produced by BRC Imagination Arts, "The Legend of Luna"

Starting in June 2023, BRC has opened four immersive installations for Great Wolf Lodge. The client's mission was to foster family togetherness through fun and adventure in a safe environment. This location-based signature attraction for the lodges is the first of its kind. The Legend of Luna opens new possibilities, turning otherwise ordinary spaces, like a hotel lobby, into immersive, storied places of wonder and magic. Lasers create pixie dust, stars and a lifelike aurora borealis; bringing viewers into Luna's world, letting them suspend disbelief and connect with the message of the story.



Permanent Installation

3...2...1

Aquavia Lumina

LaserTech Canada Inc.

Credits: Project Creation: Moment Factory; Survey and Laser Design: Derek Garbos; Laser Installation and Programming: Nicolas Squire
Music: Custom soundtrack

An enchanted night walk through a canyon of wonders. As night falls, an immersive storyworld comes to life. Follow a mystical deer on a journey in search of The Source, a legendary spring said to transform nature with the magic of water. Travel across a multimedia pathway of light, illusion and music to connect with nature in a bold new light.



Permanent Installation

3...2...1

The Westin

Lightwave International Inc.

Credits: Programmer: Mike Dunn; Design & Operator: George Dodworth; Production: John Walker

Music: Various songs and artists

This permanent installation at the Westin is designed to enhance seasonal street events with an immersive laser show that attracts and retains audiences to support local businesses. The show is operated from a permanently constructed rooftop laser booth that houses the projection lasers and playback computers. A special lifting mechanism was designed for the screen which is stowed in a hidden trough, and is deployed by an overhead crane system with minimal effort. Beam lasers live in permanent weather enclosures, and fog machine carts with wDMX are deployed on show nights.



Fine Art Laser Display

2...

Creation

Laser Spectacles, Inc.

Credits: Laser Programmer: Tim Walsh

Music: Haydn, "Creation"

I filmed this in an art gallery where we were set up to provide an artistic experience for a film production. It was an unusual setup with many effects, and I was trying to stretch out and use everything.



Fine Art Laser Display

2...1

Lucida

Studio Lachlan Turczan

Credits: Creators: Lachlan Turczan, Kevin Izard; Interaction: Will Michaelсен; Composer: Sebastian Sack

Music: Custom musical score by Sebastian Sack created for Studio Lachlan Turczan

Lucida (I–VI), 2025. Lasers, acrylic, stainless steel, infrared cameras, software, speakers.

Lucida is the latest in Lachlan Turczan's Veil Series, sculpting immersive environments from coherent light. Mist reveals dynamic veils that ripple and respond to movement, giving light a physical presence. As viewers engage, beams shift and bend, forming ephemeral architecture. Co-created with engineer Kevin Izard, Lucida explores a future shaped by perception, not mass.



Innovative Application

3...2...1

Pyro Laser Plane

Milne “CC” Pocock

Credits: Milne “CC” Pocock, Christi Masi

Music: I mixed a soundtrack with music for the show. There were many mobile and fixed stages on the ground, and they all were playing different music at the time, so it was not possible to sync our soundtrack with all of them during the show. Many or most people on the ground just saw the plane flying, with no sync'd music, as shown in the entry video.

This is the first ever FAA-approved laser show from an aircraft in the United States. It took place over Burning Man in August 2024. Lasers, lights and pyrotechnics were mounted on the airplane. The show was performed and controlled by the pilots. One pilot flew the plane and controlled the pyrotechnics. The other controlled the laser and lights. The show lasted for approximately 15 minutes.



Innovative Application

3...2...1

Particle Play

LIVE Lasersystems

Credits: Idea & Programming: Martin Nowosad; Actress: Susanna Bergmann

Music: Tasty Audio, "Energy Pop Punk"

"Particle Play" is an interactive laser installation that allows real-time generated laser particles to be moved across a projection surface. Input options include hand trackers or body trackers. By directing the particles to certain "trigger areas," any interactive action can be triggered. In the video, for example, spotlights were activated. If the user remains still, the particles disappear. The entire installation was developed in TouchDesigner, and all laser graphics are generated in real time with TouchDesigner.



Innovative Application

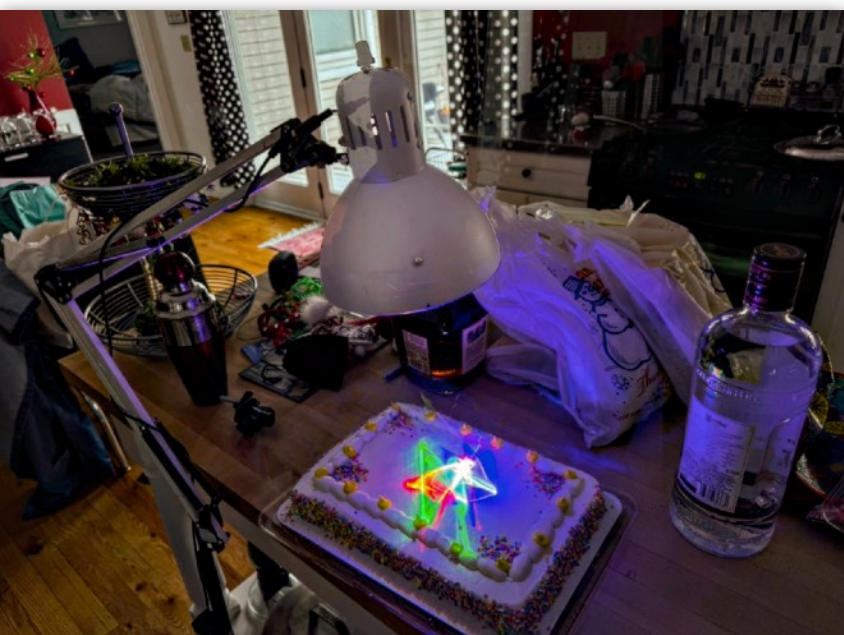
3...2...1

LuxoLaser

Illuminatus Lasers

Credits: *In Charge: Mike Gould*

A Light Desert: The LuxoLaser was born out of a challenge to produce an edible laser, continuing my research into small-scale lasers. This is intended for a banquet situation, where a desert sheet cake can be lit with lumia. A Luxo lamp was dismantled, and its innards replaced with an RGB lumia rig. This lights up white frosting perfectly, and can be used on wedding cakes, pasta alfredo, or any light-colored food. The LuxoLaser runs off 12V DC and comes with a power supply. It has the required CDRH warnings. There is a dimmer switch built in and individual power trim pots for each color.



Laser Photography

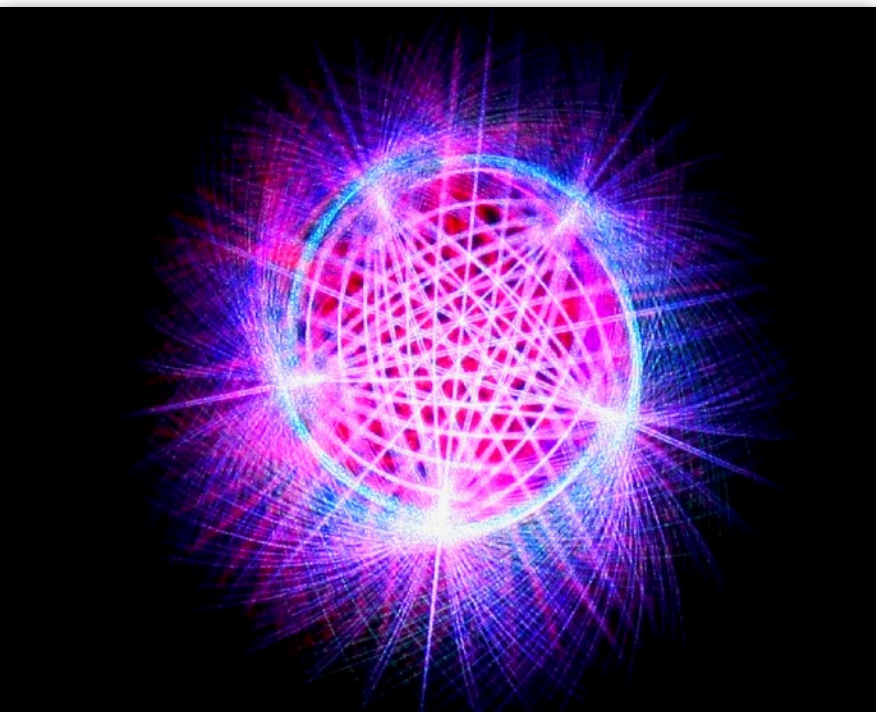
3...2...1

NetWorld

LOBO

Credits: Photographer: Florian Skrzypczak; Laser Design: Werner Most

A laser net crisscrosses the globe, representative of our modern, interconnected world. Touching even the most remote corners, the net brings us all closer together — or does it?



Laser Photography

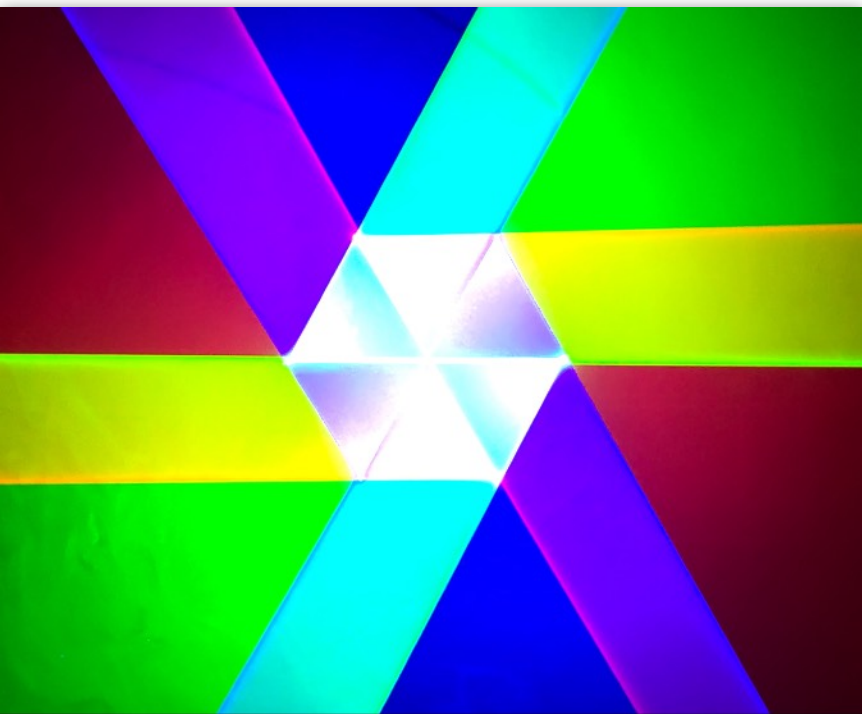
3...**2**...1

RGB///CMY

Nathan Jin

Credits: *Nathan Jin*

Each laser emits only one color: red, green or blue. The light mixes in the air to create cyan, magenta, yellow and white.



Laser Photography

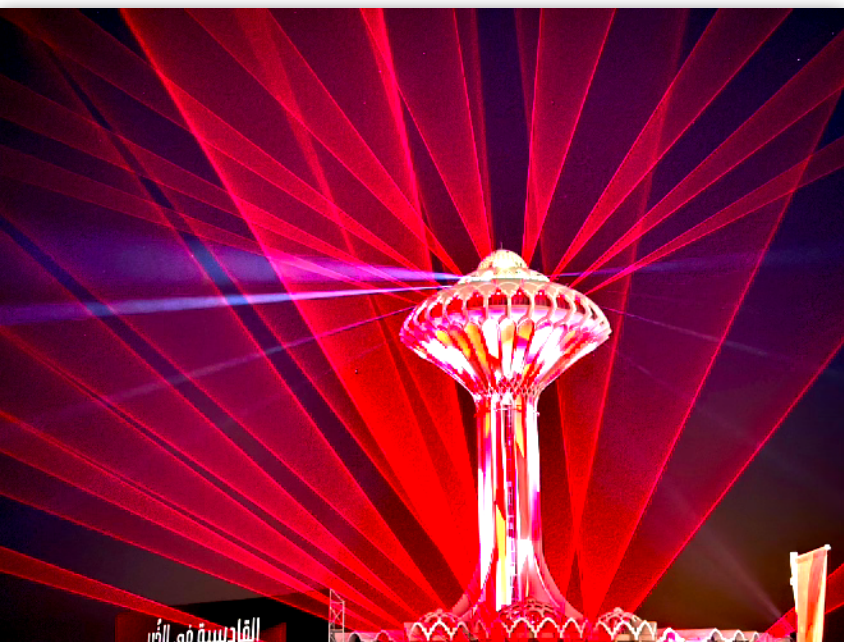
3...2...1

Al Khobar Water Tower

KVANT Ltd.

Credits: Photographer: Sara Simkovicova

This photo was taken during the Qadsiah Festival 2024 in Al Khobar, KSA. It captures the Al Khobar Water Tower with lasers and video mapping. Our task was to illuminate the largest water reservoir in the world so it could be clearly seen from a distance and from the surrounding area.



Laser Jockey

The Laser Jockey competition was held November 5, 2025 during the ILDA Conference. Attendees viewed the competitors' live performance, then voted for their favorites. The top three vote-getters received First, Second and Third Place in this category.

First Place

Derek Garbos

LaserTech Canada Inc.

Second Place

Nicolas Squire

LaserTech Canada Inc.

Third Place

Matthias Frank

*University of Bonn - Institute
of Computer Science 4
(Laser & Light Lab)*



Fenning Award for Technical Achievement: General

2...

Architect W1500B

KVANT Ltd.



A 1500-watt large-format full-color static laser beam with high luminous flux for landmark illumination. The Architect laser projector is built as a robust and IP65-certified container equipped with a closed-circuit water cooling unit. It outputs a 1500-watt large-format laser beam and is made to be used permanently in most outdoor environments. Due to its beam proportions and high luminous flux of 403,300 lm, it is considered as the most visible, single-source lighting fixture on the market.



Fenning Award for Technical Achievement: General

2...1

Clubmax FB4 IP65 (Models 18, 24 and 40) KVANT Ltd.



A laser projector fitted with a comprehensive range of features suitable for laser display professionals, big displays and touring. The latest generation of Clubmax FB4 IP65 projectors represents an ideal standard for all those who need top-notch lasers that are reliable, powerful, compact, relatively light and easy to work with. The three models offer power outputs of 18, 24, and 40 watts in waterproof IP65 robust housing. They also have unique features that help show designers and operators work as quickly and efficiently as possible, especially at complex, large-scale installations.



Fenning Award for Technical Achievement: ILDA Digital Network

3...2...1

IDN Backup Band

Laser Spectacles, Inc.

Credits: Musical arrangement and performance, laser music creation, laser graphics creation: Tim Walsh; Creator of the program "Parsec" used to record the laser and music signals into IDN: Dirk Apitz; On-site IDN playback, mixing and recording: Matthias Frank



At the 2024 ILDA Conference in Wrocław, I wanted to perform my own unique arrangement of Polish folk music. Knowing from past experience how limited time is for setup, I used IDN to streamline the process so that when on site, I could playback my laser/audio backing tracks on IDN, and then concentrate upon my own performance on digital horn. I hope that this entry shows how the use of IDN can simplify a complex situation by working in the background. I think anyone watching the performance would come away thinking that it looked pretty simple and easy, and maybe they could do the same thing!



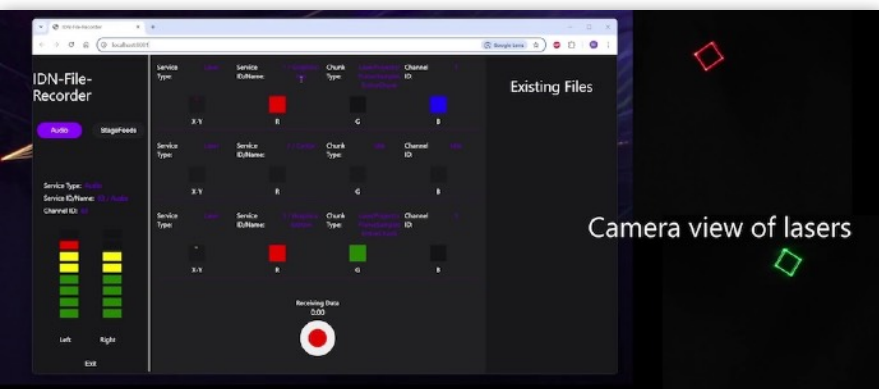
Fenning Award for Technical Achievement: ILDA Digital Network

3...2...1

User-Friendly IDN-File-Recorder (multi-OS)

University of Bonn - Institute of Computer Science 4
(Laser & Light Lab)

Credits: The work on the IDN-File-Recorder started in October 2023 in a Bachelor project course and is being carried out by students Maliheh Fakhræi and Seyed Hamid Vahabian. Both are still working on the project for their Bachelor theses in 2025. Our work on the ILDA Digital Network generally is only possible with the diligent help of students of (DE) Bachelor Informatik and (EN) Master Computer Science.



The “IDN-File-Recorder” is user friendly, flexible and can be used on Windows, Linux or (soon to follow) macOS operating systems. To create visual feedback to the user whether the IDN streams are correctly coming in:

- Incoming stereo audio data is visualized with a typical two-channel level indicator
- Incoming laser stream data is visualized individually for each offered IDN service
- The color indicator R, G, B each shows the maximum sample values for R,G,B
- The X-Y indicator shows an outline of the sample coordinates used in the same interval, filled with the respective RGB color



Fenning Award for Technical Achievement: ILDA Digital Network

3...2...1

IDN Integration In The Open-Source Helios DAC Software Library

Gitle Mikkelsen

Credits: *Software Programming: Gitle Mikkelsen. The following people are not directly involved in the entry, but I wish to acknowledge their help and support during development: Dirk Apitz, development assistance and reference code; Matthias Frank, development assistance; Matthieu Beghin, testing and feedback; Luc Pinguet, testing and feedback*

(No video or photos submitted with entry)

The reference code library for the Helios DAC has been updated with seamless IDN support. This makes it easy for software developers to add support for output to IDN devices. The code is also open source, meaning that any developer can modify it to their needs, as well as study the implementation to learn more about the IDN protocol and translate it to other programming languages if necessary. The library is built to be cross-platform and is tested on both Windows, Mac and Linux. The library is publicly available as a Github repository: github.com/Grix/helios_dac/tree/master/sdk/cpp



2025 ILDA Career Achievement Award

Derek Garbos

LaserTech Canada, Inc.



Derek Garbos' fascination with lasers began in the late 1970s when he first encountered a ruby laser at Ottawa's Science Museum. In 1989, he co-founded NewWave Productions with Andrew Jefferson. They developed proprietary laser technologies including custom beam tables, a scan-through achromat beam expander for long-distance graphics, a digital-to-analog color decoder for PCAOM systems, and a live control console that allowed show cues to be triggered from a grid—an early precursor to modern live laser show interfaces.

In the 1990s, they created immersive laser displays, such as a fiber-fed projector on a flight simulator, and in 1996 co-hosted ILDA's first international conference outside the U.S. in Canada, which also marked the first ILDA event to feature audience scanning using NewWave's Argon/Krypton system and remote fiber heads. Derek would then host the ILDA conference again in 2018 in Montreal.

By the early 2000s, Derek became sole owner, rebranding the company as LaserTech Canada and since producing over a thousand shows spanning six continents. His clients include Cirque du Soleil, Mercedes-Benz, Infiniti, Red Bull, New Balance, NHL hockey franchises, and nearly every top-tier EDM artist.

A hallmark of Derek's career has been pushing boundaries. He created a 360-degree seamless laser ceiling for a New York opera using cylindrical lens scanning. He also became the first in history to secure airspace clearance for laser shows in downtown Ottawa Canada at two separate locations.

(continued...)



A pioneer in laser control, Derek co-developed SyncMaster, a precursor to today's live systems. In 2009, he joined Pangolin's QuickShow and BEYOND team, contributing 150+ features, and the original workspace which remains in global use to this day. He later collaborated with MPBC on TEM₀₀ fiber lasers for entertainment, pushing the industry towards 'HD' (high-definition), with tighter beam options similar to the ion lasers of the past.

Derek has championed laser safety through national standards, CLEO involvement, and hands-on education. Together with CTO Nicolas Squire, LaserTech Canada has won 27 international awards across seven categories, including 12 first-place finishes. Derek also serves on ILDA's Board, Laser Theatre Committee, and Awards Committee.

Mentor, innovator, and active leader for the global laser community, Derek Garbos continues to shape and inspire the world of laser entertainment.

Past ILDA Career Achievement Award Recipients



1989 Ivan Dryer	2013 Pavol Kubošek
1990 Seiji Inatsugu	2014 Tim Walsh
1991 Floyd Rollefstad	2015 Dirk Baur
1992 Jennifer Morris	2016 Dr. Alexander Timofeyev
1993 Robert Mueller	2017 Alex Hennig
<i>(not awarded 1994-2003)</i>	
2004 Patrick Murphy	2018 Glenn Thomas
2005 Michael Roberts	2019 Alberto Kellner-Ongaro
2006 Doug McCullough	2020 Christine Jenkin
2007 William R. Benner, Jr.	2021 Fred Fenning
2009 Greg Makhov	2022 Casey Stack
2010 Lothar Bopp	2023 Roberta McHatton Walter Meador
2011 Stephen Heminover	2024 Ward Davis
2012 Tom Harman	2025 Derek Garbos

Thank You to Our Hosts and Sponsors

2025 Conference Host



Rocket City Lasers is a unique edutainment company led by Alex Hall. It blends science, technology, art, and music through interactive laser experiences and STEM education. Located at the popular Campus 805—a former school turned entertainment venue—Rocket City Lasers offers a mix of laser shows, educational programs, camps, and private events designed to entertain and inspire.

Assisting Host

Since 1978, **Audio Visual Imagineering** has been a leader in creating entertaining and educational laser light shows for planetariums, corporate events, sporting events and amusement parks worldwide. AVI has pioneered innovative, artistic and technical techniques for the laser entertainment industry. AVI is led by Joanne Young and last year's ILDA Career Achievement Award winner, Ward Davis.



Gold-level Laser Sponsor



Laser Encore is a professional laser light show company for hire specializing in outdoor and indoor laser shows, permanent installations, and equipment sales & rentals. CEO Robert Teorey is generously providing 16 (!) of his Stinger Club RGB 8,000 projectors for the Lase-Off and Awards Presentation.

Silver-level Laser Sponsor

Lone Star Lasers was founded by Walt Meador in 1983. Now run by his daughter Stephanie Huston, the company remains committed to being a trusted partner in sales and rentals of their Lightspace brand lasers, as well as doing complete laser shows. We are grateful to Stephanie for sponsoring 100-watt lasers.



Bronze-level Laser Sponsor



Emerald Owl Productions delivers interactive, high-energy entertainment that transforms any gathering into a lasting memory. EOP was host of the 2023 ILDA Conference in Atlantic Beach, NC. CEO and President Michael Meyer provided the 60K graphics projector used at the Lase-Off and the Awards Presentation.

Welcome Reception Sponsor

Since 1986, **Pangolin Laser Systems** has been providing software and hardware to hundreds of thousands of clients in the laser light show, entertainment and industrial fields. President and CTO William R. Benner Jr. is sponsoring the Welcome Reception and Dinner held Monday, Nov. 3 at the Speakeasy bar and restaurant, located hidden behind a sliding door at the Campus 805 location where we held our event.





From the ILDA Bylaws

The purpose of ILDA is to advance and promote the professional application of laser display:

By maintaining standards of safety performance

**By promoting a better understanding between
laser display professionals and regulatory agencies**

By fostering the development of new technology

By promoting the advancement of laser artistry

By increasing public awareness

By providing information to the public

By promoting cooperation within the industry