ALMINE RECH

James Turrell
The Wolfsburg Project

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In collaboration with the Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg, the American light artist James Turrell has created his largest-ever walk-in light installation in a museum context: an 11-metre-high, "space within a space" structure that covers a floor area of 700 square metres and reaches up to the glass roof of the museum. One of Turrell's *Ganzfeld Pieces*, it is a hollow construction divided into two parts. The two interconnecting chambers – the *Viewing Space* and the *Sensing Space* – are both completely empty and – a new feature of this type of work – flooded with slowly changing coloured light. The Kunstmuseum is showing *The Wolfsburg Project* along with a number of Turrell's other works in the most extensive exhibition by the artist in Germany to date.

Visitors can enter the piece via a steep ramp that leads down from the upper floor into the *Viewing Space*; immersing themselves in a "sublime bath of light", they can experience with all their senses how the architectural elements of the space dissolve in this homogeneous visual field, creating a sense of perceptual disorientation. While the light reveals and refers to nothing beyond itself, surface qualities interact with those of colour and space to create an atmosphere that completely envelops the spectator and stimulates the senses. Viewers become submerged in a mysterious, painterly world of pure light. Turrell describes this as "feeling with your eyes", an experience he regards as not just aesthetic but also spiritual.

Courtesy Kunstmuseum Wolfsburg