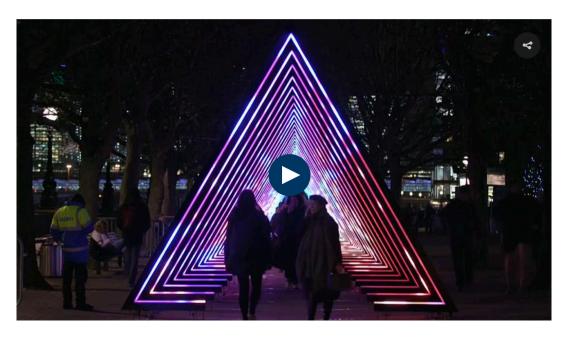
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London lights festival is antidote to winter darkness

by Robert Hackwill



Britain's largest light festival has begun a four-day-run in the capital, London, with 58 light installations placed around the city to dispel the winter blues.

The works are by British and international artists and most have never been seen before, although they are all having to contend with some typically harsh British winter weather, with plenty of wind and rain. The pieces have been designed with durability in mind, but most needed running repairs.

"Asalto London is being projected on Westminster City Hall, and it's an invitation for Londoners to climb to the summit, to take over this public building, to make it theirs," says artist Daniel Canogar.

The festival stretches across the city from King's Cross in the north, to the West End and Mayfair and even over the river to the South Bank.

To see everything might take time and some long walks or tube rides, but everyone seems to agree it is worth it.