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Violent art in the Roman theater: Rafael Lozano-Hemmer Sonic Augusta Raurica

By Andreas Schwald June 11, 2018

As part of the Basel Art Week, the House of Electronic Arts will be performing with the artist Rafael Lozano-Hemmer Augusta Raurica. The installation impresses with light, sound and romance.

The installations of Rafael Lozano-Hemmer are always strong. Because they shine. And sound. And that under the open sky. The Canadian-Mexican artist can be experienced with one of his works in Augusta in Augusta Raurica.

The work is called "Voice Theater" and is a site-specific sound and light installation, developed by Lozano-Hemmer especially for Augusta Raurica, as the House of Electronic Arts Basel tells: In the middle of the ancient theater is a microphone, with the the votes of the participants are recorded. More than 120 loudspeakers duplicate the message and sound from the theater.

Present and yet absent

The artist thematizes the contrast of presence and absence. "Terms that are usually described as mutually exclusive or as opposites," said the H3K in his communication.

In "Voice Theater" they would be presented as echoes of each other, with the concrete traces left by the voices of the visitors: "In their messages, the audience should deal in particular with the question of what culture means for each individual."