



NIGHTTM

Navigate Your
Luminous City

SEEING

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What is the NightSeeing Program?

NightSeeing is an educational group itinerary of exploration and discovery – a curriculum designed for the general public and those in the design, architecture, engineering and planning professions.

Presenting the nocturnal city of light, NightSeeing is a real-time travelogue through the culture of urban lighting. Its objective is to convey recognition of one's own environment of the illuminated vistas that define our surroundings literally half the time – vistas that are so familiar they are almost unseen.

The program can stand alone, or consist of several events: the **LightTalk**, **LightWalk** and **Light Planning Workshop**. Often a reception or party is planned for after the **LightWalk**.

The **LightTalk** conveys an overview of the systems, past and present, that light our cities and creative opportunities for public lighting of special interest to architectural planning and lighting professionals. General audiences also appreciate behind-the-scenes discussions of the methods and strategies that bring vibrancy to their night city.

The **LightWalk** is a 10-minute route, which expands to an hour walk during the event. This carefully selected and stimulating route is developed with the local representative through photographs and discussions with Leni. Each **LightWalk** is singular, with a custom NightSeeing Map handout, created by Light Projects for each location.

For master-planning community involvement activities, the Light Planning Workshop lasts approximately two hours, depending on the composition of participants—stakeholders, agencies, neighborhood businesses and residents—the day following the LightWalk.

For more information visit www.nightseeing.net.



NightSeeing: Lyon, France - December 2010, Fête Des Lumières



NightSeeing: London, UK - November 2013, Light Night Canning Town



The Essence of NightSeeing™

Savor the word “light” and the interior landscape of language evokes images of atmospheric effects— luminous, mysterious, picturesque, and sublime. The issues and substance of public illumination increasingly influence the global language of urban design and urban experience, and the shifting interplay of nighttime dark and light makes every city a unique destination.

In this spirit, NightSeeing provides a context to examine and decode the shadows, emanations, and reflections that define our cities’ darkened hours. The NightSeeing initiative inspires attendees to see shadows in a whole different light.

1 LightTalk

Provides a basic understanding of our cities’ lighting systems. Planning professionals will gain insight to the after-dark experience, earning to build on it to create a welcoming public realm. General audiences will gain insight into various kinds of lighting that typify public spaces after dark.

2 LightWalk

Participants will join Leni in decoding the shadows, emanations, and reflections that define the nightscape – from shop silhouettes and signage to streetlights and the phantom photons of passing cars.

3 Envisioning Workshop

The 3-hour Agile Nighttime Envisioning Workshop includes steps 1 & 2, adding a process to develop lighting objectives for your district.

Here’s what some attendees and observers are saying about NightSeeing, London.

Light Projects’ participation at The ARC Show within the IALD Conference brought a new and highly innovative element to the event. The NightSeeing programme opened our delegate’s eyes to the undiscovered light and shadows of the surrounding Islington area. Leni’s enthusiasm for her subject matter made for a highly interesting and memorable walk. I would recommend that anyone with an interest in the art of lighting take part in a NightWalk near you.

- Tony Crinion, UBM Global

Alliance Lighting UK were delighted with our association in the biggest yet NightSeeing Walk, led by Leni Schwendinger. The light walks have been gaining popularity around the globe and as a new company, we wanted to make our launch here in the UK something to be remembered and the walk and the after party certainly did that!

- Suzanne Wardley, Alliance Lighting

I was glad to attend your lecture and the night walk during IALD Enlighten Europe in London. I was amazed about your artistic approach, your control of color palette and successful passage from a media to another. Congratulations!

- Ikram Bouhlel, LightWalk Attendee

Enjoyed your entertaining and thought-provoking walk through London’s streets - thanks Leni!

- Pete Brewis, Mondo Arc Magazine Editor



NightSeeing: London, UK - January 2011, ARC Lighting Show

The NightSeeing™ Experience: Background and Travelogue



NightSeeing is rooted in Leni Schwendinger's curriculum for Parsons, The New School for Design. "Designing Urban Nighttime Environments" from 2003. In New York City, an interdisciplinary class for lighting design, architecture, and interior design students created a NightSeeing map of Manhattan, which included imaginary schemes for several key districts.

In 2005, Leni Schwendinger began to develop a public lighting theory, based on ownership of lighting—public and private—and a layer of incidental illumination called "found" lighting. Zones of after dark economic and social activity were defined in her "Shades of Night," framework. This underlying vision of changing illumination relative to street life and open/closed hours of commerce, shops, restaurants, and institutions in a given neighborhood.

In 2009, after many impromptu LightWalks with Parsons Students, Leni joined the Professional Lighting Design Association's global Lightmapping program for New York City. This LightWalk was formulated to explore the Shades of Night in the environs of Old St. Patrick's Cathedral in Manhattan's Little Italy district. From dusk to dawn, lighting changes and social activities were documented by photography and light-level readings.



NightSeeing: Queens, New York City - July 2013, Roosevelt Avenue and 82nd Street



NightSeeing: Seattle - September 2013, Pioneer Square Alleyways





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