



⇒ **LED – excellent conditions for delicate hand drawings**
Exhibition lighting

A temporary exhibition entitled "On paper. Our finest hand drawings" was shown this summer at the Art Palace Museum in Düsseldorf. The exhibits comprised 365 hand drawings on paper or parchment from the last five centuries, selected from 70,000 samples from the museum's archives. Art pieces by world-renowned artists including Beuys, Trockel, Nolde, Rembrandt and Raffael made for a unique museum experience.

Paper is a light-sensitive material. In order not to restrict the duration of the exhibition for conservational reasons, the drawings were illuminated using exclusively spotlights equipped with LEDs. The fact that LED light does not comprise UV and IR radiation meant that technically speaking it was not necessary to adhere to conventional vertical illuminance levels of 50 lux. For the sake of formality, the lighting was designed in accordance with this guideline, however. The existing false daylight ceilings were also blacked out for conservational reasons.



The exhibition spaces were especially impressive: the walls were painted brown, creating a strong contrast to the light-coloured drawings, which almost looked as though they were floating in space.

The lighting system consists of adjustable, track-mounted spotlights, which makes absolute sense for a temporary exhibition space. The fact that the fixtures are dimmable was a prime prerequisite. The LED spotlights applied in this case feature a potentiometer for individual adjustment of the dimmer output.

Apart from the advantages LED lighting offers with regard to protecting art exhibits, the tiny, highly efficient light sources generate very little heat. This is also due to the lack of IR radiation.

The result: excellent conditions for the exhibits and pure enjoyment for the viewer.

Project team:

Client: Museum Kunst Palast, Düsseldorf/D

Products applied:

Optec spotlights, each equipped with six LEDs (3.2 watts), warm white 3200K, fitted with a sculpture lens, Erco

Photos: Thomas Mayer/D