

Neuchâtel, the 7th of Novembre 2019

After the realization of a monumental photovoltaic fresco for the park of the archaeological museum of Laténium in Neuchâtel, Switzerland (emersion project) and the presentation of a work at the Science Museum in London (antemeridien project), the artist's collective compáz from Neuchâtel exhibits in China. Responding to a call for projects from the Tsinghua University in Beijing as part of the 5th International Symposium and Exhibition on Arts and Sciences (TASIES 2019), Compáz offers a double installation called Photo-Synthesis.

Between Art and Science

The Swiss artist's collective compáz exhibits at the National Museum of China

The works are presented in the form of two triptychs of 5 m² each. Photo-Synthesis is a poetic series of artworks that demonstrate, in a technological and artistic way, the power of the sun. While plants convert sunlight into chemical energy through a process known as photosynthesis, solar panels convert sunlight into electricity. Both produce energy in this way.

Exhibited inside the Beijing National Museum, the first piece - Phase A - unexpectedly demonstrates the aesthetics of the solar panel as an artistic support. It also questions the function of an inert support in favour of an active, energy-producing surface. The second twin piece - Phase B - is exhibited in the streets of Beijing, at the 798 Art Zone, in the open air, where it fully fulfils its role as a photovoltaic installation, while demonstrating its artistic and emotional potential.

Compáz is an artist's collective founded two years ago by Laure-Emmanuelle Perret, Raphaël Pizzera and Lats Kladny, whose work focuses mainly on the development of technologies through art and emotions. For the occasion, the collective joined forces with Los Angeles-based photographer David Hartwell.

The technologies proposed by Photo-Synthesis were partly developed by SOLAXESS, a solar energy expert and industrial partner of the CSEM. The project was also supported by the Canton of Neuchâtel, the City of Neuchâtel and Swissnex - the Swiss global network for education, research and innovation - as well as the Fondation du Casino de Neuchâtel.