Whisper Wind

A lighting object with flexible organic LEDs by Konica Minolta, Created by Ingo Maurer and Team, 2014

At light+building in Frankfurt, Ingo Maurer exhibited a new lighting object with flexible OLED panels by Konica Minolta. The structure of *Whisper Wind* bends like a tree in the wind. 25 thin, shining panels are attached by delicate wires to the bar, which has two ,branches'. The magnets also conduct the electrical current. Flexibility and airiness are the main characteristics of all elements of *Whisper Wind*.

The OLED panels by Konica Minolta are flexible and even thinner than the glass OLEDs with which Ingo Maurer has created several experimental objects and a table lamp in limited production in the past.

In spring 2014, an identical pair of Whisper Wind was fabricated. One was exhibited at light+building in Frankfurt and during Salone del Mobile in Milan. From May till July, it is on display in Ingo Maurer's New York showroom, from September Ingo Maurer will present it in the Munich showroom. The other object was delivered to Konica Minolta. The Japanese company presented their new development to Ingo Maurer and Team in spring 2013 and initiated the collaboration.

Ingo Maurer's work with OLEDs started already in 2006, when he created two experimental pieces, *Flying Future* and the *Coffee Table* with panels by the German company Merck. Two years later, he designed *Early Future*, a table lamp available as limited edition of 25 pieces. The OLEDs were made by Osram Opto Semiconductors. In 2010, two more objects with *Orbeos* OLED modules by Osram Opto Semiconductors followed, as well as a unique piece made with transparent OLEDs by Novaled. All objects were exhibited in the two Ingo Maurer showrooms, and other exhibitions. Some are continuously on display in Munich.

Ingo Maurer's fascination for new technologies is the driving force behind the creation of experimental OLED lighting objects, which he started earlier than other designers or manufactures. Similarly, he designed and edited *El.E.Dee*, the first table lamp with LEDs available on the market in 2001.

Images of all objects are available on request.

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About Ingo Maurer

Ingo Maurer, born 1932, started to design exceptional lamps and lighting systems in 1966, which his company, Ingo Maurer GmbH, produces and distributes worldwide. Among his best-known designs for serial productions are Bulb (1966), the low-voltage system YaYaHo (1984) and Lucellino (1992), the winged bulb. The lighting for "Westfriedhof" subway station in Munich (1998), the LED-lit atrium of Lafayette Maison in Paris (2004), and the UNICEF Crystal Snowflake for New York (2005) are just a few items on the long list of commission works and spectacular one-offs for private clients and public buildings. Maurer has received a number of renowned design awards, among others, in February 2010, the Design Award of the Federal Republic of Germany and in 2011 the Compasso d'Oro.