

Timetable

LIGHT ART GRAND TOUR USA 2016 – 2020

1st August 2016 Tell goes West – to the Big Apple

Art project for the tour start and for the Swiss National Day ceremony in New York, 1st August 2016, placing a copy of the liberator of Switzerland, William Tell Statue from Altdorf on Rat Island. The only one island in New York which is privately owned. The owners are two Swiss gentlemen. The island is located in the Bronx, 18 Miles away from the Liberty.



1st Tour – 2017

2nd Tour – 2018

3rd Tour – 2019

Production 2020

Art Exhibitions 2020

East Coast

East Coast and Midwest

Midwest, West Coast and Hawaii

Post-productions of film, book, 2021 calendar and art exhibitions

From 2020 onwards, art exhibitions in the USA and in Switzerland



Gerry Hofstetter
Light Artist
Est. 1962



HOFSTETTER
realizing visions



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Tour Producer

Gerry Hofstetter, globally working Light Artist, event designer and film producer
Hofstetter Marketing, Zumikon, Switzerland www.hofstetter-marketing.com
Mobile: +41 79 400 77 27 Email: g.hofstetter@hofstetter-marketing.com

Tour Co-Producer

Céline Hofstetter, Light Artist and daughter of Gerry Hofstetter.
Light Art communication, event design, film productions.
Hofstetter Inc., Hollywood, Los Angeles, USA www.hofstetter.la

Tour Event Planner

Jenny Tran and team with her premier management firm for extraordinary events like
Presidential inauguration and events of Washington's political and military communities.
Hayes Group LLC, Vienna, Virginia, USA www.hayespr.com

Contact and media: www.grandtour-usa.ch

Note: LIGHT ART GRAND TOUR USA is a complex Light Art tour and depends on various factors such as weather, traffic, technical conditions, time and many other unknown circumstances and elements. Dates, times and places of the planned Light Art projections may be changed by the producer of the tour at any time without prior notice. The producer shall not be held liable by the public and/or any other parties for the information and dates shown in the flyer and/or website of the tour: www.grandtour-usa.ch. The producer will make every effort to keep the website updated.



LIGHT ART GRAND TOUR USA
50 US Monuments in the spotlight
Exploring history and friendship

Culture Partner



Destination Partner



Art Partner



Supporter

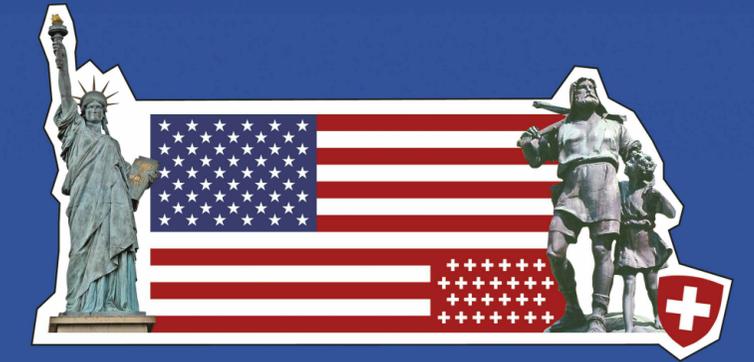
Owners of Rat Island in New York – Roland & Christina Veit and Alex Schibli,
Fire department of Küssnacht am Rigi



GRAND TOUR of Switzerland

www.MySwitzerland.com/grandtour

The remote mountains of Switzerland, where living conditions are highly unusual, protected and guaranteed the freedom of this region by making it difficult for foreign powers to control it for long periods. This enabled the population to develop its own traditions and forms of government. This situation also favoured the neutrality that has been in force since 1515 and which has also served neighboring countries by forming a safety zone between the European states. Discover the history and variety of this country with its cultural and touristic highlights on the Grand Tour of Switzerland. From palm-lined lakeshores to sparkling glaciers, from medieval villages to buzzing cities – the Grand Tour of Switzerland packs in an incredible number of sights on a road trip. The concentration of attractions is unrivalled worldwide.



LIGHT ART GRAND TOUR USA 50 US Monuments in the spotlight

Exploring history and friendship

by Light Artist Gerry Hofstetter

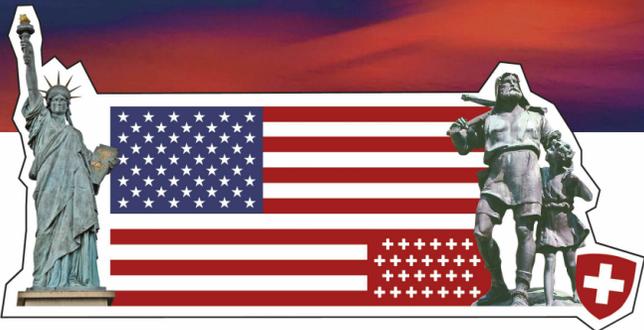


1st Tour – 2017

2017–2019 Grand Tour
2020 Art Exhibitions

www.grandtour-usa.ch

Golden Gate Bridge, San Francisco, USA
Opened 1937. Consulting engineer and
co-designer of this bridge was
Othmar Ammann from Switzerland.



TOUR 2017

LIGHT ART GRAND TOUR USA 50 US Monuments in the spotlight

Exploring history and friendship

50 US Monuments in the spotlight – one per state – exploring US history and the common roots of the United States of America and Switzerland.

The pioneering spirit of the LIGHT ART GRAND TOUR by Swiss Light Artist Gerry Hofstetter and his daughter Céline, remains a characteristic of American society today. The monuments featured in this extraordinary tour explore the history of particular locations. Each is an important piece in the jigsaw puzzle of the United States of America and its founding, and plays a role in fostering friendships with other countries, including tiny Switzerland. The USA and Switzerland share many common roots and political structures. Both are democracies with a federal system of government; the USA comprises 50 federal states and Switzerland has 26 states known as cantons. Both established their freedom and national independence by fighting off foreign forces, the USA on 4th July 1776 and Switzerland on 1st August 1291. Both are very internationally minded and their people live in peace.

The first year of the tour will focus on the first states to join the Union, followed in the second and third years by the remaining states, from East to West, along the route taken by the pioneers who rolled back America's frontiers. A Light Art performance will be organised for each selected monument or landmark. The fourth year will be devoted to the post-production of a film, book, 2021 calendar and art exhibitions. From 2020 onwards, art exhibitions will be presented in the USA and Switzerland.

The ultimate goal of our tour is to help citizens of the USA understand how both countries share the same core values of freedom, liberty and democracy. The tour's logo reflects this history.

Gerry Hofstetter, Céline Hofstetter & team,
and the participating monuments

01  **Pennsylvania**
Entered the Union as No. 2 on 12th December 1787

Monument: Washington Crossing at Washington Crossing
Light Art: 16th Sept 2017 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM
4th of July 1776, foundation of the USA. 25th December 1776, General George Washington crosses the Delaware River with a small army in boats and attacks the Hessian soldiers fighting for the British. Washington's victory was the „Turning point of the American Revolution“ and led to the independence of the new democratic nation, the USA.
www.washingtoncrossingpark.org
Link to Switzerland – 1st August, 1291, foundation of Switzerland, the world's first democracy. In 1307, William Tell, the liberator of Switzerland, a legendary figure, revolts against Gessler, a tyrannical reeve of the occupying Austrian forces. While being transported to prison in the village of Küssnacht am Rigi, on the other side of Lake Lucerne, the boat drifts close to the shore, and Tell is able to jump out and escape. He runs across country to find Gessler and kills him with a crossbow. This was the „Turning point of the Swiss Revolution“. Boats and the resolve of men and women to fight for liberty were central to the birth of democracy and independence in the USA and Switzerland. This is why the USA and Switzerland are also called Sister Republics.

02  **Maryland**
Entered the Union as No. 7 on 28th April 1788

Monument: Thomas Viaduct at Elkridge
Light Art: 18th Sept 2017 7:30 PM – 9:00 PM
The world's oldest multi-arched stone railroad bridge. It belongs to CSX Transportation.
Without trains, the USA would not have become a Union so quickly.
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thomas_Viaduct
Link to Switzerland – Mountain railroads and bridges are essential in a country measuring 220 miles by 136 miles with more than 7,000 valleys. Welcome to Switzerland, the land of spectacular mountain railroads.

03  **South Carolina**
Entered the Union as No. 8 on 23rd May 1788

Monument: USS Yorktown at Mount Pleasant, Patriots Point
Light Art: 21st Sept 2017 8:00 PM – 10:30 PM &
28th Sept 7:30 PM – 10:00 PM
A U.S. Navy aircraft carrier reflects the nation's strong resolve to defend democracy.
www.patriotspoint.org
Link to Switzerland – It was the U.S. Navy Lt. Don Walsh who navigated the research submarine „Trieste“ on 23rd January 1960 to the deepest point on earth – 35,813 feet down, on the floor of the Mariana Trench in the North Pacific Ocean. The second man on board was a Swiss oceanographer, Jacques Piccard, the creator of „Trieste“.

04  **Delaware**
Entered the Union as No. 1 on 7th December 1787

Monument: Winterthur Museum, Garden and Library at Winterthur
Light Art: 25th Sept 2017 8:00 PM – 10:00 PM
One of the most important collections of Americana in the USA – American decorative arts related to American history. **www.winterthur.org**
Link to Switzerland – Named for the Swiss city of Winterthur, the ancestral home of Jacques Antoine Bidermann, a son-in-law of Eleuthère Irénée du Pont, the founder of the du Pont family and fortune in the USA. Winterthur in Switzerland was one of the few places in the world that produced famous locomotives, also used during the settlement of the USA.

05  **Virginia**
Entered the Union as No. 10 on 25th June 1788

Monument: George Washington's Mount Vernon at Mount Vernon
Light Art: 27th Sept 2017 7:45 PM – 9:30 PM
One of the most iconic homes in America. The Estate of a Virginia gentleman, planter, leader, General and first President of the United Nation of America, George Washington. **www.mountvernon.org**
Link to Switzerland – Located in the middle of Europe, Switzerland was always in contact with foreign forces. It did not have a single leader like George Washington. Local leaders in different regions trained soldiers and achieved success in battle. They became wealthy and built estates, like George Washington. This is the reason why Switzerland has so many estates.

06  **North Carolina**
Entered the Union as No. 12 on 21st November 1789

Monument: Wright Brothers National Memorial at Kill Devil Hill
Light Art: 1st Oct 2017 8:00 PM – 9:30 PM
The world's first controlled powered airplane flight on 17th December 1903 by the Wright Brothers. **www.nps.gov/wrbr**
Link to Switzerland – First motorised flight in Switzerland was on 10th March 1910 in the Alps on the frozen lake of St. Moritz. The airplane was a Wright Flyer too.

07  **New Hampshire**
Entered the Union as No. 9 on 21st June 1788

Monument: The Mount Washington Hotel at Bretton Woods
Light Art: 4th Oct 2017 7:00 PM – 9:30 PM
7th July 1944, site of the foundation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF). The organisation and its 189 members contribute to the stability of the international financial and monetary system. This Omni resort is one of the last surviving grand hotels in the White Mountains. **www.brettonwoods.com**
Link to Switzerland – Switzerland is a member of the Executive Board and is celebrating 25 years of membership of the IMF in 2017. Switzerland was the first to open large mountain hotels. Cultivating this heritage, they welcome guests from all over the world.

08  **New Jersey**
Entered the Union as No. 3 on 18th December 1787

Monument: Einstein Collection of Historical Society of Princeton at Updike Farmstead
Light Art: 10th Oct 2017 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM
Albert Einstein was a theoretical physicist who discovered formulas and equations. Without his knowledge, we would not be able to travel in space or understand the Universe. He was a Swiss citizen and became an American citizen in 1940. He spent the last 20 years of his life in New Jersey. **www.princetonhistory.org**
Link to Switzerland – Albert Einstein studied in 1900 in Zurich at the Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) and in 1905 as a Ph.D. student at the University of Zurich. From 1902 to 1909 he worked at the Swiss Patent Office in Bern.

