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“Perfectly Flawless” Proteus™ on LumiNature at Philadelphia Zoo

4Wall and KB Associates help transform Philadelphia Zoo into magical holiday light attraction

Philadelphia Zoo did their part to spread holiday cheer this season with LumiNature, a massive new experiential holiday sound and light attraction that transformed the nation’s first zoo into a magical winter wonderland encompassing 12 captivating experience zones.

At the center of the event was a majestic multi-media spectacular called *Northern Lights* designed by award-winning lighting designer Ken Billington, using a 4Wall Entertainment-supplied lighting package that included Elation Professional’s robust IP65-rated Proteus luminaires.



The show, produced and directed by Jason Kantrowitz of Luminous Ventures Ltd, played 11 times a night, and starred a 35-foot tall polar bear sculpture named Polaris crafted from recycled car doors and hoods. Polaris, which also served as a giant projection surface for the eco-themed show, stood prominently overlooking a lake containing eight LED-illuminated icebergs made of recycled plastic and reclaimed wood.

Thirty-seven multi-functional Proteus Hybrid™ IP65-rated arc source moving heads were used for mid-air beam looks, as well as washes, with and without gobos, to light Polaris, the grove of trees surrounding the lake, floating icebergs and impressive air effects. “They were brilliantly bright, held up in snow and rain, and were perfectly flawless. Oh, how I wish I had had IP65 fixtures years ago,” exclaimed LD Billington, his first time using the Proteus series. “I was looking for an outdoor beam/wash/profile and the Proteus Hybrid seemed to be the perfect light. Lucky for me they were also in rental stock at 4Wall New York.”

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The goal was to use as much earth-friendly LED lighting and recycled elements as possible, says show producer Kantrowitz, who conceived the show together with Billington and their creative team. "It was exciting for us to create a show that could touch the hearts of thousands of guests each night, inspiring them to make a change to help protect the diversity of life on Planet Earth."

Northern Lights

Billington created the *Northern Lights* show with inspiration from the Aurora Borealis, a natural phenomenon that he has personally witnessed. "The Proteus Hybrid were a perfect fixture to bring the Aurora Borealis look to this show. Their bright columns of rich color shot up from the lake through the clouds," he said, adding that he also accessed the fixture's gobos, animation wheel and prism in the 30 minutes of show programming, including preshow, 8-minute main show, and post-show cueing.



The Proteus's IP65 engineering made them a very reliable choice for the wintery outdoor environment, Billington says. He comments, "I have been using automated lighting outdoors since the original Fantasmic! at Disneyland. The problem has always been the weather; domes are great, but they are large, unsightly and costly. The IP65 rating made this the perfect mover for us." Also used to create the enchanting atmospheres were a plethora of LED Par lights along with large-scale projections and a rich immersive audio system.

LumiNature, with its delightful blend of colorful displays and environmental theme, proved a hit with both kids and adults. It debuted November 20th and ran until January 5th.

Creative and Production Team:

Show Producer/Director: Jason Kantrowitz

Music Director: Ben Cohn

Lighting Designer: Ken Billington

Projection Designer: Christopher Ash

Sound Designer: Josh Liebert

Associate Lighting Designer/Programmer: Jackson Miller



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Assistant Lighting Designer: Mike Billings
Video Assistants: Sara Marinich, Michael Long
Production Electrician: Justin Petito
Master Electrician: Chad Lefebvre
Production Video: Travis Johnson
Production Audio: Scott Kuker
Creative Directors: Scott Gasparich, Desiree Lambert
Project Manager: Nick Heller
Production Coordinator: Amanda Lake-White
Sound & Projection Equipment provided by: Sound Associates

Photos: Christopher Ash

About Elation Professional

Based in California with facilities in Florida and Mexico City, as well as European offices in The Netherlands, Elation designs and manufactures a comprehensive range of innovative lighting and video products known for its superior performance, excellent efficiency, and outstanding price: value ratio, all backed by a hard-earned reputation for Total Support. Through nearly three decades of intelligent lighting development, our mission has always been simple: to provide best-in-class products and service while offering the best value: performance ratio in the industry, helping show designers and producers achieve their vision. From discharge to LED, intelligent to conventional, Elation products continue to be a part of the industry's most exciting projects across the globe and our list of references is always growing. We invite you to take a closer look at www.elationlighting.com

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