

# Basic Detail Report

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## Hesperidae

### Date

2019

### Primary Maker

MacMahon, Helen

### Medium

Immersive light installation; Music stands, lamp stands, acrylic discs, motors, spotlights, mirrored mylar, glass paint.

## Description

Hesperidae is an immersive light installation consisting of three separate devices creating a single projection. Each stand consists of three LED spotlights that are placed behind a painted acrylic Hesperidae is an immersive light installation developed for Lux – Light Art in Ireland, a survey of artists currently working with light curated by Davey Moor and held in Solstice Gallery in Navan. Hesperidae is a result of research into the phenomena of optical caustics ('folds' of light) and efforts to shape light as one would a physical material. I experimented with mirrored mylar (a thin, flexible mirrored plastic). The work is constructed to echo the behaviour of light reflecting off water but uses the modified surface of the mylar rather than the fluctuations of water surface to bend and shape the light projections. The resulting projection is reminiscent of phenomena like the setting sun or the aurora borealis. The title Hesperidae came from the guardians of the mythical Garden of Hesperida (the garden of the setting sun). The names of the nymphs referred to dazzling light, sunset glow and to the colours of the setting sun: red, yellow, and gold. The garden also contained a tree bearing golden apples promising immortality, guarded by a hundred headed hydra. It's writhing movements could be imagined in the weaving of light in the projection. Technical requirements – Power source for LED spotlights and motors (standard power socket) Exhibitions Lux – Light Art in Ireland, Solstice Gallery, Navan, Festival of Light 2019, Listowel, Co. Kerry. Hesperidae 1 <https://vimeo.com/385489480> Hesperidae 2 <https://vimeo.com/385487539> Hesperidae 3 <https://vimeo.com/467536382>

## Dimensions

Dimensions variable