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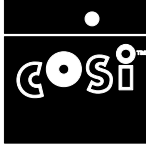
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**wexner center**  
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## **WEXNER CENTER AND COSI PRESENT *SUPERNOVA*<sup>3</sup>**

***DAZZLING HIGH-TECH EXHIBITION BY HIRO YAMAGATA FEATURES  
LASERS, LIGHTS, AND MIRRORS IN FUSION OF ART AND SCIENCE***

Columbus (Ohio)—The Wexner Center for the Arts and COSI Columbus collaborate for the first time to present ***Supernova*<sup>3</sup>**, a high-tech light exhibition by Hiro Yamagata. A total-immersion experience, this exhibition features a bedazzling display of ever-changing lights, lasers, and mirrored cubes. The exhibition, on view **May 3–September 1, 2003** at COSI, is a wholly original fusion of art and science, and an ideal fit for a creative exhibition partnership between the Wexner Center (a contemporary arts center) and COSI Columbus (a science center).

### **THE EXPERIENCE**

“I want my work to make you reconsider your own consciousness of time and space, dimension and depth,” Yamagata says. The continuing movement of light and color inside the installation produces an intense and compelling sensory experience. The exhibition includes hundreds of mirrored cubes, lit from within and suspended from the ceiling, ranging in size from 2-feet to 8-feet square. Some of the cubes have motion sensors that activate the cubes as visitors approach; by affecting the movement of the cubes, the viewer becomes part of the work. The motion of the cubes and the various surfaces and lights create constantly changing effects.

*The New York Times*, describing *NGC6093*, Yamagata's related installation at New York's Ace Gallery in 2001, wrote: "Merely observe the visitors as they exit: their knees are weak, their jaws below sea level, and requests to describe what they have just seen are often met with a stammer. . . . something along the lines of, 'Look, you've just got to see it.'"

## THE ARTIST

Born in Japan, trained as a painter at L'Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris, and now based in Los Angeles, Yamagata has captivated audiences around the world with major laser installations over the last several years. Architect Frank Gehry calls him "an artist for the new century" who has "commandeered the most advanced technologies available to the science of light." Recent exhibitions have included *Photon 999* at the Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, Spain, and *NGC6093* in New York. Yamagata's studio, which overlooks the Pacific Ocean, is a laboratory where he combines art and science to push the boundaries of art. This laboratory was conceived not only as a place to make art, but also as a center for scientific research. For more information, visit [www.hiroyamagata.com](http://www.hiroyamagata.com).

## RELATED PROGRAMS AND EVENTS

The following events will be offered in conjunction with this exhibition.

- A **Members Celebration** for the exhibition will be held Saturday, May 3 from 5 to 10 pm. Yamagata will give a talk as part of this evening, which is exclusively for Wexner Center and COSI Columbus members.
- Art historian **Sam Hunter** will give a lecture titled ***Hiro Yamagata's Artistic Odyssey, from his "Earthly Paradise" to his Visionary Laser Installations*** on Thursday, May 15 at 4:30 pm in the Wexner Center Film/Video Theater. Hunter is professor emeritus of art history at Princeton University and author of a forthcoming book on Yamagata. He will examine Yamagata's work, rooted in the Taoist traditions of the East and inspired by late-20th century and vanguard thought in various media, from the visual arts to "beat poetry" to cutting-edge architecture. This talk is open to the public, and admission is free.

- ***Light Spectacular! Family Day*** will be held Sunday, May 18 from noon to 4 pm at COSI. At this event, children and their families will be able to transform a space into a psychedelic and fun environment by experimenting with and creating many kinds of art—from dance and music to light wands and kaleidoscopes. Children will also be able to learn how it all works in a series of science projects related to light and color. Dancer Heather Mims and musician Brian Casey are among the activity leaders. Admission to the *Light Spectacular!* family activities is free; admission to *Supernova*<sup>3</sup> is free for Family Day participants. Admission is required for access to other COSI exhibits and films.
- An **extended exhibition discussion** of *Supernova*<sup>3</sup> is offered for youth, college, and adult groups **upon request**. These discussions, which can be scheduled Tuesday through Friday between 10 am and 5 pm and on Sundays at 1 pm, are free to Wexner Center and COSI members and free to nonmembers with COSI admission. To schedule an extended exhibition discussion, call the Wexner Center education department at 614 292-6493 or COSI Columbus at 614 228-COSI to make a reservation.

### **CALENDAR INFORMATION FOR SUPERNOVA<sup>3</sup>**

**Dates:** May 3–September 1, 2003

**Description:** A high-tech installation by internationally renowned artist Hiro Yamagata, featuring ever-changing, multi-colored displays of lights, lasers, and reflective surfaces. Organized and presented by the Wexner Center and COSI Columbus.

**Location:** COSI Columbus, 333 W. Broad St., downtown Columbus on the west side of the Scioto River. The exhibition is on view in Gallery 2 on the second level.

**COSI hours:** 10 am–5 pm Monday–Saturday; noon–6 pm Sunday. Closed July 3 and 4.

**Admission to *Supernova*<sup>3</sup>:** Free for Wexner Center members, COSI Columbus Members, and OSU students. (General admission prices apply to Wexner Center members and OSU students to visit the rest of COSI.) For the general public, COSI admission is required to see *Supernova*<sup>3</sup>: \$12 for adults, \$10 for senior citizens, \$7 for youth 2–12 years old, and free for children 23 months and younger.

**Parking:** \$4 per day.

**Public information:** Wexner Center, 614 292-3535 or COSI Columbus, 614 228-COSI.

**Media contacts:** Karen Simonian, Wexner Center, 614 292-9923 or [ksimonian@wexarts.org](mailto:ksimonian@wexarts.org); Toni Ross-Bloomfield, COSI Columbus, 614-629-3114 or [tross@mail.cosi.org](mailto:tross@mail.cosi.org).

### **EXHIBITION SUPPORT**

*Supernova*<sup>3</sup> is organized and presented by the **Wexner Center for the Arts** and **COSI Columbus**.

Major support is provided by **AT&T**.

Additional support is provided by the **Greater Columbus Arts Council** and the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**.

**WEXNER CENTER**

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service. The Wexner Center galleries are undergoing renovations; check the web site at [www.wexarts.org](http://www.wexarts.org) for updates on programs and locations.

**COSI COLUMBUS**

COSI Columbus is among the country's most innovative science centers. By providing science fun through hands-on discovery, COSI creates meaningful connections between the community and the value of science literacy. COSI is committed to the belief that science literacy will dramatically enhance the quality of our lives, today and tomorrow. COSI's 320,000 square foot building designed by Arata Isozaki features eight exhibition areas, three innovative theaters, an outdoor science park and this country's only high wire unicycle. For more on COSI, visit [www.cosi.org](http://www.cosi.org).

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