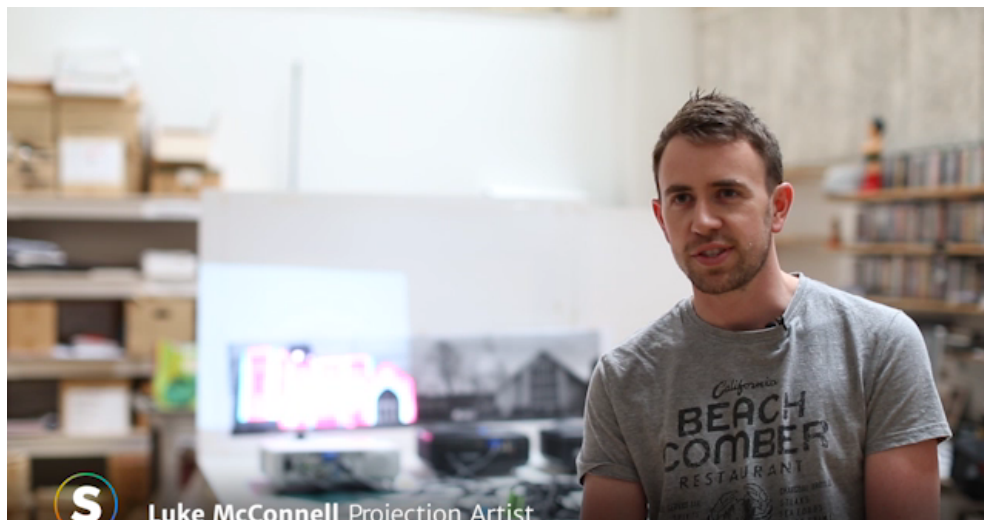


stuff

Christmas magic made with multicoloured light show on Hamilton's St Peter's Cathedral



Luke McConnell Projection Artist

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TOM LEE FAIRFAX MEDIA NZ

Projection artists Luke McConnell and Jordan Foster will project a multicoloured light show on to St Peter's Cathedral from Sunday to Tuesday.

Lights dash across the St Peter's Cathedral like a spell has just been cast.

But there are no wands, wizards or witches in sight.

The charm is in the hands of projection artists Luke McConnell and Jordan Foster.

TOM LEE/FAIRFAX NZ

Luke McConnell, right, and Jordan Foster have created a multicoloured light show that will be projected on to the clock tower, roof and walls of St Peter's Cathedral.

Multicoloured light will shoot on to the clock face, roof and walls of St Peter's Cathedral in the lead-up to Christmas and transform the Hamilton night skyline.

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After the sun goes down from Sunday to Tuesday until 11pm, the magic will begin.

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Luke McConnell, along with Jordan Foster, has been working on the project for about six months.

The project, called Solo, will tell a Christmas story of sorts.

"We were trying to create something that was Christmassy and about community but not ... Santa, presents, that kind of thing," McConnell said.

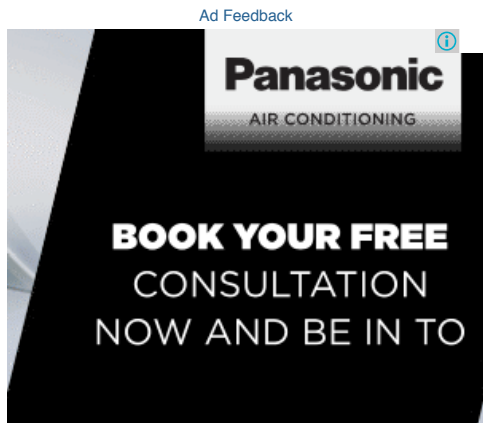
"Essentially it's a narrative. This person is wandering around on Christmas Eve in a little community, there's a whole lot of characters doing Christmas stuff and this character is trying to find someone to connect with."

TOM LEE/FAIRFAX NZ

The theme of the project is around people making connections at Christmas time.

Three powerful 5k projectors will be used to bring the light show to life.

The animation will interact with the forms of the building, with a particular focus on the clock



tower. It should be visible from quite a distance.

A small-scale model was created to test the alignment. McConnell and Foster had to measure the cathedral and create a two-dimensional digital version of the building before the animation work could begin.

Solo is a commissioned piece designed to complement the Victoria Street Christmas revellers taking in the sights of the Garden Place Christmas tree and the Trees at the Meteor art exhibition.

Dave White, originator of the projection idea, said he was keen to see the public's reaction.

"It's obviously going to be a cool night walk after Trees at the Meteor exhibition, but it's also just another really fabulous way to celebrate something innovative with families in the central city. It's a little bit of Melbourne in Hamilton and the hope is it will grow into an anticipated feature of the Christmas calendar."

Pedestrian viewers are welcome in the cathedral grounds in the south end Victoria Street.

The animation will run for about five minutes and will loop over the evening.

Organisers hope for further corporate and council sponsorship to create a longer light projection season in 2017.

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