

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIGHTS ON STRATFORD 2022/23 TO FEATURE MASSIVE INTERACTIVE LIGHT ART PIECE INSPIRED BY TIDAL POOLS

*'THE POOL' by internationally renowned artist Jen Lewin is coming to Stratford next winter*

**Stratford, Ontario, April 6, 2022** – Even though we're just entering spring, Lights On Stratford is focused on next winter and is excited to announce the first of several major light art installations.



*The Pool by artist Jen Lewin. Photo: Scott Wiseman*

THE POOL by artist Jen Lewin is a giant field of concentric circles that swirl with light when activated by touch. Inspired by Australian tidal pools, Lewin developed mesh-network technology and code to bring this experience around the world.

Visitors can activate any of the 100 large circular pads that respond to walking, dancing, jumping, or playing — encouraging participation in an ever-changing composition.

“We are absolutely thrilled to be featuring Jen Lewin’s stunning art at the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Lights On Stratford winter festival,” said Zac Gribble, Festival Director and Executive Director of Destination Stratford. “We’ve observed over the last 2 festivals the importance of merging the beauty of light together with interactivity, and Jen Lewin’s work does this brilliantly. THE POOL is comprised of 100 individual circles that collectively make a giant circle with a diameter of 40 feet that contains thousands of LED lights that intelligently interact with and react to visitors.”



*The Pool by artist Jen Lewin. Photo: JR East*

THE POOL has traveled to over sixty exhibition venues in more than twenty countries in the past thirteen years, including: Abu Dhabi, Beijing, Hong Kong, Istanbul, Jerusalem, Lisbon, Los Angeles, Mexico City, New York City, Prague, Shanghai, Sydney, and Taipei. And later this year, Stratford will be added to this prestigious list of destinations.

“As a cultural destination, Stratford continues to punch above its weight, including in the depths of winter. Even during pandemic restrictions, the most recent lights festival saw over 80,000 visitors across the main displays. We can’t wait to welcome the community and visitors to an even bigger experience next winter.”



**THE ARTS  
ARE WHAT  
WE ARE**

**STRATFORD  
ARTS**

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*The Pool by artist Jen Lewin. Photo: Alex Koch*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Lights On Stratford – with this year's theme of REKINDLE – is set to launch on December 16<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and runs through to January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023. Visit [lightsonstratford.ca](http://lightsonstratford.ca) for more details.

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For more information, please email [hello@visitstratford.ca](mailto:hello@visitstratford.ca).