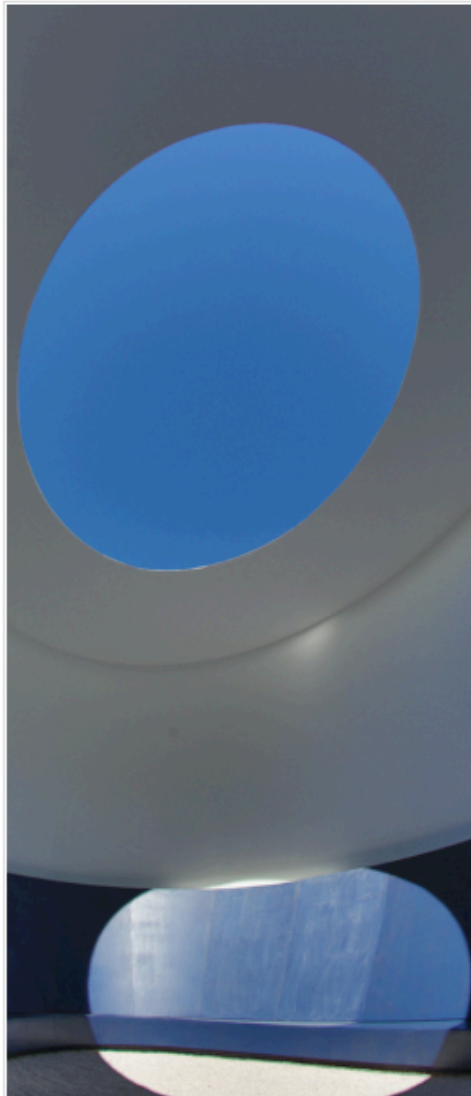


James Turrell Inspire the light

Venet Foundation



Monday, July 25, 2016

All Day

Location:

Venet Foundation
365 chemin du Moulin des Serres
Le Muy - France, 83490 Le M

Website Address: <http://www.venetfoundation.org/>

James Turrell

Inspire the light

July - October 2016

The Venet Foundation is featuring two works by the American artist James Turrell (*1943) as part of its summer exhibition.

The first work by James Turrell to be featured this summer at the Foundation is called *Elliptic, Ecliptic*, and belongs to a series of *skyspaces*, buildings (in this case egg-shaped) in which viewers are invited to take a seat and observe the sky through a narrow space freed of all visual pollution and illuminated by a device that the artist conceals in the structure. Like Yves Klein, who sought to paint the sky, Turrell sculpts it in space and color by tinting its surroundings. The concentration within a confining space of the color blue, which runs from the lightest at the start of the day to the darkest at night, brings out its intensity and the immensity of the infinite. Freed from all context, the sky is an abstract monochrome that the viewer contemplates, a monochrome defined by its outlines but whose depth is unknown, even unexplainable.

***Elliptic, Ecliptic* is a long-term installation at the Venet Foundation, like the Stella Chapel created by Frank Stella for the inauguration of the site in 2014.**

As in Marfa, Texas (home in particular to the Chinati and Judd foundations), **the Venet Foundation requires artwork to be displayed in ideal conditions.** Everything here - the natural setting, the architecture, the way the works are installed or hung - is in the service of the artists. Described by Georges Didi-Huberman as a temple, Turrell's *skyspace* stands in the Foundation's sculpture park opposite the Stella Chapel. It underscores the tropism of contemporary artists to elaborate monuments with sacred connotations and place themselves within a secular history the substance of which they retain while rewriting the codes.

Image above: James Turrell, *Elliptic, Ecliptic*, 1999 (c) Frédéric Chavaroche - Bernar Venet Archives