



A COLOURFUL BUSINESS

Lighting designers Kardorff Ingenieure Lichtplanung created a playful focal point for the refurbished foyer of Frankfurt's striking Trianon building.

The Trianon building sits in the heart of Frankfurt. Home to several financial institutions, the tower, with its unusual triangular footprint and inverted-pyramid crown, was completed in 1993, becoming an instant icon of the city's skyline. Twenty years later, the building's entrance has been given a fresh look with a lighting design by Kardorff Ingenieure Lichtplanung.

As part of the new scheme, Kardorff created an elegant focal point for the building's elevator lobby using dichroic glass panels and LED lighting technology.

Those who work at, or visit, the building enter through a two-storey glass entrance hall that juts from the base of the building. From here they pass through security gates and into a low-ceilinged, triangular space that houses the banks of elevators.

Into this lift lobby area, Kardorff introduced a custom chandelier piece that would provide uplifting scenes of light and colour. The circular piece is recessed into the ceiling and measures five metres in diameter.

The inner edge of its circle is lined with three different colours of dichroic glass, arranged in varying concentrations to create three coloured points of intensity within the frame. These are directed toward the main entrance of the building. Behind the glass sits a diffusing acrylic panel and three bands of LEDs to illuminate the piece.

Inside the main frame sit 51 smaller discs, each 60cm in diameter and featuring 24 built in LED points. The discs are individually dimmable, as is the dichroic glass lighting. All elements are controlled using DALI protocol. While the light sources themselves don't change colour, the use of dichroic glass creates different effects depending on the angle of view, producing a constantly shifting rainbow for those walking around the lift lobby.

Thanks to this unique piece, Kardorff have helped turn an otherwise dull and oppressive space into something light, colourful and playful.

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Designed by Kardorff Ingenieure Lichtplanung and installed by Interferenz Lichtsysteme, the new chandelier adds brightness and colour to an otherwise dull space.



All photography: Linus Lintner