



Red Blue
Light Painting
Patrick Rochon
Image: Courtesy
of the artist
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Longneck
Light Painting
Patrick Rochon
Image: Courtesy
of the artist
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Tomoe
Light Painting
Patrick Rochon
Image: Courtesy
of the artist
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Pink Red
Light Painting
Artist self-portrait.
Image: Courtesy of
Patrick Rochon.



Airwave 1



Airwave 2

LIGHT INTERVENTION

Light Painting - Patrick Rochon

WORDS: **DAVE VICKERS**

IMAGES: **COURTESY OF PATRICK ROCHON**

Bet you thought Patrick Rochon was a dab hand at Photoshop, "Knows his way around the filter palette," you said. Admittedly it's a smart assumption, but miles out - sorry. Patrick's medium is light years ahead of us all, and there simply is no digital sleight of hand up his sleeve. We are witnessing a truly scientific art form, the manipulation of light over time, movement and its subsequent effect on film media. With exposure settings that'd make Hubble fall off its trajectory, Rochon captures his subjects, lens agape, as they dance with flash and pen lights, and the result is this living breathing spectrum of shifting colours. Bringing this third dimension of movement into still photography is nothing new, we've all done it, by mistake usually - the blurry throwaway shot in a set of 36, the one with a rebuke sticker from the printers saying, "Either buy a tripod or take up painting or something"! But Rochon's exposures are technically accomplished, the deliberate choreography of light - and he remains the pioneering top brass in the obscure world of Light Painting. We have to admit that his work has a phototropic effect, and as our Think takes a nourishing tilt towards his still work this month, a number of famous corporate brands also feed off his remarkable imagery. It sets the perfect visual stimulus for advertising campaigns, and consumers lean in hungrily as a response. More recently Rochon has been using video as an expression, performing Light Painting live on giant screens and creating a totally unique visual experience. So photographer, choreographer or artist; we are not sure which best describes Patrick Rochon, but one thing is for sure - the purity in method he employs has enhanced his work way beyond the realms of any digital manipulation, and surely, in a world of computer intervention, that alone speaks for itself. ✦