

## Case story Royal Planetarium Eise Eisinga

### CLS fixtures used in UNESCO World Heritage in Franeker

The Royal Eise Eisinga Planetarium in Franeker, Friesland, was added to the prestigious World Heritage List of UNESCO this year. This is an excellent appreciation of the hard work for the Planetarium's team and obviously of great importance for the future and preservation of the museum. This makes it the 13th site that is acknowledged as World Heritage in the Netherlands on this list. Frisian wool manufacturer and amateur astronomer Eise Eisinga built this Planetarium, which is now the oldest working Planetarium on our planet.

The Planetarium consists of several visitor rooms, but the Planetarium Room is where it all 'revolves'. This room houses the model in which the sun, moon, earth and 5 planets known at the time were built. It took Eisinga seven years to do this, having spent many years precisely following the orbits of the planets. This model, which was built in the living room and bedroom at the time, has now been used for 242 years to explain how our solar system works.

Other permanent parts of the museum include Eisinga's former wool combing establishment, his daily occupation, and an extensive collection of historical astronomical instruments. Modern astronomy is also represented. The film room shows documentaries continuously. A permanent interactive exhibition 'De Ruimte' (Space) has also been on display since 2016. In addition, the museum regularly hosts interesting changing exhibitions on current topics concerning the Planetarium or astronomy in general.

In some visitor areas, the exhibition was redesigned. In the process, the lighting was immediately included and renewed. The exhibition designer approached Lichtpunt from Groningen for this, based on previous positive experiences, giving them all the freedom they needed to create a suitable lighting plan for the various rooms and showcases.

The Planetarium already had LED track spots of another brand, but when replacing them, the choice fell on CLS, because of the better light quality, the fixtures have a high CRI and a uniform light beam, and flexibility of the fixtures, says Leon van Warmerdam. To perfectly illuminate all elements, the CLS Jade Zoom on the rails was chosen, among others. The museum already had CLS Focus fixtures and has now supplemented them with CLS Focus Micro and CLS Focus GIII fixtures.

Basically, replacing the lighting here was pretty straightforward, but coordinating with the other disciplines always remains a challenge. Leon: 'The date of the opening is fixed long in advance. The lighting infrastructure has to be put in place before or during the structural work, while installing the fixtures can only be done when the exhibition builders and painters are completely finished. Only when all the objects are in place - not to mention all the text signs! - can we light the exhibition and dot the i's and cross the t's.'

The lighting plan was created by Lichtpunt employee Folkert Rinkema in close collaboration with the designer of the exhibitions. Within the set budget, CLS fixtures could be used for everything, with the highest quality. With the pallet of CLS fixtures, the desired result could be created for the general lighting, as well as for the light in

the showcases and to light on the collection on the walls, indicated Lichtpunt. The dimmers on board each fixture also allowed the lighting designer to perfectly match the lighting to the exhibition. 'At every position, the desired intensity and mutual balance could be realized. Part of the collection has a (maximum) 50lux regime; this requirement can also be met safely.'

Lichtpunt is satisfied with the final result, 'The enthusiasm of the staff always produces a more beautiful end result, satisfying everyone who likes this historical place.' The Royal Planetarium Eise Eisinga is small museum, but still, it belongs already for a while to the Dutch canon, which is a list of historic places and events that everyone should know. Many enthusiastic and committed (largely volunteer) people are working for the planetarium. Their commitment to this piece of history has been rewarded after a 20-year journey by being added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage. Now it is considered and unique and irreplaceable heritage, where young and old can learn about the workings of our solar system.

On behalf of CLS, we would like to congratulate the staff of the planetarium on their place in the UNESCO World Heritage and wish them much pleasure in guiding visitors around the beautifully lit halls.

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