

LUTHER 1517

FAITH, KNOWLEDGE, SELF-DETERMINATION

Yadegar Asisi's panorama LUTHER 1517 recalls the events that took place in Wittenberg 500 years ago, when the monk and scholar Martin Luther published his 95 Theses on the reform of the Catholic church, bringing about a dramatic upheaval in the history of world religions, the effects of which are still being felt today.

Wittenberg was, at the time, the town of Philipp Melanchthons, of Lucas Cranach the Elder and the Younger, of Katharina von Bora, of Martin Luther and of the Elector of Saxony, Frederick the Wise – all of whom the panorama brings vividly to life. It is highly evocative of that time on the cusp between the Middle Ages and the modern era, between individualism and social provision, between feudal pomp and scholarly asceticism and the worries and pleasures of 'ordinary people'.

Yadegar Asisi intertwines key moments from history and everyday life over a period of around 30 years. He interpolates space and time to create an atmospheric overview of the era across a 15 x 75 m surface. Visitors behold the scene from a central viewing platform in Renaissance Wittenberg's castle square.

Eric Babak's accompanying religious-style music, coupled with recorded commentaries and alternating visual effects, complete the experience.

The unique feature of the LUTHER 1517 project is that this panoramic work was created by Yadegar Asisi as part of world events to commemorate 500 years since the Reformation. By stepping into the painting, visitors not only gain the opportunity to see world at the time of the Reformation, they get to know more about it and discover its essence, its fractures and its splits, right where it all began. On show in its own specially designed space, this true highlight of Luther 2017 and the Reformation Summer draws interested parties from all over the world under its spell.

LUTHER 1517 has been on show in Lutherstadt Wittenberg since 2016.