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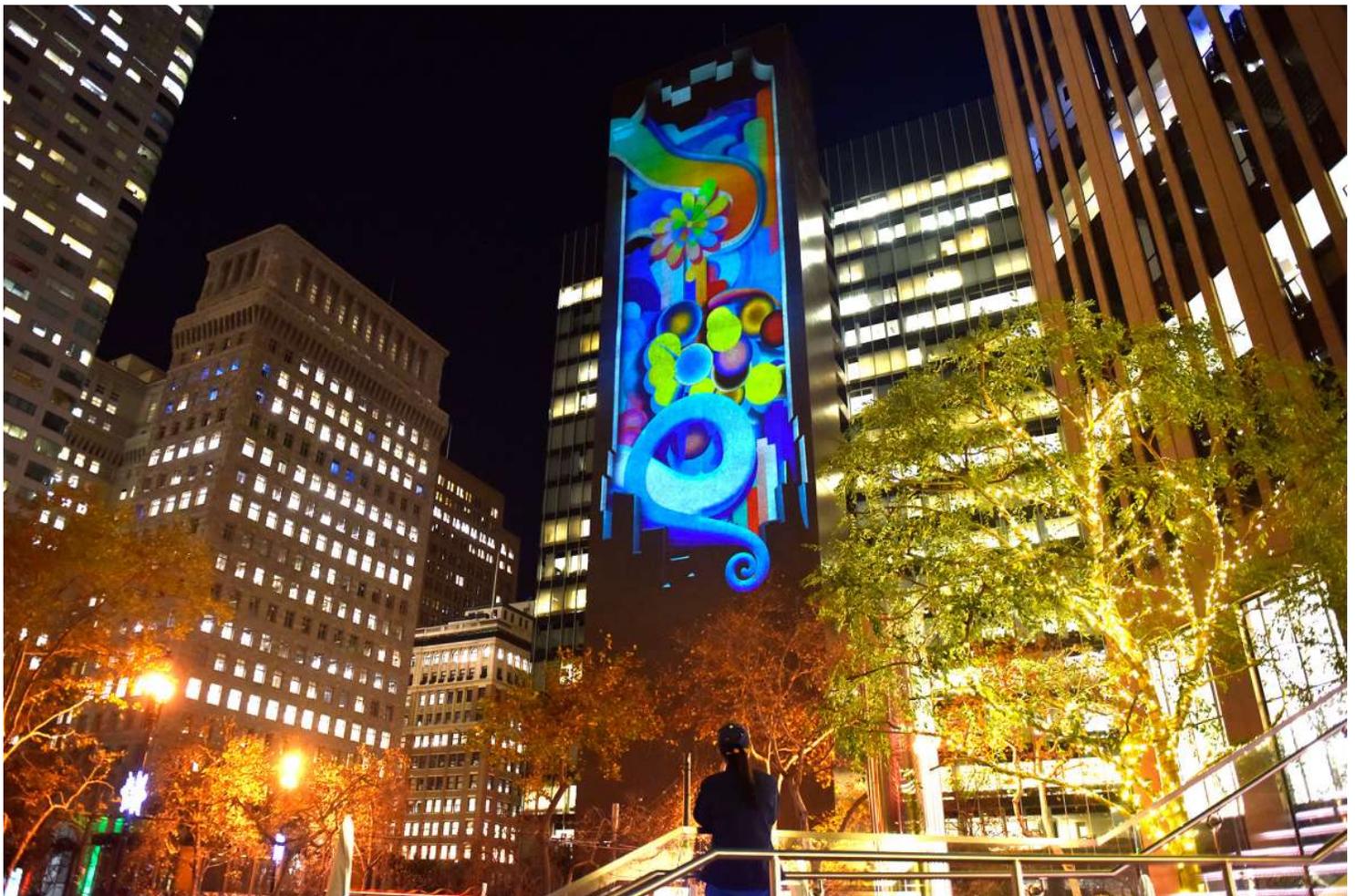
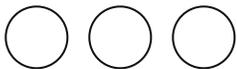
Culture

# Trippy light show illuminates buildings all over downtown San Francisco



Dan Gentile, SFGATE

Updated: Dec. 8, 2021 4:54 p.m.



Light projections adorn One Bush Plaza as part of the Let's Glow SF art installation, on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Charles Russo/SFGATE

If you happened to wander through the Financial District after dark the past few nights, you were in for quite a show.

Polar bears wandered across the top of the Pacific Stock Exchange building, the Hyatt Regency transformed into a Christmas-themed rocket ship and there was a wrestling match between two polygon characters on the windows of 345 Montgomery.



Spectators take in the light show produced by Let's Glow SF on the Pacific Coast Stock Exchange building in San Francisco, CA, on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Charles Russo/SFGATE

Each of these looping five-minute videos was part of a public art event called "Let's Glow SF" hosted by the non-profit Downtown Community Benefit District, which

has dubbed the program "the largest holiday projection mapping event in the U.S." At four locations across the area (the above three, plus One Bush Plaza), gigantic projectors have been installed to beam vivid animations onto buildings, timed with custom soundtracks blasting out from PA speakers.

Although each animation has its strengths, the projections at the Pacific Stock Exchange by a French collective called Spectre-Lab were the standout. They masterfully incorporated the exterior columns into the design and shifted effortlessly from an icy holiday landscape with orchestral music to a more upbeat dayglo design with a thumping electronic music soundtrack.

The programming runs nightly from 5:30 p.m. through 10 p.m. until December 12. Guides are stationed at each spot, and there is seating available at the 345 Montgomery building.



A projection of a polar bear and its cubs is displayed on the Pacific Coast Stock Exchange building as part of the Let's Glow SF art installation, on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

Charles Russo/SFGATE

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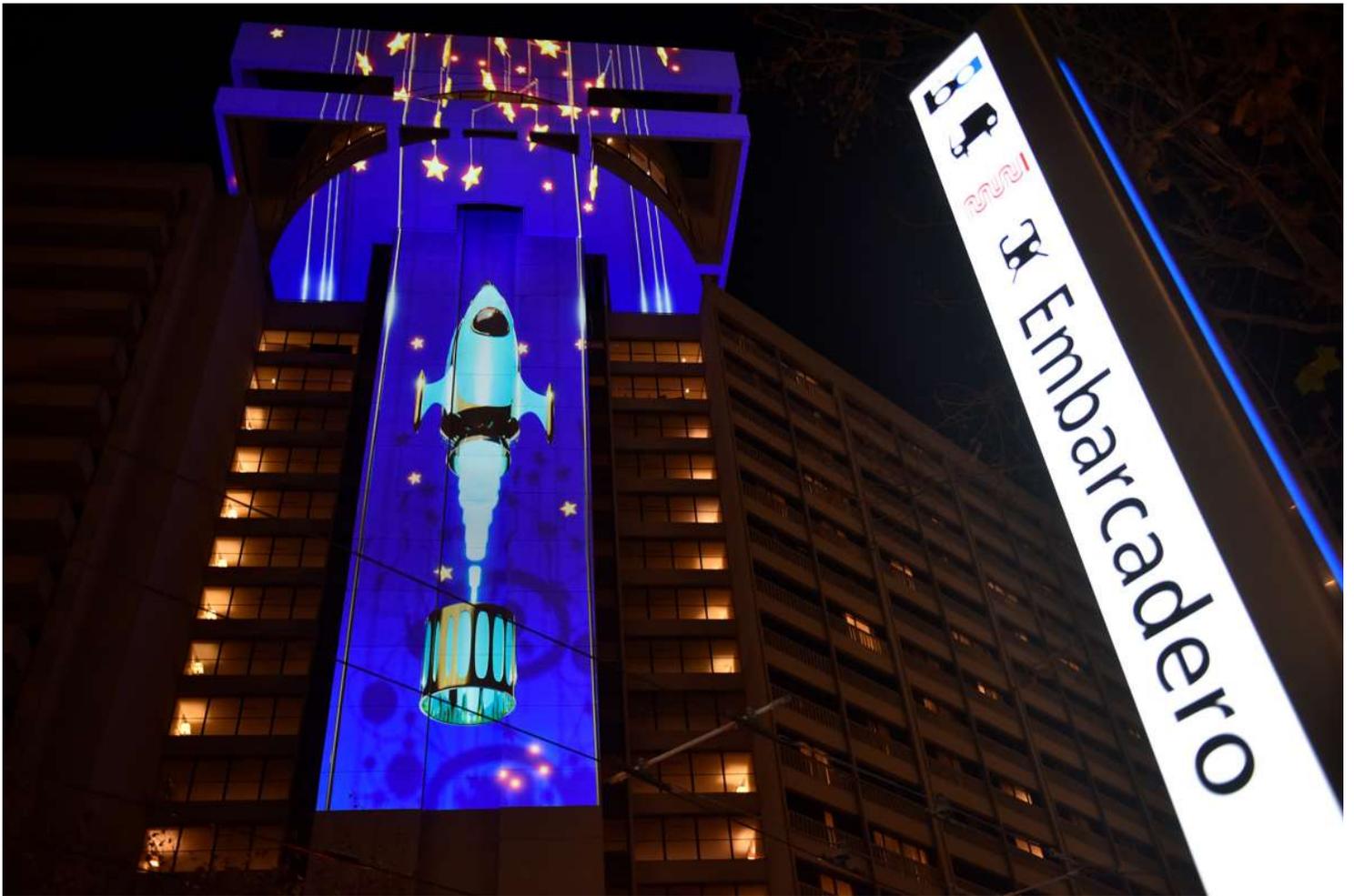
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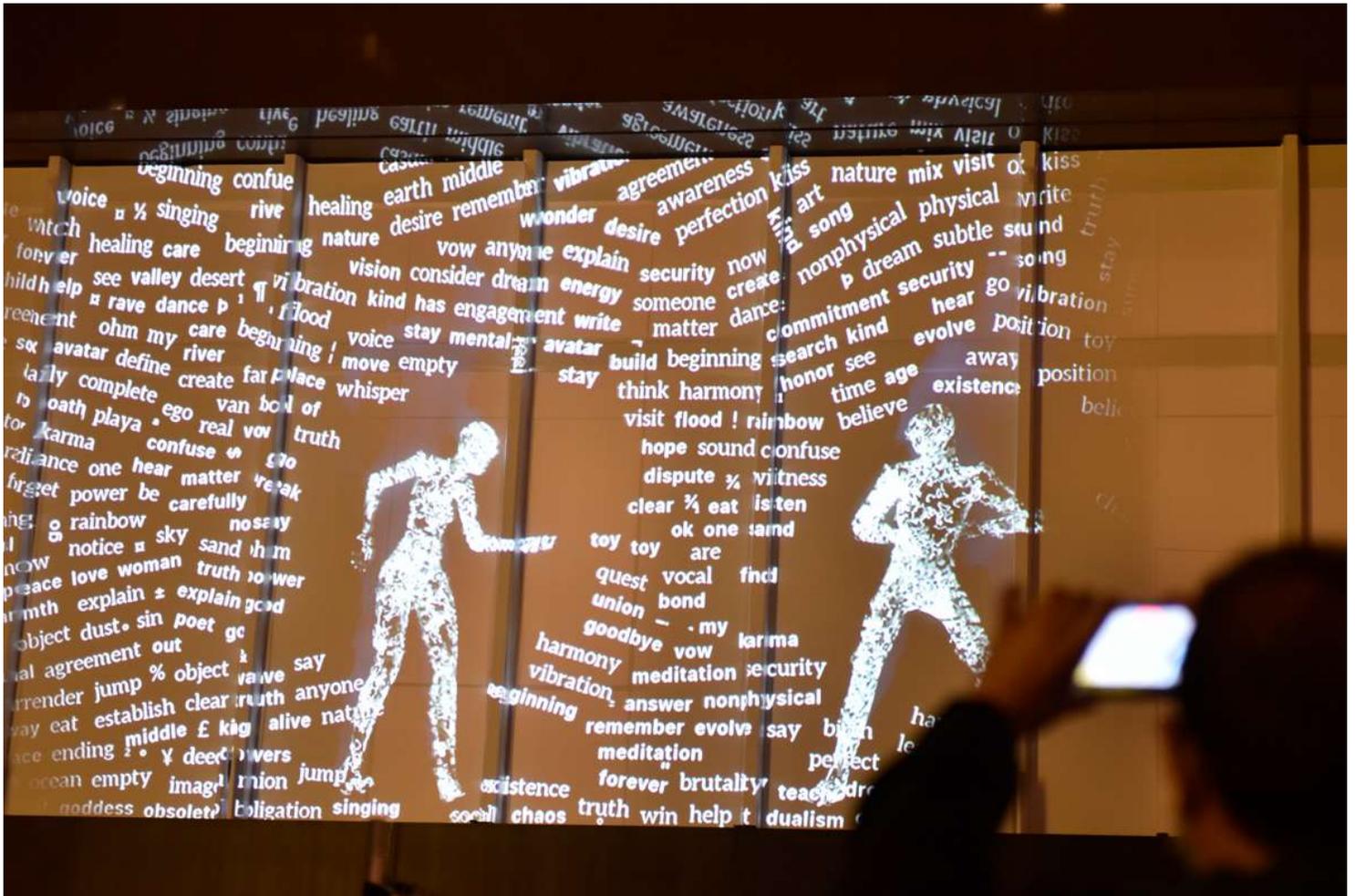
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Light projections are displayed on the Hyatt Regency building as part of Let's Glow SF, on Tuesday, Dec. 8.  
Charles Russo/SFGATE



Spectators view the Let's Glow SF art installation at 345 Montgomery St., on Tuesday, Dec. 8.  
Charles Russo/SFGATE



A spectator records the Let's Glow SF art installation at 345 Montgomery St., on Tuesday, Dec. 8. Charles Russo/SFGATE



Light displays are projected onto the Pacific Coast Stock Exchange building as part of the Let's Glow SF art installation, in San Francisco, CA, on Tuesday, Dec. 8.

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Written By  
**Dan Gentile**

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Dan Gentile is the culture editor at SFGATE. He moved to San Francisco from Austin, TX where he worked as a vinyl DJ and freelance writer covering food and music. His writing has been featured in Texas Monthly, American Way, Rolling Stone, Roads & Kingdoms, VICE, Thrillist and more.

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