

BEST OF HOUSTON®

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT 2016

Christian Eckart's "Cloud Room Field" at William P. Hobby Airport

BEST PUBLIC ART

Just as mother of pearl seems to change color when viewed at different angles, the iridescent grids of "Cloud Room Field" twinkle and change with movement and light. Commissioned by the Houston Airport System through Houston Arts Alliance, the ten-foot by 60-foot dichroic glass, aluminum and stainless steel sculpture graces the atrium near the main departures entrance at William P. Hobby Airport. Christian Eckart has produced similar but smaller pieces before, but this super-sized installation with 600 panes of glass at varying 45-degree angles, using nine pastel colors, is the big kahuna. The properties of the glass reveal different colors in transmission and reflection, producing tertiary colors as the sun rises and sets. The final piece is dreamier than its original saturated mockups, adding just the right amount of cool to calm even the most harried traveler.