

David Kinney

Oculus

2010 – 2019

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Oculus: Various locations. 2010-

Inspired by the oculus in the Pantheon in Rome (AD 126), this series of short movies explore the small glimpses of the sky afforded from either inside structures through glazed or open apertures, or as a result of environmental factors.

The Pantheon oculus looks small from the ground, but it is 27ft across and the source of all light in the building. Every year, the rays of the sun at the summer equinox shines from the oculus through the main portico.

Lady Octavia Hill (the founder of the National Trust) was born in 1838. She was a key social reformer and friend of John Ruskin. A true philanthropist and radical reformer, she bought slum housing in London and let it out for affordable rents and developing a co-operative enterprise designed to empower women by giving them economic independence.

She was instrumental in protecting green and open spaces like Hampstead Heath. The right to have access to the open sky was central to her philosophy and is represented in the external aspects of this project.



Oculus #5: Les Halles Metro Station, Paris. [Click on image to view on YouTube](#)



Oculus #3: Museu de Belles Artes, Valencia



Oculus #2: Royal William Yard, Plymouth, UK.



Oculus #9: Mid Levels [2], Hong Kong.



Oculus #6: The Mall at the IFC, Hong Kong.



Oculus #7 SoHo, Hong Kong.

