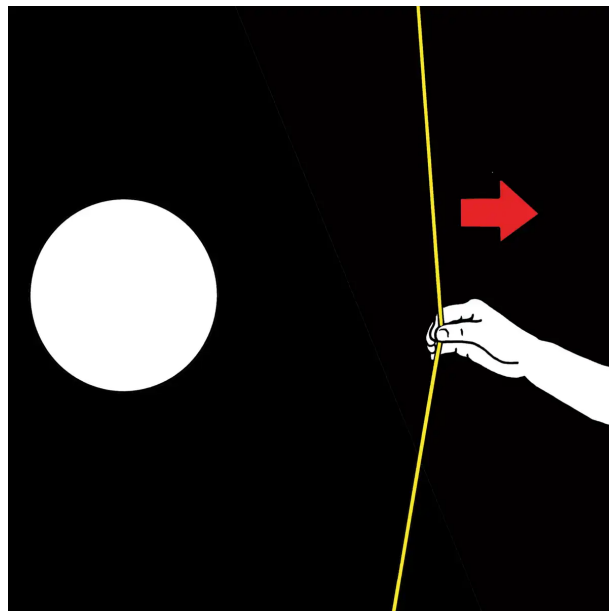


Stripes From Nothing At All

Is the light really white?



Pluck the rubber cord and watch it vibrate.

What changes if you change the tension in the cord, making it tighter or slacker while vibrating?

The white light shining onto the elastic cord is only apparently white: it is in fact orange, green, blue and violet lights which illuminate the cord in rapid succession. Our eyes react much too slowly to see the individual flashes – the colours mix to give the appearance of white light.

If, however, the cord vibrates at a frequency similar to the repetition rate of the light sequence, the light mixture gets separated out, the cord showing up as stripes in the individual colours.

Rivelatore Cromocinetico is the original name of this installation by the Italian artist, physicist and engineer, Piero Fogliati (born 1930). In his work, he plays on the themes of human perception and the basic laws of Nature.