Artist dedicates ‘Global Rainbow’ project to areas hard hit by Sandy

BY CHRISTINE ROBERTS

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It’s been nearly a month since Hurricane Sandy enshrouded parts of the city in darkness. Now, a visual artist is giving New York a little more light.

Yvette Mattern has launched a three-day installation, illuminating the sky with a large-scale laser rainbow, to honor the areas ravaged by the deadly storm.

“I consider New York my home,” Mattern, who splits her time between the Big Apple and Berlin, told the Daily News. “I was just devastated when I saw the images.”

Since Tuesday, the Meatpacking District’s Standard Hotel has beamed the seven colorful lasers towards Brooklyn and Queens, in the direction of the hard-hit Rockaways.

“It’s a very symbolic, and a very specific trajectory,” Mattern explained of her project, titled ‘Global Rainbow, After the Storm,’ which was presented by the non-profit Art Production Fund.

‘Global Rainbow’ has lit up the sky many times before. It kicked off the London 2012 Cultural Olympiad in England and Northern Ireland this summer.

Mattern said she first got the idea for the artwork in 2007 when she saw a rainbow hover over Walden Pond in Concord, Mass., on New Year’s Day.

The New York presentation, made possible by an equipment donation from Lightwave International, hopes to boost donations to Waves for Water and New York Foundation for the Arts, organizations that provide support to Sandy victims.

Mattern said she hopes her installation will inspire “a sense of peace.”

“The work itself is very quiet, ethereal and ephemeral,” Mattern said. “I very much dedicate it to people who have suffered greatly; who have lost homes and lost loved ones.”

The spectacular display can be seen from 8 p.m. to 2 a.m. and will end Thursday.