



PICTURE WINDOW

The Blinkenlights project (www.blinkenlights.de) transformed Das Haus des Lehrers, a nondescript office building in Berlin, into the world's largest interactive computer display. The monochrome matrix of 18 x 8 pixels consisted of 144 networked lamps, one in each window, controlled by a server. At night, onlookers could marvel at a constantly changing array of animations and patterns, like this camel. And any Berliner with a cell phone could dial into the network to submit text messages. Created by the hacker collective known as the Chaos Computer Club to celebrate its 20th anniversary, Blinkenlights shut down in late February, but its creators are planning a similar, permanent installation at an undisclosed location in Europe this fall. — *Charlie Amter*