



The Foundation of the Montréal Science Centre presents

Gunther von Hagens'

BODY WORLDS 2

The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies

A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT LOOK AT THE WORKINGS OF THE HUMAN BODY

Montréal, October 30, 2006 — Gunther von Hagens' **BODY WORLDS 2**, the world-renowned anatomical exhibition, will be in Montréal from May 10 to September 16, 2007, exclusively at the Montréal Science Centre. Visitors will have a chance to appreciate all the elegance and complexity of real human bodies, preserved using a revolutionary process called *Plastination*.

BODY WORLDS has already earned public and critical acclaim in 35 cities throughout Europe, Asia and North America, and has been viewed by over 20 million people worldwide. Where Canada is concerned, this fascinating exhibition is now in Vancouver (**BODY WORLDS 3**) and has been to Toronto, where 472,000 visitors, including 73,000 elementary and high school students, were able to appreciate it.

What is **BODY WORLDS 2**?

Created by German doctor and anatomist Dr. Gunther von Hagens, **BODY WORLDS 2** is a display of over 200 authentic human body specimens, including numerous organs and some 20 whole bodies. This unique and authentic anatomical exhibition provides a new perspective on the marvels of the human body. Visitors can get a better understanding of different body functions, from locomotion to digestion, compare healthy organs to diseased ones (for instance, healthy lungs and a smoker's lungs) and even observe the different stages of embryonic development.

According to Benoît Légaré, Vice-President of the Montréal Science Centre, "the rich educational content of the **BODY WORLDS 2** exhibition is directly linked to our mission. It is an exceptional opportunity for our visitors to learn about anatomy and health. The human body's marvellous architecture is usually hidden to us, but this exhibition lets us not only see it and understand it, but appreciate it all the more. Furthermore, this knowledge is disseminated in a spirit of great respect towards the human body."

BODY WORLDS 2 gives visitors the type of access to human bodies that, in the past, was restricted to medical students and health professionals. Some 20 whole-body plastinates are exhibited in dynamic and athletic poses, making it possible to examine the various systems and understand how they interact with one another.

A revolutionary technique: Plastination

The specimens on display have all undergone Plastination, a revolutionary preservation method invented by Dr. von Hagens in 1977. Plastination is the process of extracting all bodily fluids and soluble fat from specimens, replacing them through vacuum forced impregnation with reactive resins and elastomers, and then curing them with light, heat, or certain gases, which give the specimens rigidity and permanence. Because of Plastination, specimens can be displayed in lifelike poses, seemingly in action or performing certain sports moves.

A concerted and ethical approach

BODY WORLDS 2 is the only anatomical exhibition that relies on the generosity of donors, people who expressly willed their bodies to be used for educational purposes. Apart from a small number of acquisitions from anatomical collections and anatomy programs, all the exhibited specimens were obtained through a body donation program started in 1983 by Dr. von Hagens. The program is now managed by the Institute for Plastination, founded in 1993 in Heidelberg, Germany.

The Foundation of the Montréal Science Centre is presenting this exhibition because it is in keeping with the Centre's mission, that is, to ensure that everyone is provided access to science and technology to help them build their future.

Before the North American premiere of **BODY WORLDS**, an independent ethics review was conducted by a distinguished committee of theologians, ethicists, academics and medical luminaries. For its presentation in Montréal, the Montréal Science Centre is working closely with a scientific committee of experts in the fields of anatomy, medicine, bioethics and education.

To all visitors

BODY WORLDS 2 - STARTING MAY 10, 2007

Visitors may buy their tickets in advance. Tickets for the exhibition are for specific times, so visitors should choose the date and time of their visit before purchasing their tickets.

By phone at 514-496-4724/1 877 496-4724, with a credit card handy, during the hours of operation of the telephone reservation service. A reservation charge of \$2 per ticket applies for the **BODY WORLDS 2** exhibition. Visitors who purchase their tickets by phone must pick them up at the Montréal Science Centre ticket counter on the day of their visit.

In person, at the Montréal Science Centre ticket counter, during the Centre's hours of operation.

Admission to the **BODY WORLDS 2** exhibition, which includes admission to the Montréal Science Centre's permanent exhibitions, is \$25 for adults, \$22 for teenagers (ages 13 to 17) and seniors (age 60+), and \$14.50 for children (ages 4 to 12). Visitors may also rent a **BODY WORLDS 2** audio guide at the entrance to the exhibition. Rentals are \$4 for adults and \$3 for children and seniors.

Extended hours. During the exhibition, the Montréal Science Centre will be open from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., from Monday to Sunday.

Note: This exhibition is recommended for children aged 10 and over. Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.

The Montréal Science Centre opened on May 1, 2000, and is now one of Canada's major cultural institutions. As part of the **Quebec Tourism Awards**, the Centre earned the **Best Tourist Attraction** award in 2001 for its innovative features and the quality of its infrastructures. In 2005 and 2006, the Centre also won the **Award of Excellence**, given by the **Société des musées québécois** (Quebec Museum Society), for its *Autopsy of a Murder* and *X-treme Rotation* exhibitions. Since the Centre first opened, over 2 million visitors have enjoyed its activities and high-quality educational programming, designed to interest young people in science and technology careers.

The Montréal Science Centre wishes to thank Pfizer and Hydro-Québec, its key sponsors.

Information:

514-496-4724 • 1 877 496-4724 • www.montrealsciencecentre.com
www.bodyworlds.com

NOTICE TO THE MEDIA:

Images from the *BODY WORLDS 2* exhibition are available at www.bodyworlds.com/en/media/picture_database.html
To get a B-roll, please visit the Media section of the *BODY WORLDS 2* page on our Website, www.montrealsciencecentre.com, fill out the request form, sign it and fax it to Nathalie Juteau at 514-496-1617.

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