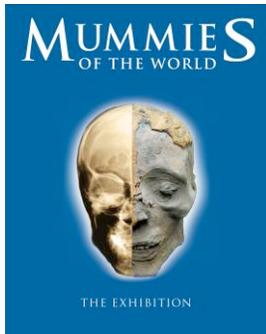


MUMMIES OF THE WORLD

MUMMIES OF THE WORLD EXHIBITION MAKES MIDWEST PREMIERE IN MILWAUKEE DECEMBER 17, 2010

American Exhibitions, Inc. Brings the Largest-Ever Exhibition of Mummies to the Milwaukee Public Museum for a Limited Engagement



Milwaukee, December 17, 2010 — A 6,420-year-old child mummy from Peru, one the oldest child mummies ever discovered, joins an astonishing collection of mummies and related artifacts in the extraordinary exhibition *Mummies of the World*, which will make its Midwest premiere at the Milwaukee Public Museum on December 17, 2010.

Mummies of the World is the largest exhibition of mummies and related artifacts ever assembled, featuring an astounding collection of 150 artifacts and real human and animal specimens from South America, Europe, Asia, Oceania and Egypt. Showcasing state-of-the-art science tools and techniques, this groundbreaking exhibition bridges the gap between past and present, showing how science can shed light on the historical and cultural record around the world. It also demonstrates that mummification – both through natural processes and intentional practices – has taken place all over the globe, from the hot desert sands of South America to remote European moors and bogs.

The treasures presented in *Mummies of the World* include one of the oldest mummy infants ever discovered; a mummified family; a German nobleman discovered in a family crypt; and Egyptian animal mummies, intentionally preserved to accompany royals for eternity.

- **The Detmold Child** is a Peruvian child mummy in a remarkable state of preservation, radiocarbon dated to 4504–4457 B.C. – about 3,000 years before the birth of King Tut. A recent CT scan investigation reveals details about the child's age, health and cause of death. It is on loan from the Lippisches Landesmuseum in Detmold, Germany.
- **The Orlovits Family** was part of a group of 18th-century mummies discovered in a longforgotten church crypt in Vác, Hungary in 1994. Michael and Veronica Orlovits and their son Johannes were among those preserved by the cool, dry air and oil from the pine boards used to build their coffins. Extensive research including DNA analysis offers answers about their conditions and cause of death. They are on loan from the Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest.
- **Baron von Holz** is a 17th-century nobleman believed to have died in or near Sommersdorf, Germany during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). He was discovered in the family crypt of the von Crailsheim family's late 14th-century castle, still wearing his boots. CT scans revealed clues about his anatomy, age, and approximate date of birth and death. **Baroness Schenck von Geiern**, a von Crailsheim ancestor, also was found in the family crypt. Loaned by Dr. Manfred Baron von Crailsheim, Sommersdorf.

• **Egyptian animal mummies** in this exhibition include an **Egyptian cat mummy** that is elaborately wrapped in painted linen bandaging, holding fascinating clues to life and death in ancient Egypt. The Egyptian cat mummies in this exhibition date to the Ptolemaic period, and show how Egyptian cats were sometimes intentionally embalmed in a lengthy process using salt and various resins. These mummies are on loan from various museums in Germany.

“Mummies of the World offers an incredible opportunity to explore the lives and cultures of people from around the world,” says Marc Corwin, president of American Exhibitions, Inc. “Human beings have a powerful desire to learn about our past and to identify with our common history. Using technology and the tools of modern forensic science to study these rare treasures adds an even more exciting layer of discovery.”

The concept began with the German Mummy Project’s re-discovery of 20 specimens within the Reiss-Engelhorn Museums of Mannheim, Germany in 2004. A consortium of mummy researchers used DNA analysis, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), computer tomography (CT), radiocarbon dating and mass spectrometry to learn more, and engaged the cooperation of 21 world-renowned museums, organizations and collections in seven countries to make this innovative exhibition possible.

As a result, *Mummies of the World* is a fascinating mix of old and new, including engaging interactive multimedia exhibits that illustrate how current science tools enable us to study mummies in new and non-invasive ways, allowing unprecedented insights to past cultures and civilizations.

“Mummies of the World is being touted as a “must-see,” and we’re proud to be the first Midwestern venue to host this extraordinary exhibition,” said Museum President and CEO Jay Williams. “In fact, we’ll be only the second venue to host Mummies of the World ever, which is a great testament to the reputation of the Milwaukee Public Museum, and to the growing reputation of our city as a cultural center.”

The exhibition was prepared in accordance with all recommendations of the International Council of Museums’ (ICOM) code of ethics. The participating organizations include: Ägyptisches Museum, Bonn, Germany; Archäologisches Landesmuseum, Schleswig, Germany; The Deutsches Museum, Munich, Germany; The Drents Museum, Assen, Netherlands; Geologisch-Palaeontologisches Institut und Museum, Münster, Germany; Hungarian Natural History Museum, Budapest, Hungary; Institute for Egyptology, Ruprecht-Karls University, Heidelberg, Germany; Lippisches Landesmuseum, Detmold, Germany; Musées Jurassien, Delémont, Switzerland; The Naturhistorisches Museum, Basel, Switzerland; Naturhistorisches Museum, Nürnberg, Germany; Naturkundemuseum, Bozen, Italy; Naturkundemuseum, Kassel, Germany; Philipps-Universität Marburg, Marburg, Germany; Reiss-Engelhorn Museums, Mannheim, Germany; Staatliches Naturhistorisches Museum, Braunschweig, Germany; Senckenberg Museum, Frankfurt, Germany; Merck KGaA, Darmstadt, Germany; and the private collections of Mr. Thomas Kuppels, Bremen, Germany; Eve-Maria Zimmermann, Teneriffa, San Miguel de Abona; and Dr. Manfred Baron von Crailsheim, Sommersdorf Castle, Ansbach, Germany.

More information about the exhibition is available online: www.mummiesoftheworld.com.

To enhance the guest experience during the run of *Mummies of the World*, the Milwaukee Public Museum will be featuring the IMAX film *Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs*, and the Planetarium show *Stars of the Pharaohs*.

Combo tickets for this film and *Mummies of the World* will be available.

The **Milwaukee Public Museum** is a natural and human history museum located in downtown Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The museum was chartered in 1882 and opened to the public in 1884. MPM has three floors of exhibits that encompass life-size dioramas, walk-through villages, world cultures, dinosaurs, a rain forest and a live butterfly garden, as well as the Humphrey IMAX Dome Theater and the Daniel M. Soref Planetarium. The museum houses more than 4.5 million objects and hosts nearly half a million visitors each year.

The MPM is operated by Milwaukee Public Museum, Inc., a private, non-profit company, and its facilities and collections are held in trust and supported by Milwaukee County for the benefit of the public. The MPM is located at 800 W. Wells St. Admission, hours and event details on the web at www.mpm.edu.

American Exhibitions, Inc. produces world-class touring exhibitions for science centers and museums that excite, educate and engage visitors. As a longstanding member of the Association of Science-Technology Centers (ASTC) and the American Association of Museums (AAM), American Exhibitions, Inc. is one of the leading exhibit producers in the United States. <http://www.americanexhibitions.com>.

Reiss-Engelhorn Museums, an internationally acclaimed complex in Mannheim, Germany, has been one of the major venues for exhibitions in Europe in the realms of archeology and world cultures. With a collection that began in the early 1700s, the museum houses more than 1.2 million objects in its collection, comprising over 300,000 square feet of exhibition space. <http://www.rem-mannheim.de/>.

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