

Press Release

DINOSAURS
DAWN TO EXTINCTION

MARINA BAY Sands
SINGAPORE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



Unearth the history of life and enter the world of terrestrial reptiles at ***“Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction”*** ArtScience Museum gears up for Southeast Asia’s biggest dinosaur exhibition on 25 January 2014

Singapore (28 November, 2013) – ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands will be ushering in the New Year with the largest dinosaur exhibition in Southeast Asia, *“Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction”*. Occupying over 3,700 square meters of floor space, the exhibition will feature more than 400 fossils and models, as well as over 50 original artworks. This first-of-its-kind exhibition combining four exhibitions from the renowned American Museum of Natural History, San Juan National Science Museum, *SCI! Expo* at Monash University and artist Peter Trusler, will open to the public on 25 January 2014.

Curated by paleontologist, Dr. Patricia Vickers-Rich, *“Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction”* offers a refreshing and in-depth journey into the pre-existence, existence, rise and extinction of dinosaurs. Through a timeline thread, visitors will be transported more than 600 million years back in time to learn the unique story of what came before and after the dinosaurs, and gain a deeper understanding on how these species evolved and adapted to changing environmental conditions.

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“*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*” will take visitors on a journey from the Precambrian, Triassic, Jurassic and Cretaceous time periods. The highly interactive exhibition will also feature some of the oldest dinosaurs fossils ever discovered on the planet and many little-known species, some never before seen by the public. These are in addition to over 50 original artworks by Peter Trusler that showcase intriguing species being reconstructed. Key fossils on display include a 18-metre long *Apatosaurus*, a 17.6-metre long *Lessemsaurus* sauropod specimen, a 2-billion year old rock (Banded Iron Formation), a new fossil of Adeopapposaurs discovered in Argentina three months ago, as well as the tiny animals that ran beneath the feet of these giants.

“We’re extremely honoured to work with some of the world’s leading paleontologists, experts in the domain of dinosaurs and the long history of life on planet Earth, to present this first-of-its-kind exhibition, unlike anything seen in Singapore or Southeast Asia. The exhibition will shed light on how dinosaurs lived on earth. It will also serve as a window into the past where visitors will have the opportunity to immerse themselves in this prehistoric world,” said Ross Leo, Associate Director of ArtScience Museum.

A segment of the exhibition, specially curated by Dr. Mark A. Norell, Chair and Curator of the Division of Paleontology at the American Museum of Natural History, enables visitors to learn, explore and understand the behaviour and movement of dinosaurs. To further personalise the overall dinosaur experience, visitors can download a free mobile application “*ArtScience Museum: Dinosaurs Dawn to Extinction*” onto their smartphones, where interactive and educational features are specially rendered for different segments of the exhibition. Incorporated in the mobile application is also a game component - *Rex Race*, which allows visitors to race their virtual dinosaurs to the museum in the shortest possible time. The mobile application will be available for download from mid-December.

“*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*’ is an original and unique exhibition to ArtScience Museum. It is a perfect fit with the museum’s mission to tell the long history of dinosaurs through an ArtScience perspective, and to beautifully mix art and science to communicate ideas. With Peter Trusler’s vivid illustrations of extinct species, combined with the remarkable fossils on display, the exhibition is a result of the collaborative efforts of artists and scientists to gain more new insights into the rich and fascinating world of dinosaurs,” added Dr Patricia Vickers-Rich, Curator of “*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*”.

Based in Australia, Dr Vickers-Rich is currently serving as the Emerita Professor of Paleontology and Honorary Director of PrimeSCI! at Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. She has participated in several notable documentaries including David Attenborough’s Emmy-winning *First Life*, in part based on *The Rise of Animals*, published by John Hopkins University Press, and co-written by Dr Vickers-Rich.

Tickets to the exhibition will be available in December. For more information on “*Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction*”, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum.

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ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is known as the museum that celebrates creativity, the processes at the heart of art and science, and their role in shaping society. The museum seeks to understand what drives creative people, how they acquire and use their skills, and how the world around us is changed because of it. ArtScience Museum presents exhibitions and programmes to deliver these stories using a combination of beautiful design, intriguing content and intellectual discussion, in order to inspire the creativity in all of us.

Featuring 21 gallery spaces totalling 50,000 square feet, the boldly iconic lotus-inspired ArtScience Museum is also the premier venue for major international touring exhibitions from the most renowned collections in the world. Since it opened in 2011, ArtScience Museum has been home to some of the best-attended exhibitions in Singapore, including *"Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition"*, *"Harry Potter: The Exhibition"*, *"Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal"*, *"Dali: Mind of a Genius"* and *"The Art of the Brick"*. Recent exhibitions include *"Mummy: Secrets of the Tomb"*, *"Essential Eames: A Herman Miller Exhibition"* and *"50 Greatest Photographs from National Geographic"*.

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands was awarded TripAdvisor's Certificate of Excellence in 2013. This recognition places the museum amid a select group of attractions that have been recognised by worldwide travelers for providing outstanding tourist experiences.

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About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit www.marinabaysands.com

About the American Museum of Natural History

The American Museum of Natural History is one of the world's preeminent scientific, educational, and cultural institutions. Since its founding in 1869, the museum has advanced its global mission to discover, interpret and disseminate information about human cultures, the natural world, and the universe through a wide-ranging program of scientific research, education, and exhibition. The museum accomplishes this ambitious goal through its extensive facilities and resources. The institution houses 45 permanent exhibition halls, state-of-the-art research laboratories, one of the largest natural history libraries in the Western Hemisphere, and a permanent collection of more than 32 million specimens and artifacts. With a scientific staff of more than 200, the museum supports research divisions in Anthropology, Paleontology, Invertebrate and Vertebrate Zoology, and the Physical Sciences. The museum, which was rated number one in New York City in the Zagat Survey's first-ever U.S. Family Travel Guide, as well as the number three most popular U.S. destination, shared its treasures and discoveries with approximately five million on-site visitors from around the globe last year.

The exhibition segment *Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries* was organized by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in collaboration with the Houston Museum of Natural Science; the California Academy of Sciences, San Francisco; The Field Museum, Chicago; and the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh. For more information on the American Museum of Natural History and its collections, exhibitions, and educational programs, please visit www.amnh.org.

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About PrimeSCI!

PrimeSCI! is a group at Monash University which interfaces imaginative research-active and passionate scientists with students, their teachers, their friends and the general public. Programs of the PrimeSCI! take these people into labs, the field, onto the net, and into the classrooms and lecture halls to explore how science works and what it is able to offer each and everyone. PrimeSCI! connects science and technology with disciplines such as the arts, politics, economics and law. One of the programs associated with PrimeSCI!, which develops and travels exhibitions, is SCI!Expo, the source of some of the spectacular specimens in Dinosaurs: Dawn to Extinction. For more information, visit <http://www.sciencecentre.monash.edu.au>

About San Juan National Science Museum

The University Natural Science Museum, which belongs to the National University of San Juan Argentina was founded in 1971 basically to protect, study and search for fossils in the legendary dinosaurs backyard called Ischigualasto, a UNESCO World Heritage site, located at the foothills of the Andes in the west of Argentina. The museum also exhibits a valuable collection of minerals and rocks. The fossils collected by scientist and artists at San Juan Museum were specially curated to depict life 30 million years ago during the Triassic period. Creatures, from gigantic terrestrial protocrocodiles to some of its weirdest ancestors, were sculpted and are on display at the museum. For more information, visit <http://www.unsj.edu.ar>

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For Images (Expiring on: 25 December 2013)

<http://www.hightail.com/download/OGhmZm1Td0lmVFpEzU1UQw> (Credits to the respective Museums)

For the image of Apatosaurus, please credit as -
Apatosaurus exhibition overview: A life-size biomechanical model of an Apatosaurus skeleton is among the highlights of the exhibition Dinosaurs: Ancient Fossils, New Discoveries. Photographer: Craig Chesek
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