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Pressestelle

Presseinformation

Chemnitz, 12th October, 2016

Special “Rock Fossils – Ja, es ist Liebe!“ (“Yes, a love affair!”) exhibition

Exhibition opens with an exclusive concert, after-show party and a rocking cultural facility synergy

On the 11th of November 2016 the Museum für Naturkunde Chemnitz will open the spectacular "Rock Fossils – Ja, es ist Liebe!" exhibition. The exhibition will reveal the secret love affair of palaeontologists: a passion for rock music of all types. The exhibition is accessible to the public from the 12th of November 2016 until the 18th of April 2017.

The opening event will start off with a Big Bang: Swedish heavy metal heavyweights WOLF will put on an exclusive concert in honour of the exhibition. The stage for this opening act will be no less than the famous, fossilized forest inside the TIETZ. In addition, at the opening of the exhibition there will be an official release party for the “Kalloprion kilmisteri – Silurian Overkill” record cover: a limited edition record with only 300 copies released worldwide. The record was made in honour of the great Lemmy Kilmister of Motörhead. Last but not least, the museum will celebrate the exhibition with a very special stonewood beer and a unique Rock Fossils t-shirt, which was designed by Motörhead record cover artist Joe Petagno. All of this still not enough? No problem, the Atomino Club invites everyone to join the after-show party!

Entrance 8:15 pm, Concert starts at 9:00 pm

Pre sales 6.00 € (reduced fees 4.00 €); evening sales 8.00 € (reduced fees 6.00 €)

Ticket reservations: starting on the 13th of October 2016 online at www.naturkunde-chemnitz.de.

Ticket pre sales will start at the Museum Information desk at the same time.

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Ticket raffle

We will pose a question to our visitors at the currently displayed special exhibition "Sharks – predators for millions of years" from today until the 16th of October. By answering the question correctly, you will have the opportunity to win 3 x 2 tickets for the grand opening of the Rock Fossils exhibition. The drawing will occur on the 17th of October, when winners will be picked and announced.

Main info on the special "Rock Fossils – Ja, es ist Liebe!" exhibition

Normally, newly discovered fossil organisms are named after their place of discovery, their appearance, or after a prominent researcher within the field. However, there are scientists who are also huge music fans and who would rather dedicate their new discoveries in honour of their personally favourite rock stars. In this context, bands like AC/DC, the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Sex Pistols, or musicians such as Lemmy of Motörhead or Frank Zappa become immortalized in Earth history as well.

The special "Rock Fossils – Ja, es ist Liebe!" exhibition unveils the secret of this long-hidden love affair between scientists and musicians. Visitors can look forward to seeing unique, rare fossils that honour their namesakes in every way: bizarre punk rock trilobites, an ancient hippo named after Mick Jagger, a scary worm named after King Diamond, as well as a Michael Jackson crab as old as the Elbe sandstone mountain range. And we should not forget the dinosaur and the prehistoric bird, which bear the names of Mark Knopfler and Greg Graffin; the Punk Rock PhD from Bad Religion.

The rock legends, scientists and fossils will be portrayed through words and images. Amazing, life-like sculptures will show the bizarre beauty of select fossils from the Rock Fossils exhibition. Real vinyl collector pieces will be displayed as in the "rocking Earth history" section of the exhibition. Gripping background information will illustrate the relationships between the rock stars, scientists and fossils.

Certain people from Chemnitz have become more or less immortal as a result of naming animal and plant fossils. The identities of these people will be made known by the scientists of the Museum for Natural History.

Fan merchandise

Specially made fan merchandise will be available for purchase in the museum shop. Among the items you will find are authentic trilobites, a brand new Rock Fossils t-shirt featuring artwork by Joe Pentagno, and a limited stash of picture disc vinyls recorded and released by the exhibition organizers and featuring famous rock- and heavy metal musicians.

“Rock Fossils”- collaborations

Not only is this special exhibition impressive, the Museum for Natural History Chemnitz is also proud of the new collaborations with various cultural facilities. After joining the cultural industry of Chemnitz, this is the first-ever facility-overarching project. The individual strengths of the different facilities become visible and create new synergies within the framework programme of the exhibition opening, the welcoming speech and marketing, Besides events in the Atomino Club, the science slam in cooperation with the Zauberberg media association and the student services of the TU Chemnitz enable a well-functioning cooperation between the individual facilities. Furthermore, the Volkshochschule offers courses on palaeo-sketching, graphic design for record covers, and palaeo-cooking. The worlds of Rock ‘n’ Roll and science combined in this way and can be experienced through all of the senses!

Attachment:

- “Rock-Fossils”-poster
- Photo „RockFossils“ T-Shirt
- Photo Kalloprion kilmisteri
- Extract from the supporting program of Volkshochschule Chemnitz

For more information please contact:

Stadt Chemnitz, Kulturbetrieb

Museum für Naturkunde Chemnitz

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