



Major new exhibition James Cameron – CHALLENGING THE DEEP opens in Portland

NEW EXHIBITION: James Cameron – CHALLENGING THE DEEP

On display June 18, 2022 through Sept. 25, 2022

At the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry (OMSI)

On June 18, 2022 the major immersive exhibition James Cameron – CHALLENGING THE DEEP opened in Portland, Ore. The exhibition explores film-maker James Cameron's extensive career as a deep-sea explorer and his many history-making expeditions.

Developed by the Australian National Maritime Museum, James Cameron – CHALLENGING THE DEEP takes visitors to the depths of our oceans through the lens of Cameron's underwater cameras and his other incredible technological innovations that have enabled us to see the least known places on earth.

Cameron has had a lifelong fascination with the deep oceans. He has led eight major deep-sea expeditions and many submersible dives, setting world firsts including the first solo dive to the Challenger Deep in the Mariana Trench, the first exploration of the interior of the wreck of RMS *Titanic*, and the first seafloor-to-surface live broadcast.

Cameron's expeditions, in collaboration with oceanographic and scientific institutions, have documented the shipwrecks of RMS *Titanic* and the German battleship *Bismarck*, explored deep ocean phenomena such as black smoker hydrothermal vents and discovered new species from the lowest point on earth. They have been chronicled in his documentaries and now, for the first time, in a major exhibition James Cameron – CHALLENGING THE DEEP.

Entering the exhibition through a recreation of a MIR submersible, visitors encounter a single immersive environment of cinema presentations, rare artefacts and specimens from Cameron's careers as an explorer and filmmaker.

The exhibition includes the technical innovations Cameron developed to make the pioneering underwater feature film *The Abyss* in 1988, including the unique diving helmet he wore during the shoot alongside the original maquettes of the Pseudopod and the alien Manta Ship from this classic science-fiction feature film.

Visitors watch as Cameron explores the wreck of RMS *Titanic* on three expeditions and can see models, hand props and costumes from his blockbuster film *Titanic*. Highlights include costumes from the film and the iconic 'Heart of the Ocean' necklace and Jack's sketches which were drawn by James Cameron himself.

Visitors vicariously accompany young scientists on some of their 43 dives with Cameron on his Aliens of the Deep Expedition to examine thriving deep ocean life, spectacular volcanic vents and geology that unlocks the potential secrets of life on other planets. And from Expedition *Bismarck*, they watch survivors of the battleship revisit the last resting place of their comrades and their giant warship.

Finally voyage with Cameron to the deepest known point of the earth's surface on his historic solo dive over 10,000 metres down to the Challenger Deep of the Mariana Trench in the revolutionary *DEEPSEA CHALLENGER* submersible Cameron designed and built in secret in Sydney and California.

The exhibition includes artifacts from the design development of the vessel, specimens collected on its expeditions and the Explorers Club flag which he took with him on the history-making solo voyage to the deepest part of the ocean.

James Cameron – CHALLENGING THE DEEP is at OMSI through September 25. Access to the exhibit is included in OMSI general museum admission. Purchase tickets online at omsi.edu, via phone at 503.797.4000 or in person at the museum.

For further information or to book, visit <https://omsi.edu/>.

James Cameron - CHALLENGING THE DEEP is a travelling exhibition produced by the Australian National Maritime Museum, in association with the Avatar Alliance Foundation, and is toured internationally by Flying Fish. A USA Programs exhibition supported by the USA Bicentennial Gift Fund.

Media images available on request.

All media inquiries:

Meaghan Burns, Gard Communications

mburns@gardcommunications.com

503-552-5011

June 20, 2022