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Two decades of DreamWorks Animation come to life at ArtScience Museum

A behind-the-scenes look at animation powerhouse DreamWorks from 13 June

Singapore (21 May 2015) – Fans of international blockbusters Madagascar, Kung Fu Panda and How to Train Your Dragon can soon be immersed in the magical world of animation as two decades of DreamWorks Animation’s greatest works come to life at ArtScience Museum for the first time in Asia.

From 13 June, DreamWorks Animation: The Exhibition, curated by the Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) in collaboration with DreamWorks Animation, will feature 31 films and more than 400 displays, allowing visitors to experience how these animation works make the leap from initial sketches to their big-screen debuts.

"This exhibition is all about both the art and the science involved in creating the stunning animation films for which DreamWorks is known. Whether Shrek was the first film you saw as a child or you brought your grandchildren to see How to Train Your Dragon, almost everyone has seen and experienced the magic of a DreamWorks film. At ArtScience Museum, we are excited to share the artistic processes and technical ingenuity that go into creating the iconic characters and worlds at the heart of these films. The immersive and interactive environment of this striking new exhibition is an ideal way to experience animation classics which cut through age and cultural barriers and connect with everyone," said Honor Harger, Executive Director of ArtScience Museum.

As the first stop of its five-year international tour, DreamWorks Animation: The Exhibition will feature exclusive concept drawings and behind-the-scenes footage of the creative process and remarkable character sculptures. Film enthusiasts will also be amazed by captivating storyboards, reconstructions of DreamWorks' real-life workspaces and specially commissioned interactive environments.
Reconstruction of DreamWorks’ real-life workspaces (Photos Courtesy of Australian Centre for the Moving Image)

“The Australian Centre for the Moving Image is immensely proud to have collaborated with DreamWorks Animation to bring this amazing exhibition to life. Our plan was always to share it with the world after the enormously warm response from Australian audiences, so we’re delighted that visitors to ArtScience Museum will now also have the chance to experience the creative world behind the on-screen magic of DreamWorks Animation,” said ACMI CEO and Director Katrina Sedgwick.

“ArtScience Museum in Singapore is the perfect venue to celebrate the incredible artistry of DreamWorks Animation's films and we are thrilled to have them serve as the first host on our exhibition's world tour,” said DreamWorks Animation’s Co-Presidents of Feature Animation Bonnie Arnold and Mireille Soria in a joint statement. “We are very proud of this exhibition created in partnership with ACMI and are excited for families and fans of all ages to get a behind-the-scenes look into the amazing process of animation.”

Visitors can step into three main galleries: Character, Story and World, to witness what it takes to create and bring to life such enchanting stories. This 20-year retrospective is a comprehensive look at the entire back catalogue of 31 DreamWorks Animation feature films, from the studio's first theatrically released film Antz (1998) to recent releases, How to Train Your Dragon 2 (2014) and Home (2015).

From endearing ogres to delightful dragons, the Character section unveils the evolution of DreamWorks’ most beloved characters. Movie buffs will have unprecedented access to the DreamWorks archive as they watch characters including Shrek, Po from Kung Fu Panda and the gang from Madagascar come to life before their eyes. Forty-seven exquisitely carved maquettes and in-depth video interviews with the production teams illustrate the exacting thought and detail poured into each character through the development process.

The World section focuses on the collaborative creation of the vivid, magical worlds evident in all DreamWorks films. Fans will see the work of directors, production designers and concept artists in this gallery, the largest section of the exhibition. The gallery also houses the exhibition’s highlight, Dragon Flight: A Dragon’s-Eye View of Berk. This spectacular, 180-degree projection offers visitors a never-before-seen vision of Berk, the Viking township from How to Train Your Dragon. Dragon Flight takes visitors on an exhilarating panoramic dragon ride on the back of Toothless, as the Isle of Berk builds around them.

Fans will be provided with interactive opportunities throughout the exhibition that unveil the secrets of creative filmmaking and animation. Visitors of all ages can learn the basic principles of animation while creating their own short movie at The Animation Desk, using a simplified version of DreamWorks' software.

Tickets to DreamWorks Animation: The Exhibition will go on sale from 22 May onwards. For more information on DreamWorks Animation: The Exhibition, please visit www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum

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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 ArtScience Museum
ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is Southeast Asia’s leading cultural institution that explores the inter-relationship between art, science, technology and culture. Featuring 21 galleries totaling 50,000 square feet, the iconic lotus-inspired building has staged major exhibitions by some of history’s most important artists, including Leonardo Da Vinci, Salvador Dalí, Andy Warhol and Vincent Van Gogh, as well as major exhibitions which explore aspects of scientific history.

About DreamWorks Animation
DreamWorks Animation creates high-quality entertainment, including CG animated feature films, television specials and series and live entertainment properties, meant for audiences around the world. The Company has world-class creative talent, a strong and experienced management team and advanced filmmaking technology and techniques. DreamWorks Animation has been named one of the “100 Best Companies to Work For” by FORTUNE® Magazine for five consecutive years. In 2013, DreamWorks Animation ranked #12 on the list. All of DreamWorks Animation’s feature films are produced in 3D. The Company has theatrically released a total of 31 animated feature films, including the franchise properties of Shrek, Madagascar, Kung Fu Panda, How to Train Your Dragon, Puss In Boots and The Croods.

About Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)
A globally unique cultural institution, ACMI presents and champions the art and culture of the moving image. Through a vibrant annual calendar of award-winning exhibitions, screenings, film festivals, live events, creative workshops, education programmes and Collection resources, ACMI provides a wide diversity of audiences with an unsurpassed range of ways to engage with the moving image. As one of Victoria’s major cultural, tourism and learning attractions, and a national centre of screen culture debate and innovation, ACMI has an international reputation as one of the world’s leading moving image centres.

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