

RAMSES

& DAS GOLD DER PHARAONEN

PHARAONIC SPLENDOR IN COLOGNE:
RAMSES & THE GOLD OF THE PHARAOHS OPENS ITS DOORS,
SHOWCASING 3,000-YEAR-OLD ORIGINAL TREASURES AT THE ODYSSEUM



Cologne, July 11, 2024: Direct from Egypt, the highly anticipated exhibition, *Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs* opens to the public at the ODYSSEUM Cologne on Saturday, July 13, 2024, and runs until January 5, 2025.

This spectacular new exhibition, making its first appearance in Germany, will showcase **more than 180 exquisite antiquities** from the pyramids and museums of Egypt, along with their extraordinary stories. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to see the treasures of these ancient wonders right here in Cologne. Ancient Egypt, the land of pharaohs, extraordinary art, cultural splendour, and home to the only remaining Ancient Wonder of the World—the pyramids—has captivated the imagination of people across the globe and generations. The name of its legendary pharaoh, Ramses the Great, has also endured. Now, visitors to the ODYSSEUM can discover the legacy of Ramses the Great and the treasures of the ancient pyramids for themselves.

About the Exhibition

Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs is an interactive museum experience featuring more than 180 priceless artifacts and ornate golden treasures, including one-of-a-kind relics such as sarcophagi, animal mummies, magnificent jewellery, spectacular royal masks, and exquisite amulets—many of which have never left Egypt before. The era of Ramses the Great was also a time of incredible artistic innovation. This extraordinary exhibition showcases signature pieces including the **famous coffin of Ramses the Great**, the priceless golden masks of Amenemope, the extraordinary necklace of Psusennes, and mummified animals including cats, crocodiles, and even a lion cub. All of the objects in "Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs" have come from museums and historical sites in Egypt and are on loan from Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities.

Coffin of Ramses II

Dating from the late Eighteenth Dynasty, the carved cedar coffin of Ramses II and its occupant was discovered in 1881 within the Royal Cache at Deir el-Bahari—an Egyptian archaeological site located on the west bank of the Nile River, opposite the city of Luxor and east of the Valley of the Kings. The cedar coffin was not originally designed for the pharaoh. Probably dating from the late Eighteenth Dynasty, it would have once been overlaid with gilding and inlays of precious stones or glass. The surface was later stripped and painted yellow, with a handful of details highlighted in bright colours and the eyes outlined in black.

Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs provides visitors with a window into the life and accomplishments of King Ramses II, more commonly known as Ramses the Great, who ruled Egypt for nearly 67 years—the second-longest reign for any pharaoh in Ancient Egyptian history. Ramses the Great, who lived to about 92 years of age, epitomized the power and wealth of Ancient Egypt during the New Kingdom period, 1539-1075 BCE, when Egyptian civilization was at its height. Ramses was known as a mighty warrior who secured peace with his neighbours, led an extensive building campaign that included scores of gigantic monuments to himself, and is believed to have fathered over 100 children.

Virtual Reality Experience

Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs also features a virtual reality experience that takes visitors on a whirlwind tour of two of Ramses' most impressive monuments: the Tomb of Queen Nefertari, his favourite Royal Consort, and the temples of Abu Simbel.

Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs comes to Cologne after successful seasons in Paris and Sydney. Germany will be the last stop before the exhibition is displayed for an extended period in Asia. "Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs" is presented in partnership with World Heritage Exhibitions, Neon, and the Houston Museum of Natural Science.

Andreas Waschk, CEO Explorado Group GmbH, said that Germans are fortunate to have these irreplaceable and historic artefacts here in Cologne: "Exhibitions of this scale don't come around very often – they're complex undertakings that involve hundreds of people and years of negotiation. We are so proud presenting *Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs* and these superb artefacts that have survived 3,000 years at the ODYSSEUM. I urge everyone to take a trip back in time to see *Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs* exhibition, an incredible opportunity to visit Ancient Egypt directly in Cologne."

Curator of the exhibition, renowned archaeologist and former Minister of Antiquities, **Dr. Zahi Hawass** said the one of the most wonderful things about this exhibition is that it reveals the world Ramses took over when he became pharaoh: "Our modern world is so different from Ancient Egypt. With this exhibition visitors will be immersed in the world of Ramses and discover a completely different way of life. Works of art – statues, jewellery, carvings - made by Ancient Egyptians were intended to honour and immortalise revered pharaohs. They're well on their way to doing so, given so many still remain today, bringing their stories to life. These are just a few of the exquisite items included in the exhibition. This is a rare opportunity for German audiences to discover the unique craftsmanship and sophistication of objects and artworks dating from within the Bronze Age of 3000 BCE to the Classical Age 1st century CE," Hawass added.

Information and Tickets

Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs will be open until January 5, 2025, at the ODYSSEUM. Tickets are available exclusively on www.ticketmaster.de.

Admission prices for *Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs* start at €16.00 for children and €22.00 for adults. Family and group tickets are also available, as well as discounted prices for seniors and students. Please note that tickets are valid for a specific time slot. Extra tickets are required for the VR tour.

Ramses & the Gold of the Pharaohs

[Link to Presskit](#)

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About Explorado Group

The Explorado Group GmbH is a leading company in Europe that offers entertainment experiences. With almost 30 years of experience and a portfolio of successful projects, the Explorado Group provides a wide range of products and services for traveling exhibitions and visitor attractions. They specialize in developing and operating various attractions, events, and locations, such as the ODYSSEUM in Cologne. The Explorado Group has achieved great success with blockbuster exhibitions like Harry Potter™: The Exhibition, Star Wars™ Identities - The Exhibition, Ice Age: Tracking the Mammoth, Jurassic World: The Exhibition, Game of Thrones: The Touring Exhibition, and The Smurf Adventure. These exhibitions have premiered in Germany at the ODYSSEUM in Cologne and the Centro in Oberhausen. For more information, please visit www.explorado-group.com.

About Neon

NEON, formerly Cityneon, is a global leader in creating and producing immersive experiences. NEON enjoys worldwide partnerships with The Walt Disney Company and Marvel Entertainment for *Marvel Avengers S.T.A.T.I.O.N.* and *Marvel Avengers Station: Evolution*, 20th Century Studios for *AVATAR: The Exhibition*, Hasbro for *Transformers: The Experience*, NBCUniversal for *Jurassic World: The Exhibition*, and Lionsgate for *The Hunger Games: The Exhibition*. It also has a partnership with Warner Bros. Themed Entertainment to produce two brand-new, unique global touring-themed art experiences inspired by DC and the Wizarding World, slated to launch in 2023. The Company also partners with the governments of Peru and Egypt for their original artifact IP experiences, *Machu Picchu and the Golden Empires of Peru* and *Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs*, respectively, plus authentic artifact tours *Pompeii: The Exhibition*, *Mummies of the World: The Exhibition*, *Victoria the T. Rex* and *Auschwitz. Not Long Ago. Not Far Away*. These partnerships have enabled the Group to bring compelling experiences that leave lasting memories to millions of visitors in more than 60 cities to date globally. For more information, please visit www.neonglobal.com.

About World Heritage Exhibitions

World Heritage Exhibitions (WHE) is renowned for producing, promoting, and designing the finest quality museum content on the globe. Their exhibitions have captivated, educated, and inspired visitors in virtually every major market on the planet. With a combined 150 years of exhibition experience, the WHE executive team has been responsible for touring many of the world's most valuable treasures, including objects from King Tutankhamun's tomb, relics from Cleopatra's Royal Palace, artifacts from the Titanic, items from the discovery of Pompeii, and more. Their exhibitions have now been enjoyed by over 30 million people spanning six continents, and their collective expertise has come together in one of the industry's most influential touring exhibition companies.