

Press releases 2010

With 950,000 visitors, 'Out of this world' is most successful exhibition of the Ruhr.2010 project

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The exhibition 'Out of this World – Wonders of the Solar System' will end on 30 December 2010. It has been the most successful exhibition held at the Gasometer in Oberhausen by far. The exhibition was opened on 2 April 2009 to mark the International Year of Astronomy. With roughly 430,000 visitors, it soon proved to be its most successful individual effort. Continued as an official RUHR.2010 project, the exhibition received more than 500,000 visitors during that year and became the culture capital project's most successful exhibition.



'Out of this World' in the Oberhausen Gasometer

The exhibition, which was designed jointly by the German Aerospace Center (Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt; DLR) and the Gasometer in Oberhausen, has run for almost two years, taking its visitors on a journey through the cosmos. 'Out of this World' shows fascinating images of distant worlds, priceless historical instruments and the latest space technology. One of the artistic highlights, swinging under the 100-metre-high ceiling of the Gasometer, is the 'Largest Moon on Earth' – a 25-metre-wide sculpture of the Moon.

Almost one million visitors

Johann-Dietrich Wörner, Chairman of the DLR Executive Board, summarises the event: "The 'Out of this World' exhibition at the Oberhausen Gasometer showed how space exploration, with its scientific findings and topical fascination with space, can contribute to major cultural events. The fact that we've had almost one million visitors over the last two years is proof that space has a recognised place in society."

Jeanette Schmitz, Managing Director of the Oberhausen Gasometer, says: "The overwhelming success has left us excited about what's to come, because we will continue to create challenging cultural projects even after culture capital RUHR.2010 has ended. We're already looking forward to the follow-up, 'Magical Places', an exhibition showing fascinating ways in which art, science and the beauty of our

Earth can intermingle." The 'Out of this World' exhibition was curated by Professor Peter Pachnicke and Wolfgang Volz, with the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, as its patron.



The largest Moon on Earth

The Oberhausen Gasometer is a landmark in the Ruhr region, an impressive testament to the region's history in construction and technology and Europe's tallest exhibition hall. The large exhibitions housed by the Gasometer since 1994 have played a thriving part in the cultural landscape of North Rhine-Westphalia, with more than four million people having visited the hall since. The spatial and acoustic experience inside this 'industrial cathedral' is quite unique. Up on the 117-metre high roof there is a panoramic view over the entire western Ruhr region.

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