

OLYMPIC MUSEUM



The 3D theatre at the Olympic Museum

The Olympic Museum's high-tech environment now includes a 3D-HDTV 3-dimensional Hi-Vision audiovisual system developed by NHK Technical Services of Japan and generously donated by the Organizing Committee of the XVI-II Olympic Winter Games in Nagano in 1998 (NAOC). It is the first such facility in Europe.

Unlike 3D-IMAX, 3D-HDTV is the simultaneous and coordinated projection of two video images. How does it work? A traditional flat image, be it a photo or a film or video image, is the reproduction of a single view in perspective, just like a drawing. By superposing two images, the 3D-HDTV makes it possible to recreate the depth of vision - by an illusion based on our brain, which "understands" in three dimensions what we see with our two eyes.

In reality, the production of a 3D film is a little more complex than that. First of all, it is necessary to take two synchronized views of what you want to show. A special camera with two lenses (left and right) is therefore used to film. The video signals are recorded on two tape recorders. At the other end of the chain, when the images are projected, two video projectors are used to restore the two separate images which, when viewed through polarizing filters, will create the perfect illusion of "seeing in relief".

For the Olympic Museum, the 3D Theatre offers innumerable possibilities. In addition to the exclusive nature of the process and the films that can be projected using it, it also constitutes a new reality for Europe, as no other European museum boasts such a facility. 3D-HDTV allows the recorded material to be viewed instantaneously (no film development), to be transmitted to a distant site, to have digital

effects directly incorporated. In other words, it allows high-quality images to be produced at low operating costs.

The 3D Hi-Vision specialists from the Japanese television network NHK came to Lausanne to make a film specially designed to be projected in the Olympic Museum's 3D Theatre. It is called "Welcome to the Olympic Capital Lausanne" and lasts 17 minutes, with an English, French, Spanish, German or Japanese sound track. Other films, particularly images of the XVIII Olympic Winter Games in Nagano, constitute the beginnings of a 3D cinema library.

The Olympic Museum's 3D Theatre is quite small (45 seats) as the 3D effect would be attenuated if the public were

seated too far away from the screen. Visitors have to exercise a little patience if they wish to have experience the dizzying heights of Nagano's ski slopes. A 3D session (25 to 35 minutes) is included in the price of an entrance ticket. Non-visitors and those who wish to experience the 3D effect more than once can attend a showing for SFr 5.- (special rates apply for children).

The films showing at the Olympic Museum's 3D Theatre

Films on the Nagano Olympic Games: Presentation of Nagano - Highlights of the Games - Opening Ceremony - Closing ceremony - Speed skating - Ice hockey - Figure skating - Nordic combined "Welcome to the Olympic capital Lausanne"; and a film mainly for children, "Marine Paradise".

18th Olympic Week

The 1998 edition was a bigger success than ever. Even the sun played ball! For five days, the Museum received over 4,500 youngsters who were able to try out about fifteen different sports activities, get their faces painted at the makeup stand, demonstrate their skill at the Snail game (a kind of table curling) and at juggling, express their talents in the art workshop, improve their knowledge of Olympism by means of a quiz trail and enjoy an aerial view from the gondola of a hot-air balloon.

Five days of discovery and excitement, Five days of hard work for the 90 members of the team, club instructors and volunteers, who devoted all their energies to the smooth running of the event, introducing youngsters to various sports, registering participants and issuing passes, mounting and dismantling equipment and, last but not least, coping with the catering.



Initiation in walking on stilts.

In a few figures, during this week, the members of the team introduced a young person to a new sport 21,300 times.

At the Snail game, 7,100 shots were played; in water skiing, 62 youngsters bravely took to the water; some 1,200 climbed the artificial wall; over 1,000

took their chance at balancing on stilts or monocycles; over 650 learned the basics of taekwondo; over 1,500 took the opportunity to check their shooting speed in football: not to mention all those who tried their hand at rowing, fencing, golf, roller-skating, tennis, table tennis, archery, volleyball and VTT.

For the Olympic Museum, Olympic Week is one of the most important events of the year and its growing success is the best reward for all the hard work of the clubs and the 40 or so volunteers without whom the Olympic Week could not take place.

1999 CALANDAR OF EVENTS AT THE OLYMPIC MUSEUM*

TEMPORARY EXHIBITIONS

through 24 January

Kevin Whitney: a retrospective

Appointed the first official Olympic artist at the Games of the XXIII Olympiad in Los Angeles in 1984, Kevin Whitney seems to have taken this message to heart as he was the instigator of Visa International Art, of which he was director in 1992. This association brings together international artists during the Games of the Olympiad as was the practice among the Greeks of classical times.

28 January to 14 March

Sarajevo

through 7 February

Olympic portraits: photographs by Annie Leibovitz

An outstanding collection of photographs of American athletes training for the Games in Atlanta.

18 February to 13 June

Cristobal Gabarron

18 March to 24 May

Daniel You: paintings

through 18 April

Broadcasting the Olympic Games

In order to highlight the close working relationship between the media and the Olympic Games, the Olympic Museum in Lausanne

will be presenting an exhibition on radio and television coverage of the Olympic Games today and the history of broadcasting at the Olympic Games in parallel with the development of audiovisual technology, with reference to the Games in Sydney and Salt Lake City.

29 April to 6 June

Hans Erni

27 May to 4 July

100th anniversary of the Czech Olympic committee

17 June to 7 October

5,000 years of sport in China. Art and tradition.

1 July to 31 October

Australian Aboriginal art

8 July to 12 September

Fotosport '98

16 September to 21 November

Tennis through clubs founded 100 years ago

14 October to 31 December

Nag Arnoldi. The man and the myth.

11 November to 31 December

Recent acquisitions

25 November to 31 December

Georges Bodmer: photographs

PHILATELY

through 31 January

Olympic Retrospective 1928

1 February to 31 March

skating

1 April to 31 May

Badminton

1 June to 31 July

Modern pentathlon

EVENTS

14 January

Thursdays at the Museum Cycle: snowboard evening with the participation of Olympic champions.

14 February

Sunday Concert Cycle.

22 to 24 May

4th Olympic Collectors' World Fair.

11 to 15 October

19th Olympic Week.

*subject to change