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Dundee to the World, The World to Dundee

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A voyage to outer space – and inner space

The Mills Observatory in Dundee – the UK’s only municipal observatory – is celebrating 80 years of stargazing this year.

To help mark the occasion the University has embarked on a major public engagement exercise - ‘Outer Space|Inner Space’ - at the Observatory, which gives visitors to the Observatory the chance to delve into some of the world-leading research carried out at the University.

A huge video wall – designed by Rolf Black at the University - allows users to look at everything from the tiniest cells to outer space, based on research from the University in Life Sciences, Computing, Physics, Mathematics, Medicine and Astronomy.

“It is visually stunning, hugely engaging and interactive, and is accessible to absolutely everyone. Most importantly, it’s an awful lot of fun.”

Using dual projects, it gives a dazzling planetarium effect across a 6-metre by 3-metre curved surface, immersing visitors in the experience.

Dr Sam Swift, Head of the Centre for Advanced Scientific Technologies at the University of Dundee said, “Outer Space|Inner Space is an incredibly powerful and significant project focusing on a wide range of research that is having a real impact on people’s lives. It is visually stunning, hugely engaging and interactive, and is accessible to absolutely everyone. Most importantly, it’s an awful lot of fun.”

Lord Provost Bob Duncan said, “This is a fantastic way to mark eighty years of stargazing at the Mills Observatory. It is a brilliant building, and one the people of Dundee treasure. This new interactive project is sure to get more people through the door and interested in space exploration.”

This ambitious project is funded by the Centre for Gene Regulation and Expression at the University of Dundee by a Strategic Grant from the Wellcome Trust and in partnership with Leisure & Culture Dundee.

Outer Space|Inner Space can be viewed at Mills Observatory in Dundee during its regular opening hours throughout the winter which are Monday-Friday 4pm to 10pm, Saturday & Sunday 12.30pm to 4pm.



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