

## **Main info on the special "Rock Fossils – Ja, es ist Liebe!" exhibition.**

Normally, newly discovered fossil organisms are named after their place of discovery, their appearance, or after a prominent researcher within the field. However, there are scientists who are also huge music fans and who would rather dedicate their new discoveries in honour of their personally favourite rock stars. In this context, bands like AC/DC, the Beatles, Rolling Stones, Sex Pistols, or musicians such as Lemmy of Motörhead or Frank Zappa become immortalized in Earth history as well.

The special "Rock Fossils – Ja, es ist Liebe!" exhibition unveils the secret of this long-hidden love affair between scientists and musicians. Visitors can look forward to seeing unique, rare fossils that honour their namesakes in every way: bizarre punk rock trilobites, an ancient hippo named after Mick Jagger, a scary worm named after King Diamond, as well as a Michael Jackson crab as old as the Elbe sandstone mountain range. And we should not forget the dinosaur and the prehistoric bird, which bear the names of Mark Knopfler and Greg Graffin; the Punk Rock PhD from Bad Religion.

The rock legends, scientists and fossils will be portrayed through words and images. Amazing, life-like sculptures will show the bizarre beauty of select fossils from the Rock Fossils exhibition. Real vinyl collector pieces will be displayed as in the "rocking Earth history" section of the exhibition. Gripping background information will illustrate the relationships between the rock stars, scientists and fossils.

Certain people from Chemnitz have become more or less immortal as a result of naming animal and plant fossils. The identities of these people will be made known by the scientists of the Museum for Natural History.

Specially made fan merchandise will be available for purchase in the museum shop. Among the items you will find are authentic trilobites, a brand new Rock Fossils t-shirt featuring artwork by Joe Pentagno, and a limited stash of picture disc vinyls recorded and released by the exhibition organizers and featuring famous rock- and heavy metal musicians.

Not only is this special exhibition impressive, the Museum for Natural History Chemnitz is also proud of the new collaborations with various cultural facilities. After joining the cultural industry of Chemnitz, this is the first-ever facility-overarching project. The individual strengths of the different facilities become visible and create new synergies within the framework programme of the exhibition opening, the welcoming speech and marketing. Besides events in the Atomino Club, the science slam in cooperation with the Zauberberg media association and the student services of the TU Chemnitz enable a well-functioning cooperation between the individual facilities. Furthermore, the Volkshochschule offers courses on palaeo-sketching, graphic design for record covers, and palaeo-cooking. The worlds of Rock 'n' Roll and science combined in this way and can be experienced through all of the senses!