**World's most visited exhibition of human anatomy created by Dr. Gunther von Hagens. The exhibition will educate visitors about the marvel that is the human body and inspire them to live with vitality and to their full potential.**

**Tickets on sale now, exhibition opens 10 February 2017**

**BODY WORLDS - VITAL**, an exhibition that celebrates the wonder, complexity and fragility of the human body, is heading to Katowice for its Polish debut.

A unique and compelling exhibition, **BODY WORLDS - VITAL** brings together a collection of real human bodies, specimens and organs, willed by donors and preserved through plastination; a ground-breaking specimen preservation process invented by scientist Dr Gunther von Hagens.

Over 43 million people have experienced **BODY WORLDS** worldwide including Tokyo, New York, Los Angeles and Mexico City. **BODY WORLDS - VITAL**features a unique set of anatomical specimens enabling visitors to learn about human anatomy by viewing real human bodies.

**BODY WORLDS - VITAL***,* which opens in Katowice on 10 February 2017, shows how the body works when it is healthy and explores how best to fight life-threatening diseases. It allows visitors to explore human anatomy, physiology and health through a series of full body plastinates, individual organs and transparent body slices that give a complete picture of how the human body works. Healthy and diseased organs are shown alongside each other allowing visitors to see how lifestyle choices may affect the body, such as how smoking affects the lungs.

**Dr. Angelina Whalley, Curator and Designer of the BODY WORLDS exhibitions, said: “I am struck by the synergy, symmetry and poetry of having the trailblazing science of plastination that unveils the keenly intelligent human body. Our mission is to engage visitors and ignite an interest in the life sciences.”**

Highlights of the exhibition include a relay runner posed mid-handover to display the muscular system and a gymnast posed mid-air in a spread-eagle jump.

**About BODY WORLDS**

Created by Dr Gunther von Hagens, **BODY WORLDS** is the culmination of the German scientist and physician’s more than 35-year career in anatomy. **BODY WORLDS** exhibitions are the only exhibitions to rely on an established body donation programme. To date, more than 14,000 donors around the world have bequeathed their bodies to Dr von Hagens’ Institute for Plastination after death.

All bodies displayed in **BODY WORLDS - VITAL** have been donated to be used for scientific purposes and to increase public awareness of the complexity of the human body. Donors who so generously willed their bodies for the purpose of Plastination – to educate the public about anatomy and physiology – take centre stage in this unprecedented homage to humanity. Excluding a small number of specimens acquired from anatomical collections and morphological institutes, the plastinated specimens on display in Gunther von Hagans’ **BODY WORLDS** exhibitions stem from a unique body donation programme established in Heidelberg, Germany in 1982, and later managed by the Institute for Plastination (IfP) in Heidelberg, established in 1993.

The Institute for Plastination has a donor roster of over 14,000 individuals that includes over 12,500 Europeans and over 1,400 Americans. From the beginning, the donors were excited about the ground-breaking technique of Plastination and recognised that they were going to be part of something unprecedented. They wanted to make the education of future generations their enduring legacy. With the wish that their bodies be used for educational purposes, the donors have given their permission for their bodies to be displayed to the public after their death.

**BODY WORLDS – VITAL**

Date: **10.02.2017 – 14.05.2017**

Place:  **D.H. SUPERSAM,** +2Level

 Katowice, Ks. Piotra Skargi 6 str.

Tickets: from 25 zł,

More on: [www.bodyworlds.pl](http://www.bodyworlds.pl)

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