The Leonardo da Vinci Machines Exhibition

An Exhibition of Genius

Explore the mind of the greatest genius of all time at The Leonardo Da Vinci Machines Exhibition which opens in Wheeler Place, Newcastle (next to the Civic Theatre) on the 20th of February 2010.

The exhibition brings together creations and concepts devised more than 500 years ago by the brilliant scientist, inventor and artist Leonardo Da Vinci.

With over 60 machines on display, many of which are interactive, the collection features replicas of the major and most striking inventions of the original Renaissance Man.

The replicas based on the designs of Da Vinci, who was without doubt the most significant engineer and technologist of his era, have already been seen by millions worldwide from Florence, Venice, New York and Warsaw to Madrid, Hong Kong, Dubai, Melbourne and Sydney.

This public display is informative and thought-provoking with the emphasis on enjoyment and interaction and offers a stimulating, entertaining and educational experience for pre-schoolers through to seniors. Even the pavilion housing the exhibition on has been specifically designed in accordance with Da Vinci’s original sketches of the ideal city.

The main features on display include the “bicycle”, “spring powered car”, “hang glider” and the “air screw”, a precursor to the helicopter.

Da Vinci created some of the greatest paintings in the history of art; high quality canvas reproductions of his most famous artworks such as Mona Lisa, Vitruvian Man, the Last Supper and The Annunciation can be viewed at this exciting exhibition.

The exhibition also houses a cinema featuring a documentary about the inventor’s life, plus there are computer animations of the more complex models, informative panels showing images of his original designs and children’s activities like building your own parachute.

Innovative and creative, Leonardo da Vinci passionately dedicated himself to scientific studies.
His manuscripts, known as Codices, exhibit ingenious solutions to practical problems of his time and he was able to imagine future possibilities such as flying machines and automation.

Historical documents reveal Da Vinci commissioned local artisans, who were the only craftsmen he trusted, to create his machines but unfortunately none of these have survived.

The systematic study of Vincian Technology is a recent phenomenon dating back only 50 years. A family of Florentine artisans have interpreted da Vinci’s designs and constructed fine models, using computers to calculate their exact proportions. Each machine is hand-crafted using the materials of the time – wood, cotton, brass, iron and cord.

The exhibition is divided into four sections, each of which contains high quality reproductions of da Vinci’s most famous artworks. The sections are as follows: Military machines, Civil engineering, Hydraulics and water studies and Flight and aeronautics.

The exhibition runs from February 20th to March 28th Daily from 10am – 5pm with extended hours on Fridays from 10am to 7pm in the Da Vinci pavilion in Wheeler Place, Newcastle (next to the Civic Theatre).

Tickets are available daily at the door or book at the Civic Theatre Box Office, any Ticketek outlet, or call 4929 1977. Cost: adult $20, concession $15 (full-time students, pensioners, carers card holders etc...), junior $10 (ages 4-13) and family A $50 (2 adults & 2 juniors) and family B $60 (2 adults & 2 full-time students).

For further information visit www.davincimuseum.com.au.

Issued by: Leonardo Da Vinci Machines Exhibition

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