





#### PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELASE

# JOIN BRITISH ASTRONAUT TIM PEAKE IN A THRILLING VR SPACE MISSION – RIGHT HERE IN NOTTINGHAM

Saturday 24 May – Sunday 1 June 2025 Lakeside Arts, University of Nottingham NG7 2RD Tickets £6 | For ages 7+

## Images available here.

This May Half-Term, Nottingham families can blast off on an unforgettable adventure – without even leaving the city!

Direct from the Science Museum, London, *Space Descent VR* lands at Lakeside Arts, Nottingham giving space enthusiasts aged 7+ the rare chance to join astronaut Tim Peake on a thrilling virtual journey back to Earth.

Strap in for a breath-taking 360° 3D ride inside a Soyuz spacecraft as it makes the dangerous 400km journey back to Earth from the International Space Station, slowing from a speed in orbit of 25,000km per hour to land safely in Kazakhstan.

Created by award-winning Alchemy VR for the Science Museum Group, *Space Descent VR* puts visitors inside the descent module of a Russian Soyuz spacecraft, guided by the UK's first European Space Agency astronaut Tim Peake, for a first-person ride only experienced before by a tiny number of highly qualified astronauts. Developed with leading experts, including Major Peake himself, this 15-minutes virtual reality experience reaches an extraordinary level of realism – it is as close as you can get to space travel without a spacesuit!

The *Space Descent VR* experience has been developed by the Science Museum Group with support from Samsung, and the generous co-operation of Tim Peake and the European Space Agency. It forms part of the Science Museum Group's mission to transform how visitors experience and learn about science and technology.

Lakeside Arts, part of the University of Nottingham, is proud to bring this innovative VR experience to the region – inspiring Nottingham's future scientists, engineers, and adventurers with a world-class taste of space exploration.

Tim Peake said: "It really is breath-taking – [...] visitors are going to experience something that truly is very close to the real thing!"

0115 846 7777 | lakesidearts.org.uk Lakeside Arts, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD Space Descent VR is part of an exciting May Half-Term programme at Lakeside Arts between Saturday 24 May – Sunday 1 Jun 2025, including the return of the spectacular Luminarium by Architects of Air, brilliant children's theatre shows and creative workshops for school-aged children.

Tickets for *Space Descent VR* are just £6 – a great day out for Nottingham adventurers and future astronauts!

More information and tickets are available now at lakesidearts.org.uk/MayHalfTerm.

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For more information and to arrange interviews, please contact Lakeside Arts' Marketing and Communications Managers Mária Konyelicska-Visky <u>maria.konyelicska-visky@nottingham.ac.uk</u> and Amy Steels <u>amy.steels@nottingham.ac.uk</u>

#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

## Lakeside Arts, University of Nottingham

Lakeside Arts is the University of Nottingham's public arts centre presenting a programme of visual arts, manuscripts and museum exhibitions, as well as music, theatre, dance, children and families' productions, and learning programme for all ages. Its venues include the Djanogly Recital Hall; the Djanogly Gallery; the University Museum; and the Djanogly Theatre

## lakesidearts.org.uk

Lakeside Arts Facebook, Instagram and X (formally Twitter): @LakesideArts

#### **About the Science Museum**

As the home of human ingenuity, the Science Museum's world-class collection forms an enduring record of scientific, technological and medical achievements from across the globe. Welcoming over 3 million visitors a year, the Museum aims to make sense of the science that shapes our lives, inspiring visitors with iconic objects, award-winning exhibitions and incredible stories of scientific achievement. More information can be found at sciencemuseum.org.uk.

About the Soyuz TMA-19M descent module

- Soyuz TMA-19M carried astronauts Yuri Malenchenko (Commander, Russia), Tim Kopra (Flight Engineer, USA) and Tim Peake (Flight Engineer, UK) to the International Space Station on 15 December 2015 and returned the same crew to Earth on 18 June 2016.
- The crew was part of Expeditions 46 and 47 to the International Space Station.
- The outer surfaces have been charred by temperatures of around 1,500 degrees Celsius experienced during atmospheric re-entry.
- The module weighs approximately 1.5 tonnes.

## **About Alchemy VR**

Alchemy VR builds on the world class story-telling and technical innovation of Atlantic Productions to create some of the most compelling virtual reality experiences in the world. Alchemy VR's combination of storytelling and pioneering use of new technologies has created unique and breath taking experiences including David Attenborough's First Life VR and David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef Dive VR. Alchemy VR's experiences have shown in some of the world's most prestigious

0115 846 7777 | lakesidearts.org.uk Lakeside Arts, University Park, Nottingham, NG7 2RD cultural institutions and will be amongst the first virtual reality documentaries to launch on PlayStation VR. VR projects soon to be released by the studio include experiences that take you deep into the Amazon Jungle, across the sands of the Arabian Desert, and into the heart of Dubai. http://www.alchemyvr.com/

Atlantic Productions was founded in 1992 and in this time has won many of the most prestigious awards in television, including the coveted BAFTA award for best specialist factual twice in the last four years (2014 and 2011), eleven Emmy awards, two RTS awards and the best 3D award at Jackson Hole and Wildscreen. Recent productions include *Inside the Commons* (BBC), and *David Attenborough's Great Barrier Reef* (BBC). www.atlanticproductions.tv

## **IMAGES**





## High resolution of the images above and more are available here.

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