

Facts and Figures

- Plastination was invented by Dr. Gunther von Hagens in 1977 at the University of Heidelberg, Germany and has continuously been developed it since then.
- Plastination is a technique that stops the decomposition of the dead body and produces solid, odourless and durable anatomical specimens for scientific and medical training.
- The production of a human whole body plastinate requires approximately 1,500 working hours.
- The world's tallest plastinate is an adult elephant, measuring 6 x 3,50 metres.
- The ultimate goal of BODY WORLDS is health education.
- The exhibitions were created by Dr. Gunther von Hagens and Dr. Angelina Whalley.
- Dr. Angelina Whalley is the curator of the BODY WORLDS exhibitions.
- The first exhibition was held in Japan in 1995.
- Since then BODY WORLDS has been touring worldwide and visited more than 115 cities in over 26 countries in Europe, America, Africa and Asia.
- Currently there are over ten BODY WORLDS exhibitions on display in Europe and America.
- More than 44 million people have seen BODY WORLDS, over 18 million of which in Europe, and over 1 million in Switzerland, over 17 million in America and over 8 million in Asia.
- The exhibitions have been upgraded with supplemented to contain special features and are constantly improved:
 - **BODY WORLDS Vital** – celebrates the potential of the human body.
 - **BODY WORLDS & The Cycle of Life** – shows the body living through time.
 - **BODY WORLDS & The Story of the Heart** – on cardiovascular health & disease prevention.
 - **BODY WORLDS: Pulse** – on the health and 21st century living.
 - **BODY WORLDS: The Happiness Project** – on the effects of happiness on our well-being.
 - **BODY WORLDS RX** – *prescription for a healthy life*
- Since 2010, ANIMAL INSIDE OUT tours the world. This unforgettable exhibition, offers a unique exploration of what lies beneath the surface of many amazing animals, large and small.
- In 2013 the International Association of Science and Technology Centers (ASTC) recognized Dr. Gunther von Hagens for lifetime achievement and significant contributions to the public understanding of science.
- .In 2015 the Menschen Museum (Museum of Man), the world's first museum dedicated to the human body opened in Berlin, Germany. It invites the visitor to focus on the different facets of life and inspires visitors to contemplate what makes us human.
- BODY WORLDS exhibitions are based on an established body donation program through which the body donors specifically request that their bodies be used in a public exhibition after their deaths. Currently, there are more than 16,000 donors, including 96 Swiss citizens registered in the body donation program.