

# Press Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands gets ready to stage largest exhibition: *RMS Titanic*

*Over 275 artifacts on display from 29 October at Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition*

**Singapore** (October 19, 2011) – With just over 10 days to go, the team at Marina Bay Sands is working round-the-clock to ensure the perfect presentation of *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* at ArtScience Museum. This exhibition is the first in the region and the biggest the team at ArtScience Museum has embarked upon.

As part of the *Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition* to be launched on 29 October 2011, over 275 items from the *RMS Titanic* will be making its Southeast Asian debut at Marina Bay Sands. Visitors will be drawn to the compelling artifacts, comprising of well-recognized pieces and never-seen-before treasures, once buried more than 3,800m below the ocean surface at the ship's final resting place.

Through these artifacts, the story of the maiden voyage of the great ship – which marks its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary next year – will be presented to visitors, as they get a close-up and poignant look at the iconic ship and her passengers. The exhibition will open through to April 2012.

Artifacts for the Singapore exhibition include the bronze cherub which is one of the most recognized artifacts amongst the entire *Titanic* collection. This cherub originally came from the grand staircase, which was a favorite meeting place for first class passengers. Other highlights include perfume vials that still emit traces of the fragrances it once contained and au gratin dishes that were found lined up like dominoes at the wreck site.

### ***Highlights of Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition***

#### **Cherry Toothpaste Jar**

Over a dozen of these toothpaste jars have been recovered from *Titanic's* wreck site. The large number of jars and their small capacity suggests that the White Star Line may have provided this brand to passengers as a complimentary toiletry item. Decorated with the profile of a young Queen Victoria, the manufacturer John Gosnell & Co. Ltd, is still in business today.



### **Cherub**

This object is perhaps one of the most recognized pieces in the collection of *Titanic* artifacts. This bronze cherub was recovered in 1987 and is missing its left foot. This loss most likely occurred when the cherub was ripped from the staircase post it adorned. *Titanic's* Grand Staircase was a favorite meeting place for first-class passengers before visiting the Turkish Baths or after dinner.



Each level of the staircase was decorated with inlaid wood and gilded ornaments like this bronze cherub that graced one of the upper landings. The Grand Staircase descended through six decks and was topped by a dome of iron and glass.

### **Third-class china**

Heavy and serviceable, the third-class dishware was marked with the White Star Line's distinctive logo. The majority of branded dining service had a least one identifying logo to prevent theft.

On the china ware, the name *Titanic* never appeared, allowing its use on other White Star Line ships. Additionally, there are not any maker's or brokerage marks on the back in order to keep costs to a minimum. It is generally thought that this pattern of china was also used for crew's service.



### **Au gratin dishes**

Hundreds of these perfectly preserved au gratin dishes were recovered from the sand in 1987 and 1994 where they were found, lined up like dominoes. The cabinet in which they were kept in protected them when the ship sank. Over time the cabinet's wood rotted away, leaving the dishes stacked neatly together in the sand. The plates, made from special fireproof clay, allowed *Titanic's* cooks to prepare meals under a searing heat and serve the same dish at the table.



### **Deck bench end**

Recovered in 1987, the wooden slats of this right side bench end have long disappeared, and only the ornate copper alloy supports remain, a symbol of opulence of the Gilded Age. The benches stood throughout *Titanic's* open deck spaces for the comfort of the passengers.

Consisting of a right, left and center support, wooden slats were attached to the perforated edges forming the seat and back of the bench. Benches were secured to the deck for passenger safety to prevent movement from the motion of the sea.



### **Perfume vials**

These amazing vials, recovered in 2000, still contain perfume that can still emit traces of the fragrance. The small leather case in which they were found, containing the 62 sample size perfume vials, were still intact with their labels and outer protective metal cases.

Some of the labels are legible and identify scents ultimately mixed into perfume: Carnation, Musk, Lily of the Valley, and Cashmere Bouquet, to name a few.



This case originally belonged to Adolphe Saalfeld, a perfume maker from Manchester, England. At the age of 47, he boarded the *Titanic* as a first-class passenger. He carried with him a leather satchel filled with the perfume samples. At the time *Titanic* sailed, the American perfume business was booming. It is believed that Saalfeld planned to sell his fragrances to fashion boutiques and department stores in New York and other cities.

### **Plaque for berth number "3"**

This small object was recovered in the 1993 Expedition, and measures just over 2" in diameter. It was actually discovered sitting in the silt of the ocean floor and was picked up by the manipulator arms of the manned submersible, *Nautilie*.

Both cabins and beds were individually numbered onboard the *Titanic*. In first-class, numbering was a book-keeping formality which prevented passengers from accidentally booking cabins with too few beds. However, in third-class, strangers were frequently booked into the same cabin. Bed numbers were issued to prevent arguments over who would sleep in the less desirable upper bunks.



### **Gimbal (pendulum) lamp**

This lamp was recovered in the 1987 Expedition. It is silver plated and most likely would have been used in first and second class cabins.

The base of the lamp would have enabled the lamp to stand upright on a table or mantle. The weighted pivot (near the center, with a partial cord attached) ensured that this silver lamp would remain upright in all weather.

For those passengers who wished to read in bed, an eye cast into the base of the lamp (not visible) allowed for convenient placement upon a hook on the wall. The weighted pivot has the White Star Line logo, a flag with a star in the center of it, impressed into one side.



### **Gold pocket watch**

This gold pocket watch was recovered during RMST's 1987 Expedition. It was discovered to have belonged to Mr. Thomas William Solomon Brown, an hotelier from the Cape Town, South Africa.

He boarded the *Titanic* at Southampton as a second-class passenger together with his wife and daughter, Edith. Their destination was Seattle, where Mr. Brown's sister-in-law lived.



### **Ring with diamond**

This beautiful diamond ring, recovered inside a leather bag in 1987, may have belonged to one of *Titanic's* first-class ladies.

She may have worn the ring to the Ship's formal social events before entrusting it to *Titanic's* Chief Purser, Herbert McElroy, for safekeeping during the journey.

This ring weighs 10.5 grams and is hand-constructed. It is made of yellow gold with an old European cut diamond in bezel setting. Diamonds are held in a bezel setting by a metal rim that encircles the sides of the stone and extends slightly above it. The rim, or collar, can stretch around the diamond's entire circumference, like the ring above, or around only a portion of it. The ring is engraved with the date June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1908 and a French gold hallmark (i.e. 18k). No maker is listed on the ring.



### **Large iron wrench**

Large wrenches throughout *Titanic's* engine rooms helped maintain the Ship's equipment. The Ship's engineers kept general tools in the workshop. Specialized tools like this one, however, fit only one part of one piece of machinery and were stored next to the equipment they serviced. To give an idea of size, this wrench has a diameter of 17 5/8" and weighs over 100 lbs. Striations visible in the surface of the metal are due to corrosion.



### **Silver chocolate pot**

This beautiful silver chocolate pot was recovered in 1987 and painstakingly conserved to preserve the silver surface. It was used to serve hot drinks (chocolate and café au lait) in the First-Class restaurants aboard *Titanic*.

The bottom is inscribed with "GOLDSMITHS & SILVERSMITHS COMPANY 112 REGENT STREET. W," along with the White Star Line logo and the pattern number. This company, located in London, was also one of the silver suppliers for the *Queen Mary*. In addition to producing silver tableware, this company also made other items, such as ceremonial swords for British admirals.



**Chandelier**

This chandelier once hung in the *Titanic's* exclusive a la carte Restaurant. Differing from similar fixtures on shore, these chandeliers hung rigidly from the ceiling to make the gentle sway of the *Titanic* less noticeable to diners. First-class passengers could make reservations in the deluxe a la carte Restaurant located aft on the Bridge Deck, in addition to taking meals in the main dining saloon. What had started as a small, 25-table deluxe restaurant on the *Olympic* had expanded into a 140 seat social club on *Titanic* just a year later.



Ordinarily, meals for all classes on *Titanic* were included in the price of the passage and diners selected their meals from a generous, but fixed menu. However, in the a la carte restaurant, diners could chose each course separately from a wider selection than that available in the main dining saloon. With this luxury came a literal price. Passengers had to pay for their meals out of their own pockets, like in any restaurant on shore. They were presented with a bill from a waiter's pad upon which their menu selections had been written. The room itself was decorated in the French style, Louis VI, and featured walls with delicate walnut veneers set off by gilded swags and festoons. These gilded swags were repeated in the plaster ceiling and on the borders of the china.

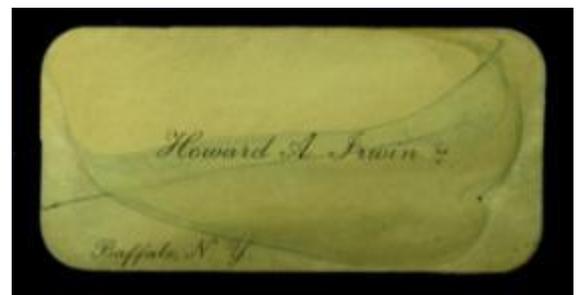
**Tribley (e.s. Andrew)**

This hat, called a trilby, was found folded into quarters inside a leather bag belonging to Edgar Andrew. It is made of wool with a silk inner lining and label. The manufacturer's label on the inside bears the name "Peter Bennett 58 Commercial Road Bournemouth". It also has a grosgrain ribbon with a bow that encircles the bottom of the crown. In Victorian times, men's hats made a symbolic statement. The formal tall stiff top hat marked the authority of the bourgeoisie and aristocrats. The informal soft trilby hats symbolized democracy and revolution and were generally associated with intellectuals, artists, and country life.



**Calling card**

In the early 19th century, a strict etiquette had evolved around the practice of "calling" or visiting a friend or acquaintance. Central to this practice was the calling card, which could be conveyed by a servant to the master or mistress of the house, so they might decide whether or not to receive the caller. The card displayed here belonged to Mr. Howard Irwin, and is typical of the type carried by gentlemen of the time. Men's calling cards, which were carried in the breast pocket of their jackets, were smaller than those used by ladies, who carried their cards in visiting card cases that were often made of silver or ivory. Note the printer's mistake in spelling 'Buffalo' as 'Baffalo.'



*Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition*, which has been staged in Las Vegas, London and Greece, is designed to tell the incredible stories of passengers from the legendary *RMS Titanic*'s maiden voyage. The use of authentic artifacts and extensive room re-creations combined with the compelling stories of the passengers and crew have made this exhibition one of the most successful exhibitions in the world with over 25 million tickets sold to date.

Over 50 specialists have been roped in to meticulously replicate the *Titanic* experience at the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands. The artifacts will be displayed in the Museum's lower galleries which have been recreated to resemble various actual areas in *Titanic*, such as the First and Third Class Cabins, Verandah Café, the famous Grand Staircase, Promenade deck, and Boiler Room.

RMS *Titanic*, Inc. is the only company permitted by law to recover objects from the wreck of the *Titanic*. The Company was granted Salvor-in-Possession rights to the wreck site of *Titanic* by a United States federal court in 1994 and has conducted eight research and recovery expeditions to the *Titanic*, successfully retrieving more than 5,500 artifacts. The Company recently completed its eighth and most ambitious mission to the wreck site of *Titanic* in 2010. For the first time in history, RMS *Titanic*, Inc. alongside the world's top oceanographic agencies set out to map the entire wreck of *Titanic* with the hopes of raising the Ship virtually for future generations.

Boasting an iconic lotus-inspired design, the world's first ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is poised to be the heart of the growing ArtScience movement. ArtScience Museum, which features 21 gallery spaces, totaling 50,000 square feet, is the premier venue for major international touring exhibitions from the most renowned collections in the world.

#### **About Marina Bay Sands Pte Ltd**

Marina Bay Sands is the leading business, leisure and entertainment destination in Asia. It features large and flexible convention and exhibition facilities, 2,560 hotel rooms and suites, the rooftop Sands SkyPark, the best shopping mall in Asia, world-class celebrity chef restaurants, a casino, Paiza Club for premium players and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theaters showcase a range of leading entertainment performances, including world renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is the ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands which plays host to permanent and marquee exhibitions. For more information, please visit [www.marinabaysands.com](http://www.marinabaysands.com).

**APPENDIX**

Ticketing	Admission charges for the ArtScience Museum are priced as follows:						
	<b>Category</b>	<b>Price for admission to Dali + ArtScience exhibition</b>		<b>Price for admission to Titanic + ArtScience exhibition</b>		<b>Price for all-access ticket (Dali + Titanic + ArtScience)</b>	
		Non-Singapore Resident	Singapore Resident	Non-Singapore Resident	Singapore Resident	Non-Singapore Resident	Singapore Resident
	Adult	\$15	\$13	\$24	\$20	\$28	\$24
	Senior (65 years old & above)	\$14	\$12	\$21	\$18	\$27	\$23
	Child (2-12 years old)	\$9	\$8	\$14	\$13	\$16	\$14
	<p>Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prices are inclusive of museum admission, 7% GST and booking fee</li> <li>• Tickets can be purchased on the ArtScience Museum website <a href="http://www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum">www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum</a> and all Marina Bay Sands box offices.</li> <li>• Singapore Citizens, Permanent Residents, and holders of Employment Pass, Work Permit, or Dependent's Pass must show valid proof of identity (ID) upon purchase, subject to one admission ticket per ID.</li> <li>• OCBC Bank is the Official Card of ArtScience Museum. Cardmembers enjoy 20% OFF museum admission across all categories of individual tickets* <i>*Payment must be made with OCBC Credit or Debit Card. Offer is not valid with other promotions, discounts, and privileges.</i></li> </ul>						
Opening Hours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 10am to 10pm daily, including weekends and public holidays. Last entry into the ArtScience Museum is at 9.00pm.</li> </ul>						