

# Press Release



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## ***Essential Eames* makes Singapore debut at ArtScience Museum**

*Impressive lineup of engaging and unique programming launched as part of exhibition experience*

**Singapore** (27 June, 2013) – The story of the design world’s most famous couple, Charles and Ray Eames, is being shared at ArtScience Museum™ beginning 29 June, 2013 with the arrival of *Essential Eames: A Herman Miller Exhibition*. ArtScience Museum and global furniture company Herman Miller are co-presenting the exhibition, which runs until 5 January, 2014, in collaboration with the California-based Eames Office.

“Charles and Ray Eames will forever be the first couple of design, and it’s a privilege to partner with the Eames Office and Herman Miller to bring this important exhibition to Singapore for the first time,” said Associate Director of ArtScience Museum Ross Leo. “The Eames legacy is that of creativity in design which transcends boundaries, philosophies and even time itself. This exhibition is a fitting reflection of their substantial contributions, and ArtScience Museum is pleased to host *Essential Eames* and share the enduring story of Charles and Ray Eames.”



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The exhibition is based on *An Eames Primer*, a book written by the couple's grandson Eames Demetrios which explores the vast contributions and impact of the design duo. *Essential Eames* brings this and the complete story of Charles and Ray Eames to life through over 100 of their works and images culled from the collections of the Eames family, Eames Office, and Herman Miller.

Included in the exhibition is an extensive showcase of the iconic furniture designed by the pair during their prolific career together. Among the authentic pieces represented in *Essential Eames* is the couple's recognisable Lounge Chair Wood. Originally designed by Charles and Ray Eames in 1945 for the Barclays Hotel in New York, *Time* magazine proclaimed this specific piece "the chair of the century." Additional Eames' furniture pieces represented within the exhibition include Moulded Plastic Chair, Eames Shell Chair, Eames Executive Chair, and Eames Lounge Chair and Ottoman among others.

"We want to introduce people to the breadth, pleasure and richness of the Eames' work," said Eames Demetrios, Director of the Eames Office and curator of *Essential Eames*. "We want to share with people some of the beautiful ideas behind the work, ideas that are not simply vehicles for the creation of objects but for everyday living. This exhibition embodies that spirit, and we're pleased to bring it to ArtScience Museum and Singapore for the first time."

ArtScience Museum is also introducing an impressive lineup of engaging and unique programming for visitors of all ages to enjoy during their visit to the exhibition. These interactive activities and elements have been developed by the museum specifically for *Essential Eames* and are designed to enhance the overall exhibition experience.

Within the exhibition programming space, known as *Essential Play*, visitors can create their own small-scale furniture piece to take home. This activity will provide participants with the opportunity to utilize many of the materials on display in the exhibition, put into practice the principles of design addressed in *Essential Eames*, and explore their own creativity in the process.

Another unique programming component of the exhibition is an engaging *Materials Trail*. This interactive journey within the exhibition provides visitors the chance to engage with a number of materials used by Charles and Ray Eames and found in the various galleries of *Essential Eames*. Opportunities to learn more about the materials and their design applications are found throughout the exhibition.

Inspired by the masks displayed in *Essential Eames* and the design couples' love of play, younger visitors of the exhibition will also have the chance to make and decorate their own animal masks. This activity will be conducted through regularly-occurring weekend workshops. Among the other engaging programming designed by ArtScience Museum for *Essential Eames* is an exhibition station that allows visitors to build their own version of the Eames' classic House-of-Cards.



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Mr. Eames Demetrios serves as curator for *Essential Eames*. During the exhibition's opening weekend of 29-30 June at ArtScience Museum, he will be providing a series of guided tours and a talk, all of which are complimentary and open to exhibition ticket holders. These will draw on his unique insight regarding his grandparents' extensive work and legacy as design icons.

Mr. Demetrios' public schedule at ArtScience Museum on 29-30 June is as follows:

Saturday, 29 June 2013

**Curator's Guided Tour**

(11:30am and 5:30pm)

Join Mr. Eames Demetrios from the Eames Office as he leads visitors through the exhibition, revealing fascinating facts about the life and design philosophy of his grandparents, Charles and Ray Eames.

**Curator's Talk**

(2:30pm – 3:30pm; held on Level 4 of ArtScience Museum)

*Surrendering to the Journey: The Many Designs of Charles and Ray Eames*

Curator Eames Demetrios talks about the Eames design philosophy, learning design backwards, and the treasures brought specially to Singapore.

Sunday, 30 June 2013

**Curator's Guided Tour**

(11:30am and 5:30pm)

Join Mr. Eames Demetrios from the Eames Office as he leads visitors through the exhibition, revealing fascinating facts about the life and design philosophy of his grandparents, Charles and Ray Eames.

For a complete listing of dates and times with all ArtScience Museum programming, please visit: [www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum](http://www.marinabaysands.com/ArtScienceMuseum)

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands is known as the museum that celebrates creativity, the processes at the heart of art and science, and their role in shaping society. The Museum seeks to understand what drives creative people, how they acquire and use their skills, and how the world around us is changed because of it. ArtScience Museum presents exhibitions and programmes to deliver these stories using a combination of beautiful design, intriguing content and intellectual discussion, in order to inspire the creativity in all of us.



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Featuring 21 gallery spaces totaling 50,000 square feet, the boldly iconic lotus-inspired ArtScience Museum is also the premier venue for major international touring exhibitions from the most renowned collections in the world. Since it opened in 2011, ArtScience Museum has been home to some of the best-attended exhibitions in Singapore, including “Titanic: The Artifact Exhibition”, “Harry Potter: The Exhibition”, “Andy Warhol: 15 Minutes Eternal”, “Dali: Mind of a Genius” and “The Art of the Brick”. “Essential Eames: A Herman Miller Exhibition” will be the fourteenth exhibition to be staged at ArtScience Museum.

ArtScience Museum at Marina Bay Sands was awarded TripAdvisor’s Certificate of Excellence in 2013. This recognition places the museum amid a select group of attractions that have been recognized by worldwide travelers for providing outstanding tourist experiences.

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#### **About Herman Miller**

Herman Miller works for a better world around you – with inventive designs, technologies and related services that improve the human experience wherever people work, heal, learn, and live. Its curiosity, ingenuity, and design excellence create award-winning products and services, resulting in more than \$1.7 billion in revenue in fiscal 2012. Innovative business practices and a commitment to social responsibility have also established Herman Miller as a recognized global company. A past recipient of the Smithsonian Institution's Cooper-Hewitt "National Design Award," in 2012, Herman Miller again received the Human Rights Campaign Foundation's top rating in its annual Corporate Equality Index and was also named, for the ninth consecutive year, to the Dow Jones Sustainability World Index. Herman Miller trades on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol MLHR.

#### **About the Eames Office**

The Eames Office is dedicated to communicating, preserving and extending the work of Charles and Ray Eames. All three of those dimensions are important to keeping the office useful and vital. At Eames Office, we believe that Charles and Ray’s work was the result of a way of looking at the world – a design philosophy and process that is worth sharing in many different dimensions. We also believe that creating wholly new works is as consistent with that philosophy as restoring and distributing classic ones.

#### **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 and an outdoor event plaza. Its two theatres showcase a range of leading entertainment performances including world-renowned Broadway shows. Completing the line-up of attractions is 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)

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#### **For Images**

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