



# Cosmonauts

## Discover the remarkable story of Russian space endeavour at the Science Museum, October 2014

### Capturing the public's imagination

In 1957, Soviet Russia launched Sputnik – the world's first artificial satellite. Four years later it sent the first human into space – Yuri Gagarin. Now, for the first time in the UK, the full story of how Russian scientific and technological ingenuity opened the Space Age is to be told in a major new exhibition at the Science Museum.

This prestigious display will be the landmark London exhibition of the 2014 UK-Russia Year of Culture and it will bring the mysteries of space and Russia to the heart of London. It will be a major collaboration between the Moscow State Memorial Museum of Cosmonautics and the Federal Space Agency, Roscosmos, and will draw on the support of many more institutions and individuals in London and Moscow.

### Imagination, inspiration and innovation

A sophisticated experience for a culturally and scientifically aware adult audience, our exhibition will stand out as a high-profile destination in London's cultural calendar. As a principal attraction of the 2014 UK-Russia Year of Culture agreed between the Russian and UK governments, it will be a 'must see' for anyone interested in space, science, engineering and Russian culture. It will tell the stories of cosmonauts such as Gagarin – and those who followed him into orbit – as well as the remarkable robot missions to the Moon and the planets. But it will also tell the stories of those who imagined and enabled Russia's exploration of space – the visionaries, artists, designers, engineers, technicians and scientists; it will be a story of Russia and its people.

We will reveal the 19th-century roots of Russian cosmonautics, when imagination and enquiry met the philosophical and the spiritual. Our story will then move through the tumultuous years of the 20th century, when dreams of utopia, artistic expression and the enthusiasm of rocket experimenters bore witness to Russians' longing for space. The opening of the Space Age in 1957 will preface the story of Russia's continuing exploration of the cosmos and its ambitious plans for the future.

**'The road to the stars is open.'**

*Sergei Korolev, following the launch of Sputnik 1*



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As part of our work to attract a new adult audience, from 2013 we will be opening a series of temporary exhibitions which will look at some of humankind's most complex and intriguing scientific discoveries and most remarkable technological achievements. In order to develop and open these important new exhibitions, we need to find support from like-minded individuals.

We have created a series of donor circles to bring together small groups of supporters for our temporary exhibitions. In return, our donor circles will bring you closer to the science that fascinates you, and give you the opportunity to become involved with the development of a project through to the opening of the exhibition and beyond.

### Support may be given at one of three levels:

- Cosmonauts Exhibition Supporter (a gift of £1000 or over)
- Cosmonauts Exhibition Patron (a gift of £5000 or over)
- Cosmonauts Exhibition Benefactor (a gift of £10,000 or over)

Members of each circle are invited to become part of the development of an exhibition through special events, visits to our collections and visits to other partner organisations.

To thank you for your support, Exhibition Patrons and Benefactors are acknowledged on gallery and in the Science Museum Annual Review. Exhibition Supporters are also acknowledged in the Annual Review.

If you would like to join the Cosmonauts exhibition donor circle, or discuss other ways to support the project, please contact:

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**'Earth is the cradle of humanity, but one cannot live in a cradle for ever.'**

*Konstantin Eduardovich Tsiolkovsky, Russian pioneer of cosmonautics*