



LONG
ISLAND
CITY **MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY**

The Long Island City Museum of Natural History is a resource for discovery, leading visitors to the wonders of our natural world.

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GRAND OPENING GALA AT THE LIC MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY



The main hall of the Museum, renovated in 2007.

The Long Island City Museum of Natural History is opening its doors on Saturday, May 31 with an inaugural exhibition featuring the highlights of our collection, including a special reception in the Ron W. Pallaka Memorial Wing

The Grand Opening Gala will be the premier of our exciting collection, featuring art, live music, and cocktails.

Grand Opening Gala

Saturday, May 31, 2008
8:00 pm – late
Free!

FEATURING ARTWORK BY

Karim Bendahmane
Tim Dowse
Tianna Kennedy and Tarikh Korula
Amy Longenecker
George Scheer and Stephanie Sherman
Alina Tensor
Jeff Thompson
as well as specimens from the permanent collection

PERFORMANCES BY

Twisty Cat
and
Slow/Dynamite

Late-night DJ's

Matt Radune and Jeremy Campbell

ABOUT THE MUSEUM

The LIC Museum of Natural History was founded in 2007, and will open it's doors to the public in May 2008. The Museum's mission is to be a resource to public, featuring a world-class collection of objects, specimens, and displays. In addition, a major mission of the museum is to provide education about the region, specifically Queens, through a series of exhibits about regional history, geology, and industry.

The building originally housed a 150-year-old event hall and social club in the Long Island City neighborhood of Queens. Acquired in 2006, the building has been fully renovated.

The Museum is a short walk from the subway or bus, and the entire museum is fully handicapped accessible.

or rather...

The LIC Museum of Natural History is an group art show curated by Texas Firehouse artist Jeff Thompson. Featuring work by eight artists, all pieces appear initially to be specimens of a natural history museum. Upon closer inspection, however, they are clearly works of art that span sculpture, painting, video, and sound.

Rather than a dry critique of museums or the classification of objects within them, the LIC Museum of Natural History is part elaborate joke, part real entity. At what point can a collection become a museum and what are the museum's limitations. In a culture so focused on the DIY mentality where institutions like micronations are being formed by a single person, why can't museums be built the same way?

In addition to the art show, musical acts Twisty Cat and Slow/Dynamite perform and DJ's after to round out the evening.

AN INTRODUCTION TO OUR COLLECTIONS

The Museum's permanent collections exist to serve our mission as a resource to the public, both through exhibitions and opportunities for research. Below is a brief introduction to some of our most exciting collections.



ROCK AND MINERAL COLLECTION

Considered one of the most diverse collections in the United States for an institution of its size, the Museum's rock and mineral collection features specimens from all seven continents. In addition to samples from the Earth, our collection also contains rocks from the Moon, dozens of meteors and meteorites, and more exotic sources like comets.

About the above image: chondrite meteorite sample, found in Mass. on May 1, 1860. Permanent collection; RM4875.



ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

A major initiative of the Museum is to provide world-class exhibitions on our natural environment and our impact on it. Thanks to a major grant from the Ford Foundation, in the next three years the Museum will present cutting-edge interactive exhibitions demonstrating the beautiful and sometimes terrifying features of our world, and how our lifestyles and industry are affecting it.

About the above image: wall cloud forming over Cortland, New York. Image courtesy of Museum's image and media archive; W2201.



ZOOLOGY AND BOTANY COLLECTION

With over 6,000 specimens, the Zoology and Botany department visually demonstrates the diverse plant and animal life on Earth. Life present today from the farthest reaches of the planet are contrasted by fossils of extinct dinosaurs and mammals. The Kelly M. Comsey Regional Wing shows animals and plants indigenous to New York state with a special focus on Queens.

About the above image: a very well preserved trilobite, and extinct arthropod from the Cambrian period. Gift of Michael Murray, 2007; LC1458-2.