



ASTRONOMICAL PICTURES AT AN EXHIBITION

AN ADLER PLANETARIUM VIDEO SUITE
PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY JOSE FRANCISCO SALGADO
MUSIC BY MUSSORGSKY • ORCHESTRATED BY RAVEL



ADLER
PLANETARIUM



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Show Description

Astronomical Pictures at an Exhibition is a suite of High Definition videos that takes viewers through a virtual gallery featuring awe-inspiring, art-like images and science visualizations of the cosmos as well as Salgado's own astronomy-inspired artwork. As the camera moves towards the works of art, audience members find themselves entering space through pictures and flying past Earth, planets, stars, black holes, and galaxies.

The music is the famous *Pictures at an Exhibition* by Modest Mussorgsky (1839-1881), originally inspired by the pictures painted by his friend, the artist and architect Viktor Hartmann. The piece has become known through various orchestrations and arrangements, with Ravel's arrangement being the most recorded and performed.

As in his earlier production, *Gustav Holst's The Planets*, Dr. Salgado pays close attention to the tone and tempo of the music, resulting in an experience in which the music and visuals reinforce each other instead of competing for the viewer's attention.



Biography

Dr. José Francisco Salgado is an astronomer and science visualizer at the Adler Planetarium in Chicago. Formally trained in Physics (BS, Univ. of Puerto Rico) and Astronomy (PhD, Univ. of Michigan), he uses his skills in astronomy education and visual arts to create multimedia works that communicate science in engaging ways. From 2006 to 2008 Dr. Salgado hosted 110 editions of *Nuestra Galaxia* (WGBO, Univision Chicago), a weekly astronomy news segment for which he received an Emmy nomination.

Dr. Salgado's first foray into video production was *Gustav Holst's The Planets*, a critically acclaimed video suite set to the music of the popular orchestral suite. The video suite was commissioned and premiered by the Chicago Sinfonietta in 2006 and had its West Coast premiere with the California Symphony in 2007. He is currently working on his third classical music video suite, a work being produced by his graphic arts company Vectors & Pixels Unlimited.

Through his artwork, Dr. Salgado seeks to create visually appealing images to provoke curiosity and a sense of wonder about the Earth and the Universe. His artwork, video work, photographs, and illustrations have been published in magazines and science books, and shown in San Juan, Chicago, Philadelphia, Pasadena, San Francisco, Belgrade, Melbourne, and Athens.

Adler Planetarium Mission

As part of its mission of inspiring the exploration and understanding of our Universe, the Adler Planetarium is partnering with symphony orchestras and educational institutions to reach broader audiences in and outside of the USA. These partnerships started in 2006 when the Adler produced a suite of high-definition videos to accompany two performances of Gustav Holst's *The Planets* by the Chicago Sinfonietta. The positive reception by audience members and critics prompted more collaborations between these two institutions, resulting in a second video/concert production entitled *Astronomical Pictures at an Exhibition* and a repeat free concert of *The Planets* in the Summer of 2008 in Chicago's Millennium Park. In addition to presenting these inspirational and educational works, a lecture or Q&A session is usually offered as a pre- or post-concert event, and educational materials are distributed to audience members.

Service Charges and Other Costs

- 3000 USD for first projection
- 500 USD for each additional projection

The following charges depend upon location

- Airfare
- Hotel expenses
- Meals and Incidental charges (approx. 100 USD/day)

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