

ADLER

PLANETARIUM

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COSMIC COLLISIONS

Space Show Fact Sheet

Film Title: **COSMIC COLLISIONS**

Opening: Friday, June 6, 2008

Film Details: Narrated by award-winning actor, director, and producer Robert Redford, **Cosmic Collisions** launches visitors on an awe-inspiring trip through space and time—well beyond the calm face of the night sky—to explore the hypersonic impacts that drive the continuing evolution of the Universe. This new space show focuses on the full range of collisions, from **catastrophic planetary impacts and the merging of massive galaxies to the continual explosions occurring in the center of the Sun** and the incessant barrage of small ionized particles in the solar wind ricocheting off Earth's magnetic field creating other-worldly conditions called "space weather."

Cosmic Collisions presents a view of the cosmos that is radically different from our everyday experience watching the peaceful night sky. Collisions are commonplace occurrences in space and are currently understood by scientists as a key mechanism in the evolution of the Universe. They are the spectacular and inevitable result of gravity pulling together objects such as planets, stars and galaxies, which are in constant motion through space. For the first time, **Cosmic Collisions** re-creates tremendous encounters that are usually invisible to us, either because they unfold over incredibly vast expanses of time and space, spanning billions of years and trillions of miles (as in the clash of galaxies), or because they occur almost instantaneously on a subatomic scale (as in the collision of protons in the heart of the Sun).

Show Times: **Cosmic Collisions** will be presented daily at 10:45 am, 12:15 pm, 1:45 pm and 4 pm.

Location: The Adler Planetarium
1300 South Lake Shore Dr.
Chicago, IL 60605
www.adlerplanetarium.org
(312) 922-STAR
(312) 542-2424 Public Relations (*not for publication*)

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- Organizers: ***Cosmic Collisions*** was developed by the American Museum of Natural History, New York, in collaboration with the Denver Museum of Nature & Science; GOTO, Inc., Tokyo, Japan; and the Shanghai Science and Technology Museum, China. ***Cosmic Collisions*** was created by the American Museum of Natural History with the major support and partnership of the Heliophysics Division of NASA's Science Mission Directorate and was made possible with the generous support of CIT.
- Admission: The ***Galaxy Package*** includes the ***Cosmic Collisions*** show, general admission and an audio tour; \$19 (adults); \$17 (adult–Chicago residents); \$15 (children); \$14 (children–Chicago residents); \$17 (seniors); \$15 (senior–Chicago residents); Children ages 3 and under admitted free. Visit www.adlerplanetarium.org or call (312) 922-STAR for details.
- About Adler: The Adler Planetarium – America's First Planetarium – was founded in 1930 by Chicago business leader Max Adler. Following its 75th anniversary, the Adler has begun a transformation into the world's premiere space science center, inspiring the next generation of explorers by sharing the personal stories of human space exploration and America's space heroes. The Adler is a recognized leader in science education, with a focus on inspiring young people to pursue careers in science. Learn more at www.adlerplanetarium.org.
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