

Shine on me -The Sun and Us | Group Show | Artfacts

In late summer 2018 NASA's Parker Solar Probe blasted off on a historic mission: to get closer to the Sun than ever before. Almost concurrently the Deutsches Hygiene-Museum launches a sister mission of its own, with a large-scale special exhibition aimed at looking at the Sun from all sides. So welcome aboard as we find out more about the cultural significance, scientific findings and some unsolved mysteries surrounding the star around which everything on Earth revolves – and find out more about us human beings, too. How did ancient civilisations on all five continents view the Sun? What can solar science today tell us for certain about the Sun's composition? And what influence does the Sun have on our present, our well-being, and our everyday lives? The first thing you encounter as you enter the exhibition is a spatial art installation inspired by space travel's century-old dream of one day reaching the sun. From there you gravitate along seven 'orbits' circling the Sun from various perspectives: the Sun as deity, as an instrument of time, a symbol, a luminous force, a remedy, an energy source, and of course as a star at the centre of our very own universe. The themes of the exhibition range from worship rituals in Ancient Egypt, alchemy and astrology to solar farms and space probes to bikinis, bombs, and classics of pop music. Each section comprises additional research stations with an opportunity to look deeper into what makes the Sun so fascinating and allow you to reach your own surprising conclusions through a hands-on approach. Here comes the sun!