

#### MORE ENTERTAINMENT

- Do see *Body Worlds*, but don't call them corpses
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- Prince gives Houston singer special attention
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#### SEARCH RESULTS

- Competing cadaver exhibits to visit Houston
- Real flesh and bones educate in *Body Worlds*
- Exhibit displays real flesh, bones to educate about the body
- Crowds silently study *Body Worlds* exhibit
- Anatomy freak show tix on sale

## Entertainment

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Cards are slipped from foot to foot in The Poker Playing Trio.

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KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

## The dos and don'ts of *Body Worlds 3*

By **LANA BERKOWITZ**

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You weren't part of the record-setting crowds during the opening weekend of *Body Worlds 3: The Anatomical Exhibition of Real Human Bodies* at the Houston Museum of Natural Science?

That's OK. The exhibition of bodies in various poses and sliced-and-diced body parts will be around till Sept. 4.

Before you go ogle the plastinates, as the preserved bodies are called, here are some dos and don'ts:

### Do

- Go with someone thoughtful and wise such as Lester Smith, who was instrumental in bringing the exhibit to Houston. When he talks about the body and the departure of the soul, you will get goosebumps.

### RESOURCES

#### **BODY WORLDS 3**

- **Where:** Houston Museum of Natural Science, 1 Hermann Circle Drive
- **When:** through Sept. 4
- **Hours:** 9 a.m.-9 p.m. daily. The last ticket is sold at 8 p.m.
- **Cost:** 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. tickets cost \$22 for adults, \$15 for children 11 and younger, seniors and students; 5-9 p.m. \$17 for adults and \$13 for children, seniors and students
- **Information:** 713-639-4629 or [www.hmns.org](http://www.hmns.org)

#### **THE FULL-BODY PLASTINATES**

- *The Skin Man* (plastitized in

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- Be prepared to see a lot of penises. Most of the full-body plastinates are male.
- Bring the old folks. They love to talk about their joints and pains while wheeling through the exhibits.
- Notice the artwork above the three poker players. Plastination inventor Gunther von Hagens says he wears a black hat in tribute to 17th-century anatomists, which Rembrandt depicts in *The Anatomy Lesson*.
- Expect a reverence. There's a hushed tone as visitors look at the plastinates, which are made from bodies donated to science.

## Don't

- Touch. You can get nose to nose, even nose to toe, but keep your hands in your pockets.
- Call them cadavers or corpses. These anatomists prefer the word "plastinates."
- Go if you are a hypochondriac. Von Hagens is quite proud of all the healthy organs displayed next to diseased organs, which may leave you worrying that your heart feels enlarged or your brain is shriveling from Alzheimer's.
- Give the plastinates nicknames such as Pinhead, make chain-saw sounds or do the zombie walk. You will be shunned by most, who take this walk through the dead very seriously.
- Forget the gift shop. You may really need a *Body Worlds 3* mouse pad or key chain. And if you're really intrigued, the *Body Worlds* catalog (Arts & Sciences, \$24.95) is a must-have. It has lots of photos, close-ups and explanations.

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1977). This guy, who stars on the billboards and posters, holds his own skin, which has wisps of hair up the legs and on the scalp.

- *Exposed Cavities* (1996). The male's body cavity is opened. His internal organs are displayed separately on a rotating pedestal.
- *Deep Body Dissection* (1996). Here's another guy exposing himself, but his lips and skinny toes are interesting.
- *Emerging Skeleton* (2006). The male is posed above a grave site (1964-2006) to show off the deep muscles in his back.
- *The Rearing Horse With Rider* (2000). This is a soaring juxtaposition of human and animal musculature. The man holds a human brain in his right hand and the smaller horse brain in his other hand.
- *Woman on Exercise Bar*. She's hanging by her feet and holding a ball. A mirror lets visitors study the outstretched body from all angles.
- *The Kneeling Lady* (2005). There's a daintiness to the hands and small ears.
- *The Star Warrior* (1997). The male with horizontal strips of skin left intact faces eternity with his hands on his hips.
- *The Thinker* (2002). The amazing red man reveals inner profiles of the blood vessels.
- *The Caller* (2006). Just imagine what this skinless guy could be saying on his cell phone.
- *The Poker Playing Trio* (2006). Three plastinates with various dissections are seated in club chairs at a red-felt poker table. The guy who holds a straight is using his foot to slip an ace to a player holding the "dead man's hand" (that's a jack, two aces and two eights).
- *The Wizard* (2003). The male seems to be flying, although his organs from his tongue to the rectum have been removed. Rather than a broom for flying, his right hand holds his tongue, and the left hand supports the same-side lung.

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