



Press release

THAT'S LEATHER! From A to Z

Opening of the new project space

from September 22, 2018

Following last year's exhibition **Linking Leather – The Diversity of Leather**, the German Leather Museum (DLM) is continuing its exploration of leather as a material. With **THAT'S LEATHER! From A to Z** the DLM is presenting an innovative multimedia project space that provides comprehensive insights into the material that is thousands of years old and for the first time shows fundamental facts about leather in dialog with the museum's outstanding collection.

Leather alphabet from A to Z

Selected objects are presented with their special type of leather and in their individual design in the form of a leather alphabet. Each exhibit has its own "touching station" featuring that particular processed leather. For visitors this means: Touching is expressly allowed! In this way, the museum intends to convey leather's diversity in an innovative and informative manner.

The significant and valuable objects on display include a decorated salmon-skin bag made by the Siberian Nanai people, a hard-wearing glasses case made of elephant leather and a fine wallet fashioned from stingray leather. This selection of objects from a wide variety of eras, cultures and areas of application allows everyone to vividly experience the huge scope of leather types and styling options.

Media tables

Detailed information on the different types of leather such as cowhide and sheepskin, nubuck leather and suede, not to mention crocodile, ostrich and sharkskin, as well as the most important finishing and design techniques is provided at altogether eight media tables. 64 sensory touching stations, each of which presents a special piece of leather or the corresponding design technique, set the installation in motion. As such, key information on the specific properties of the leather, areas of use and particular occupations can be individually called up. Here too, touching is allowed!

Film installation

The German Leather Museum had short films produced featuring former and current members of selected leatherworking firms in and around Offenbach. Fine bag makers, designers and producers talk in short portraits about craftsmanship and tradition, various finishing processes and the role of fashion and trends.

Firms from the area around Offenbach presented in the films include Picard Lederwaren – one of the larger companies – and KREIS Ledermanufaktur, which specializes in belts and small leather goods. From Offenbach itself, a short portrait is shown of F. Hammann – Finest Leathergoods, a close neighbor of the German Leather Museum. Tsatsas, which has been designing exclusive bags in Frankfurt for five years but has its designs realized in Offenbach, likewise provides insights into its work. Bespoke shoemaker Jürgen Ernst rounds out the diverse mix of the few leatherworkers still active in the industry today. A film about the Werkstatt-Museum Karl-Mayer-Haus and an interview with the former sample maker at Goldpfeil Gunter Brehm enables viewers to access the topic from an historical perspective. This gives rise to an authentic and lively image of the leather goods industry in and around Offenbach.

In addition to the exhibits and media tables, these films are a central component of the exhibition **THAT'S LEATHER! From A to Z**. They will be shown as a continual film installation in the Hugo Eberhardt Room for the duration of the exhibition.

THAT'S LEATHER! From A to Z

from September 22, 2018

Press preview: September 20, 2018, 1 p.m.

Opening: September 21, 2018, 7 p.m.

The exhibition space was made possible thanks to the generous support of



Dr. Marschner Stiftung

The media stations are being produced in collaboration with MESO Digital Interiors GmbH, Frankfurt/Main.

DLM German Leather Museum

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Tuesday to Sunday, 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.



From Frankfurt Central Station: S-Bahn S1, S2, S8,

S9 to "Ledermuseum" station, exit Ludwigstr.

(approx. 10-min walk)

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