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WITTE MUSEUM

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Slow Down, Speed Up and Manipulate TIME This Summer at the Witte



**PLAYING
with Time**

SAN ANTONIO—The blink of an eye happens in 400 milliseconds. It takes up to 50 million years for a star to form. A hummingbird flaps its wings 50 to 75 times per second. The Earth orbits the sun at 66,600 miles per hour. Obviously, the universe is filled with changes that happen too quickly or too slowly for the eye to perceive—until

now! *Playing with Time*, on view in the **Witte Museum's** Kathleen and Curtis Gunn Gallery **June 20 through September 27**, is an exciting, interactive exhibit that puts time into visitors' hands to witness, replay and even create. Literally *play* with time by speeding it up and slowing it down—experiencing the unseen world of natural change.

Time is used to sequence events, to compare the durations of events and the intervals between them and to quantify the motions of objects. Visitors can examine the amazing transformation of a corn kernel to popcorn; and use the power of strobe lights to turn a stream of water into distinct droplets. Strobe lights are also used to slow down a pumping needle in a sewing machine and the blurry vibrations of an electric toothbrush.

Once the fast-paced changes of the world have been explored, the slow changes of life can be sped up to be seen in seconds. Get into the groove with the Plant Dance, using green-screen technology and a camera, dancers can mimic the sway and growth of plants in time-lapsed footage as plants reach for the sun. Time can be sped up even more to see the slow changes of the Earth including volcanic eruptions, forest re-growth, erosion, glacier migrations and the past 700 years of climate change. Then head into space to see the slowest change of all, Universe expansion, and explore solar changes revealing the mystery behind sun spots, solar flares and stellar formation and evolution.

Experience time warp at the Witte this summer! There is a \$3 surcharge in addition to museum general admission for *Playing with Time*. For more information call 210.357.1900 or visit www.wittemuseum.org.

Playing with Time is a co-production of the Science Museum of Minnesota and Red Hill Studios. The exhibit was made possible with support from the National Science Foundation. *Playing with Time* at the Witte Museum is generously supported by the Holt Atherton Education Foundation, Inc., the Joan and Herb Kelleher Charitable Foundation and Culligan Southwest, Inc.

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