

## Deep Space LIVE

### Deep Space LIVE: The Northern Lights – Fireworks in the Heavens

Thursday, February 2, 2012 / 8 PM / Ars Electronica Center

(Linz, January 30, 2012) A show lavishly illustrated with superb images of one of our planet's most impressive natural spectacles is set for Thursday, February 2 at 8 PM. The next Deep Space LIVE will feature meteorologist Andreas Pfoser on the aurora borealis, the causes of these so-called northern lights and the many forms they take. Rounding out the evening will be a presentation of Pfoser's recently published book "Polarlichter – Feuerwerk am Himmel."

## The Northern Lights

The aurora borealis is caused by the collision of energetic charged particles with atoms in the high altitude atmosphere of Earth. These events are triggered by powerful solar eruptions, which are expected to occur more frequently in the coming years due to increasing solar activity. For instance, very strong eruptions on January 24, 2012 produced spectacular aurorae in the nighttime sky above Scandinavia. When the geomagnetic storms are at their highest intensity, these fascinating ribbons and arcs of light can sometimes be seen even in Central Europe.

## Andreas Pfoser

After graduating college with a degree in meteorology, Andreas Pfoser received advanced training in aviation meteorology. Since 1999, he has been on the staff of Austro Control's Aviation Weather Service; he has been in charge of weather forecasting since 2003. As an undergraduate, Pfoser took numerous courses in astronomy and the physics of the high altitude atmosphere. Since then, he has taken several trips to view the aurorae borealis in Northern Sweden, Northern Finland and Iceland.

## Deep Space LIVE

The Ars Electronica Center is now hosting a Deep Space LIVE event every Thursday (except holidays) at 8 PM. Each presentation will feature ultra-high-definition imagery in 16x9-meter format and will be accompanied by expert commentary, entertaining stand-up repartee, and musical improvisation. Whether great works from the history of art, space travel, journeys of discovery in the Nanoworld, or a live concert is what you've come to behold, Deep Space LIVE stands for enlightening entertainment amidst breathtaking worlds of imagery. Admission is €2. Holders of a valid Museum ticket are admitted free of charge.

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Ars Electronica Center: <http://www.aec.at/center/en/>

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