



IMPERIUM KONFLIKT MYTHOS
2000 JAHRE | VARUSSCHLACHT®

Press Release

History You Can Touch – Roman Ship “Victoria” Visits Mainz

Mainz, 20th June 2008

This weekend a lady ambassador is paying a visit to Mainz. Her mission: To announce the exhibition project “IMPERIUM KONFLIKT MYTHOS. 2000 Years Varus Battle”. The Roman ship “Victoria” will be moored in the Winterhafen from 20.06.08 to 22.06.08. There the full-scale reconstruction of a 2000 year old Roman warship can be viewed. In addition the ship will be presented for the first time on the Rhine as an added attraction to the regatta “Rowing against Cancer”.

Boatbuilders from Harburg shipyard Jugend in Arbeit e.V. and historians from the University of Hamburg built the 16 m long and almost 3 m wide wooden ship. “Now that we know, after several weeks of trials, what “Victoria” is capable of doing, our ship will be history you can touch”, promised project director Prof. Dr. Christoph Schäfer.

This summer interested visitors can take their places on the rowers’ benches of the 4 ton ship. The reconstruction of the ancient vessel will be visiting a number of places before the autumn. During its stops “Victoria” will be drawing attention to the trans-regional exhibition project being prepared by museums in North-Rhine Westphalia and Lower Saxony, which in 2009 will be dealing with different facets of the Varus Battle, also known as “Battle of the Teutoburg Forest”.

The project is devoted to the events of 9AD in three museums at three original sites. The three parts of the exhibition will be looking at the historic event and its consequences from different perspectives and be focussing European attention on it once more. Co-operation between organisations in two different Länder provides support for the project. Those organisations are the Landschaftsverband (LWL), the Varusschlacht im Osnabrücker Land GmbH – Museum und Park Kalkriese and the Landesverband Lippe and Kreis Lippe.

The Roman Empire at the height of its power is the subject of the exhibition “IMPERIUM” in the Seestadthalle in Westphalian Haltern am See. “We want to provide our visitors with a picture of art and culture, war, peace and propaganda

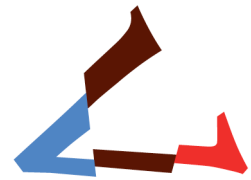
www.imperium-konflikt-mythos.de

„IMPERIUM KONFLIKT MYTHOS. 2000 Jahre Varusschlacht“ ist ein Ausstellungsprojekt im Jahre 2009 getragen von:

LWL
Für die Menschen.
Für Westfalen-Lippe.

**VARUS
SCHLACHT**
IM OSNABRÜCKER LAND
MUSEUM UND PARK
KALKRIESE

**LANDES
VERBAND
LIPPE**  **Lippe**
Lippe**kultur**



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at the time of Augustus”, comments the Head of the LWL-Römermuseum, Dr. Rudolf Asskamp. The various phases in the life of the general defeated in the battle, who has given his name to it, Publius Quincitilius Varus, will be shown parallel to this.

The scientific results of more than two decades of research into the historic event will be presented by the Varusschlacht im Osnabrücker Land GmbH – Museum und Park Kalkriese (“CONFLICT”). Director Dr. Joseph Rottmann: “We will be showing the latest findings of archaeology and complementary sciences”. The subject will be presented in Lower Saxony’s Kalkriese, too, from the perspective of the Germanic peoples.

The Lippisches Landesmuseum Detmold will be devoting itself in its exhibition to the myth around Arminius, the Germanic tribes and showing how the historical event of the Varus Battle and its protagonists became a myth which shaped German and European history decisively”, commented Dr. Elke Treude, Deputy Museum Director and curator of the exhibition “MYTH”.

There is information on the exhibition project and about the Roman ship on the internet under www.imperium-konflikt-mythos.de.

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