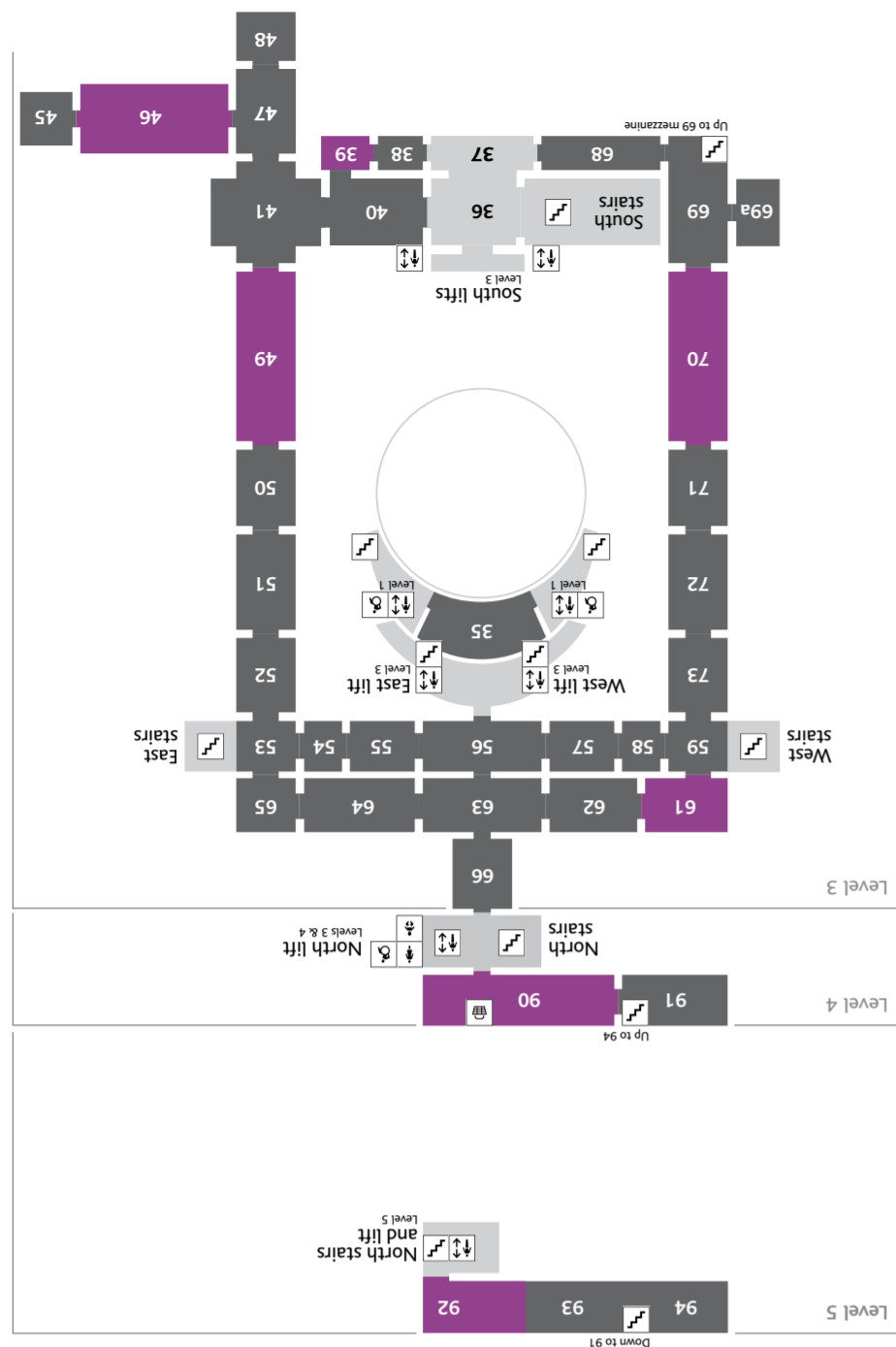
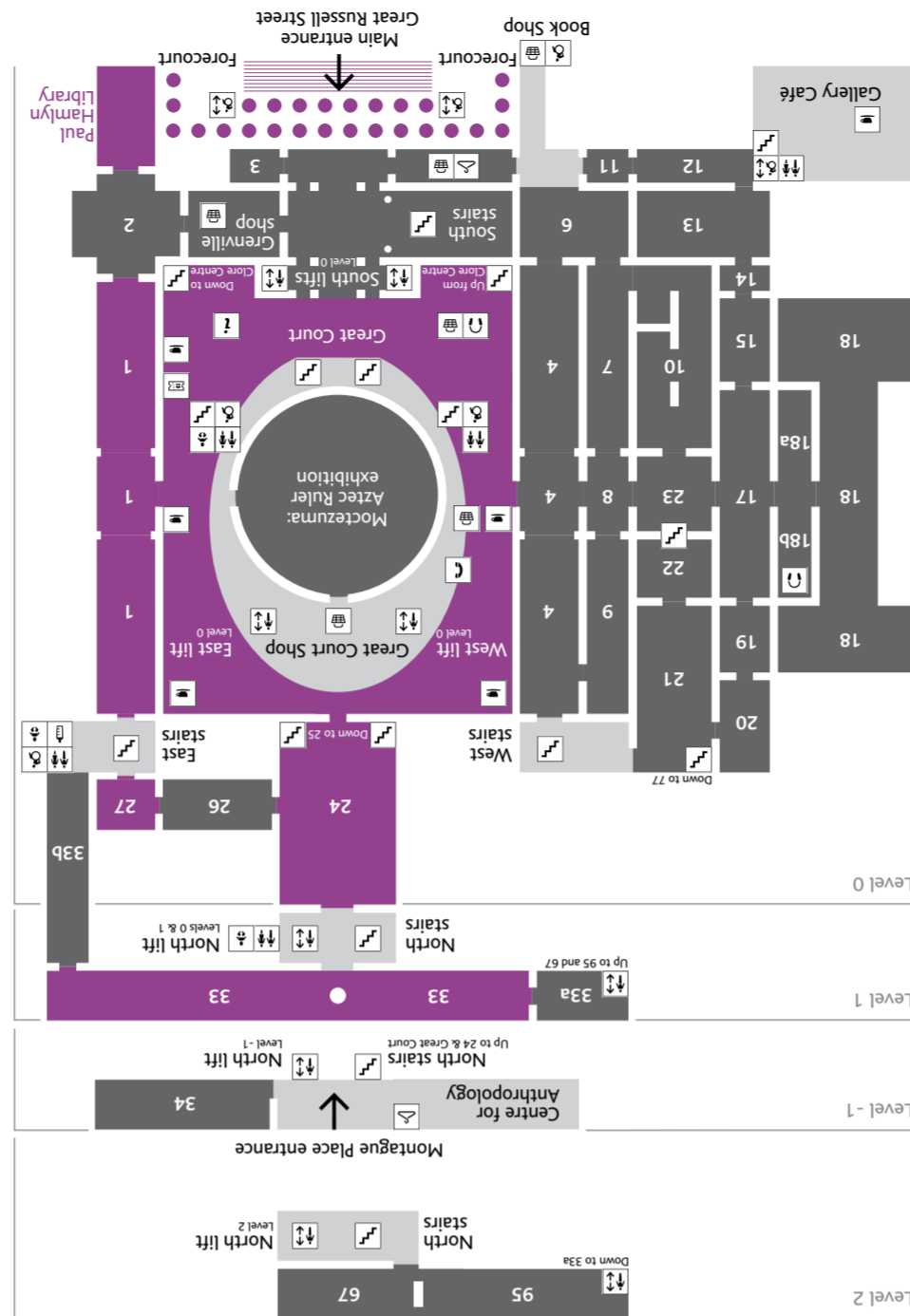
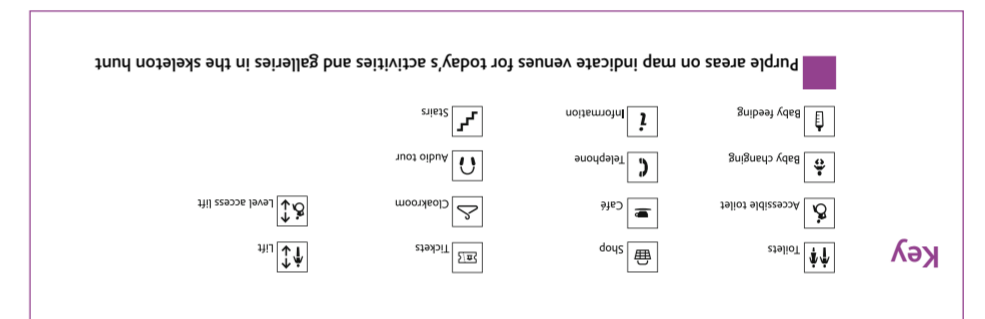


Pick up a free map of the whole Museum from the Information Desk in the Great Court



THE BRITISH MUSEUM

DAY OF THE DEAD



EVENTS PROGRAMME

SUNDAY 1 NOVEMBER 2009
11.00–17.00
Free, just drop in

JOIN THE FIESTA!

Celebrate this annual Mexican festival with free family performances, dance, workshops and carnival parades

EATING
Enjoy Mexican street food, available from the stalls in the Great Court. Family-friendly Mexican-inspired food is available at the Gallery Café. Snacks are also available in the West Foyer of the Clore Education Centre. The Court Restaurant is closed today for a private function.

MEMBERSHIP & YOUNG FRIENDS
Become a Member today and enjoy a great range of benefits including free entry to all exhibitions.

If your child is aged 8–15 they can become a Young Friend for just £20 a year. Benefits include the Young Friends magazine, 4 sleepovers a year at the Museum, and a range of other exciting events.

For more information and to join, ask at the Ticket Desk in the Great Court.

SHOPPING
Visit the Museum shops for a wide range of Day of the Dead products, including t-shirts, sugar skulls, clay skulls, paper-cuts, masks, skull candles, skull-topped cocktail stirrers and place-card holders.

EXPLORE THE MUSEUM'S COLLECTION
Find out more about Mexico in Room 27. Discover more about living and dying in different world cultures in Room 24. Admission free

RELATED EXHIBITIONS
Moctezuma: Aztec Ruler **RR**
Until 24 January 2010
£12, family ticket available, Members free
Supported by ArcelorMittal

Revolution on paper: Mexican prints 1910–1960 **90**
Until 5 April 2010
Admission free
Supported by The Monument Trust and The Mexico Tourism Board

For events related to these exhibitions, pick up the events programmes from the Information Desk or sign up for the Museum's newsletter at www.britishmuseum.org

THE BRITISH MUSEUM

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© The Trustees of the British Museum 10/2009. All information correct at time of print.
Cover: Papier mâché figurine of 'La Catrina' (a female skeleton dandy), used at the Day of the Dead festival. Made in Mexico City, 1980s.
Inside: Papier mâché skull, used at the Day of the Dead festival. Made by Saulo Moreno in Tlalpujahuá, Mexico, 1993.

JOIN THE FIESTA!

In Mexico, Day of the Dead is an annual festival where families gather to remember the dead. Today, celebrate Day of the Dead at the Museum with free activities and events.

All events are FREE, tickets are not required. Please stay with your children at all times.

FAMILIES

There is a great selection of activities for all the family to enjoy. Don't forget to watch the performances in the Great Court, or to take part in the carnival parades at 13.30 & 16.15.

11.00–16.00 **FC**

Workshops for families

Create traditional paper-cuts, skeleton masks and other decorations in these colourful workshops. Recommended for ages 3+.
Free, just drop in

11.00–16.00 **SD**

Digital activities

Celebrate Day of the Dead through a variety of digital art and photography activities in the Samsung Digital Discovery Centre and the galleries. Recommended for ages 5+.
Free, just drop in, limited places

12.00–13.00, 14.00–15.00

& 15.15–16.15 **BP**

Day of the Dead storytelling performance

Enter a bizarre and quirky celebration of the Day of the Dead, where dead ancestors are honoured and Death is mocked, cheated and saluted by turn. With renowned storytellers Ben Haggerty and TUUP.
Recommended for ages 7+.
Free, limited places

11.15–13.15 & 14.00–16.00 **CE**

Face painting

Become a skeleton for the carnival parade with trained face-painters. Please note that numbers will be limited and queues are likely.
Recommended for all ages.
Free, just drop in

DISPLAYS

Papier mâché figures **24**

Stunning Day of the Dead papier mâché figures from the Museum's collection.

Day of the Dead altar **GC**

The altar (*ofrenda* in Mexico) is where dead loved ones are celebrated. The Museum's altar has been created by Mexican artist Adriana Amaya and children visiting the Museum during half-term. The central figure of Moctezuma was made specially for the British Museum in the famous Linares workshop in Mexico City.

VENUE KEY

- 1** Room number
- GC** Great Court
- FC** Ford Centre for Young Visitors
- SD** Samsung Digital Discovery Centre
- BP** BP Lecture Theatre
- SL** Stevenson Lecture Theatre
- CE** Clore Education Centre
- F** Museum Forecourt
- L** Paul Hamlyn Library, next to Room 2
- RR** Reading Room

PERFORMANCES

Free, just drop in

11.00, 12.50 & 15.10 **GC**

Mariachi Mexteca and Yurupary Mexican folkloric dance troupe

Listen to traditional Mariachi music by the UK's only truly authentic Mexican Mariachi band, led by Salvador Jimenez. The dancers are led by Xihomara Granados with vibrant performers from BLatin.co.uk

11.30–12.30, 13.30–14.30

& 15.30–16.15 **1**

Aztec musical ensemble Tunkul

Have a go at playing replica instruments and find out what Aztec music was like with British Aztec musical ensemble, Tunkul.

12.00 & 14.20 **GC**

Xantolo: music for Day of the Dead

Coro Cervantes presents a unique concert blending the musical traditions of Mexico, including the *pirecua* songs of Michoacán (songs of the Purepecha Indians in the Tarasco language), the motets sung in churches on Day of the Dead, and traditional folksongs.

14.00 & 15.50 **GC**

Mexican folkloric ballet

Watch a selection of Mexican folk dances from several Mexican regions, performed by members of the Manchester Mexican Society.

15.30–15.45 **F**

Danza Antigua: a romantic danse macabre from the underworld

Watch a spectacular duet on stilts inspired by Day of the Dead. Scarabeus Theatre presents skilful dance and acrobatics on stilts with stunning costumes. Weather dependent. Fire and flares will be used in this performance.

DEMONSTRATION

11.00–13.00 & 15.00–17.00 **GC**

Paper-cutting demonstration

Mexican craftswoman Adriana Amaya demonstrates the traditional Mexican art of paper-cutting known as 'Papel Picado', transforming tissue paper into a string of skeletons or a detailed picture.

CARNIVAL PARADES

13.30 & 16.15 **GC**

See a spectacular carnival parade of dancing skeletons led by Mandinga Arts. Meet in the Great Court to join in

WORKSHOPS FOR ADULTS

11.30 & 15.00 **L**

Pictogram workshop

In this introduction to Aztec pictograms, learn how to decipher glyphs and create your own pictograms. Each session lasts 45 minutes.
Free, 25 places per session

STORYTELLING FOR ADULTS

12.30, 14.00 & 16.00 **L**

Nesto

Listen to a gritty tale of magical realism set in contemporary Mexico, following Nesto's journey as he encounters a talking stone, defeats an Aztec demon and saves his father's soul on the Day of the Dead. Written and told by Philippe Cheronnier. Each session lasts about 30 minutes.
Free, limited places

DOCUMENTARY

13.30 & 15.30 **SL**

The Linares family

This film provides an introduction to the Linares family of Mexico City, who specialise in the production of elaborate papier mâché figures. Though their work is based on traditional techniques, they have developed a unique style using fantastic imagery. Their sculpture of Moctezuma is displayed on the Day of the Dead altar.
Director: César Parra
Mexico, 18 minutes
In Spanish with English subtitles
Free, limited places

LECTURE

12.00 & 14.00 **SL**

The Mexican Festival of the Dead

On All Saints' and All Souls' Days, celebrated on 1 and 2 November, Mexicans welcome the souls of the departed with lavish offerings in homes and cemeteries. The festival is also a focus for artists and craftworkers, with brightly painted skeletons of pottery and papier mâché, toys and sugar skulls giving the festival its unique character. Chloë Sayer, expert in Mexican arts and crafts, gives an illustrated introduction to this festival. Followed by a book signing of Chloë's new book, *Fiesta*.
Free, limited places

JOIN THE FIESTA ONLINE!

Twitter Follow @britishmuseum on Twitter to receive live updates. Post your own comments using #DOTD09

Flickr Share your photos of today on Flickr at www.flickr.com/groups/dotd09

Facebook Become a fan of the Museum at www.facebook.com/britishmuseum and take part in the Day of the Dead discussion board.

GALLERY TALKS

30 minutes each
Free, just drop in

11.20 in English & 13.50 in Spanish **90**

Me and my Day of the Dead

Jimena Gorráez-Belmar, Assistant Cultural Attaché, Mexican Embassy

11.30 & 12.30 **25**

Images of the Spirits of the Dead

Chris Spring, British Museum

11.50 in Spanish & 14.50 in English **90**

Personal experiences of Day of the Dead

Ignacio Durán Loera, Cultural Affairs Minister, Mexican Embassy

12.00 & 13.30 **70**

The art of death in ancient Rome

Paul Roberts, British Museum

12.00 & 14.30 **27**

Death in Aztec Mexico

Elizabeth Baquedano, University College London

12.20 & 14.20 **90**

Feasting at Day of the Dead

Stefan Gates, writer and presenter of the BBC's *Feasts* and *Cooking in the Danger Zone*

12.30 & 14.00 **92**

Buddhism and the afterlife

Tim Clark, British Museum

13.00 & 15.00 **24**

The crystal skull: ancient Mexican?

Margaret Sax, British Museum

13.30 & 15.00 **61**

Crossing boundaries: living and dead in ancient Egyptian society

John Taylor, British Museum

14.00 & 16.00 **24**

Laughter, sacrifice and the afterlife: rites and concepts of death around the world

Max Carocci, Centre for Anthropology

14.30 & 16.00 **49**

Burial and memorial in Roman Britain

Ralph Jackson, British Museum

FREE SKELETON HUNT FOR FAMILIES

During the Day of the Dead Festival in Mexico, skeletons are found everywhere – as masks and sculptures, cut from paper and made from sugar. Have a go at hunting for these skeletons from other cultures around the world in the Museum's galleries.

1

Go up the South stairs by the Main entrance and find the watches in Room 39. Can you find this silver skull watch?

If you could open up this head, here's what it would look like:



4

Staying in Room 33, go to Case 55 and find this amazingly athletic skeleton.

Can you bend your legs like this?



2

Go through to Room 46 and look for this tiny gold pendant in Case 11 (case numbers are on the top of cases). It's very, very small so you'll need to use all your hunting skills to find it.

Can you work out what size it is? Try measuring it against your thumb.



5

Finally, go downstairs to Room 24 and find this elaborate skeleton figure.

How many different animals and creatures can you see crawling and climbing on him?

