

## **TOM SACHS. SPACE PROGRAM: RARE EARTHS**

TOM SACHS AND TEAM EMBARK ON FOURTH INTERSTELLAR MISSION

**19 SEPTEMBER 2021 – 10 APRIL 2022**

DEICHTORHALLEN HAMBURG

Hamburg, Germany—The Deichtorhallen Hamburg is pleased to host Tom Sachs and his team of sculptor-astronauts as they prepare to advance space exploration on their next interstellar mission, *Space Program 4: Rare Earths*. The fourth exhibition in Sachs's *Space Program* series, a thirteen-year exploration of the boundaries of other worlds and human possibilities, *Space Program 4: Rare Earths* will be on display from 19 September 2021 to 10 April 2022.

In *Space Program 4: Rare Earths*, Sachs's astronauts head to VESTA, the brightest and closest asteroid to Earth, with one goal: to harvest the protoplanet's rare earth minerals, needed to perpetuate Earth's addiction to technology. Sachs and his crew have engineered all that is necessary for survival from plywood, foam core, screws, hot glue, and various other tools of their trade.

Sachs will transform the impressive Hall of Contemporary Art at the Deichtorhallen, utilizing over 3,000 square meters of gallery space to create an interactive landscape featuring original sculptures and bricolage works. In the beginning of the exhibition, Sachs and his studio team will activate the sculptures through a so called marathon demonstrations of protocol and procedure, including scientific exploration and mineral extraction on Vesta's surface, food delivery, entertainment, human waste disposal, and the ritual of the Japanese tea ceremony.

Visitors will be invited to undergo an indoctrination process in which they will prove their worth through a series of tasks and questions and thus earn the right to participate in the installation as a member of Sachs's team, witnessing iconic elements from past missions, including the Landing Excursion Module (LEM) and Mission Control, as well as new installations and a live demonstration of the program's flight plan. Once indoctrinated, supplicants will be encouraged to submit to the Ritual of Transubstantiation. By separating themselves from their mobile devices, they will provide vital contributions to Sachs's study of our mental interconnectivity, addiction to technology, and successful harvest of The Abyss.

With each new mission to space, Sachs explores a new facet of his craft, and the mission to Vesta is no exception. *Space Program 4: Rare Earths* features many new works by Sachs, including *Transubstantiation* (2020–21), *Vehicle Assembly Building* (2021), and an immersive MRI machine.

Throughout all his explorations of space—the moon at Gagosian in 2007, Mars at the Park Avenue Armory in 2012, and Jupiter's icy moon Europa at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in 2016—the journey is powered equally by scientific exploration and bricolage. In this age of instant gratification, Sachs's central focus is his hallmark craft of and obsession with showing the evidence of human construction.

Sachs describes the sculptures in this exhibition as objects of love which honor the traditions of which we are all a part, supporting the rituals of studio practice, all things analog, and obsession with the handmade. By emphasizing the necessity of the human hand, he reminds viewers of the work involved, leaving evidence of pencil marks, glue drips, and exposed welding.

With *Space Program 4: Rare Earths*, Sachs continues to challenge aspects of modern creativity that relate to consumption, production, and the end of life of the things we buy.

## ABOUT TOM SACHS (\*1966, NEW YORK)

Sachs's genre-defying mixed-media sculptures, often recreations of modern icons using everyday materials, show all of the work that goes into producing an object—a reversal of modernization's trend toward products with cleaner, simpler, and more perfect edges. Sachs's sculptures are conspicuously handmade, lovingly cobbled together from plywood, resin, steel, and ceramic. The scars and imperfections in the sculptures tell the story of how they came into being and remove them from the realm of miraculous conception. His studio team of ten functions like a teaching hospital or cult that worships plywood and an ethos of transparency.

Sachs's work has been included in many exhibitions in the United States and abroad, and is in the collections of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, the Whitney Museum of American Art, the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the Centre Georges Pompidou in Paris, the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, the San Francisco Museum of Modern Art, and the Astrup Fearnley Museum of Modern Art in Oslo. Sachs has had major solo exhibitions at the Nasher Sculpture Center in Dallas (2017), the Brooklyn Museum (2016), the Noguchi Museum in New York (2016), the Contemporary Austin (2015), the Park Avenue Armory in New York (2012), the Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, Connecticut (2009), Fondazione Prada in Milan (2006), the Deutsche Guggenheim in Berlin, and SITE Santa Fe (1999). He lives and works in New York.

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### PRESS CONFERENCE

Friday, 17 September 2021 at 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Hall for Contemporary Art of Deichtorhallen Hamburg

### PRESS INFORMATION

Press releases and images are available at [www.deichtorhallen.de/presse](http://www.deichtorhallen.de/presse).

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### OPENING HOURS

Tue–Sun 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. Every first Thursday of the month 11 a.m. – 9 p.m.

### ADDRESS

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Tom Sachs, Landing Excursion Module (LEM), 2007,  
Space Program: Mars - Park Avenue Armory, New York, 2012.  
Mixed Media, 277H x 263W x 263D inches.  
Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs



Tom Sachs. Mission Control Center (MCC), 2007-2016,  
Space Program: Mars - Park Avenue Armory, New York, 2012,  
Mixed Media, 117.3 H x 193.125 W x 59.875 D inches.  
Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs



Tom Sachs, Mobile Quarantine Facility (MQF), 2011,  
1972 Winnebago Brave, Mixed Media, 216H x 90W x 229D inches.  
Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs



Tom Sachs, *Indoctrination Center (Materials Library)*, 2012,  
Mixed Media, 82H x 80W x 27.25D inches.  
Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs



Tom Sachs, Sam's Suit, 2019,  
Mixed media, 71 H x 35 W x 31 D inches  
Foto: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs

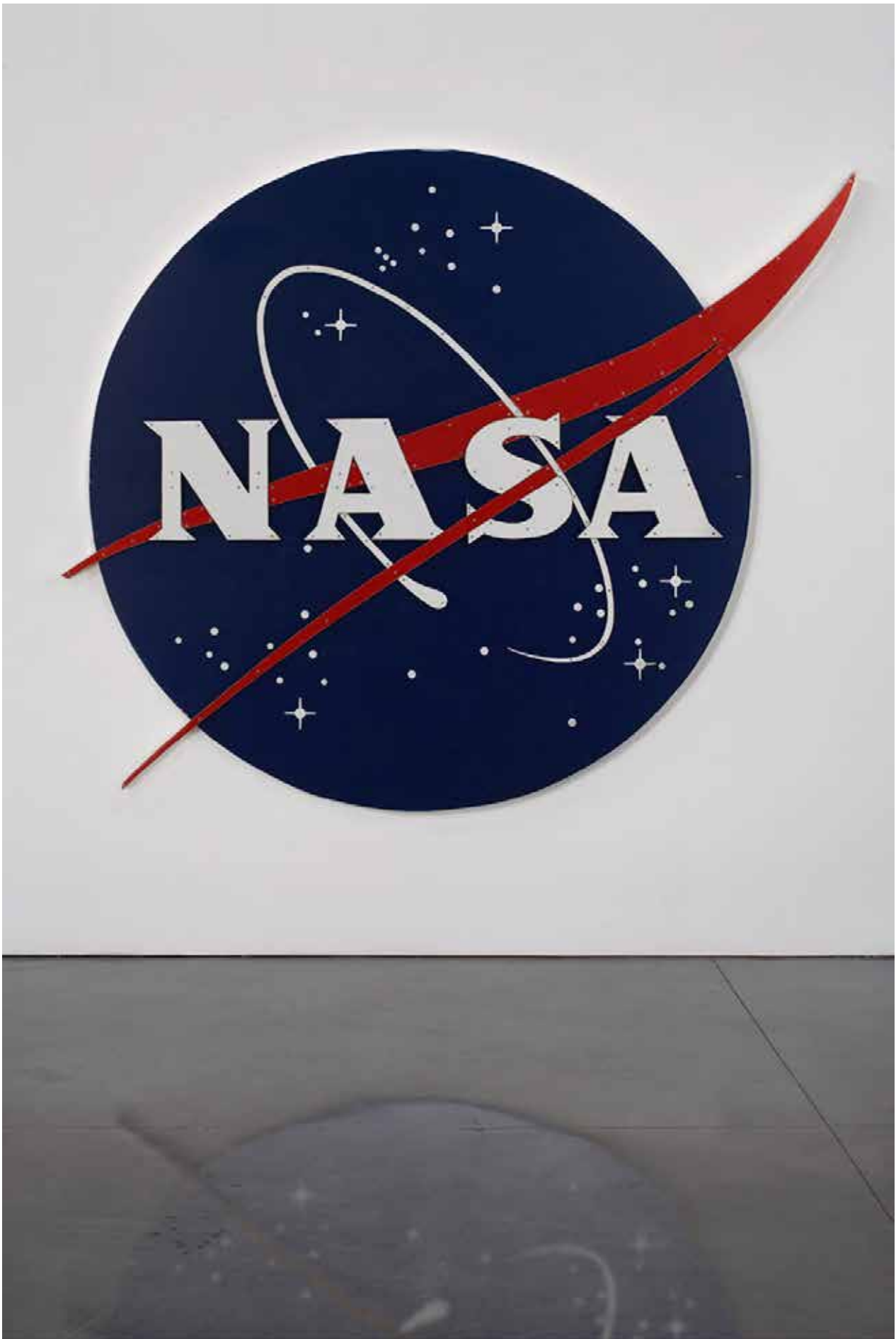


Tom Sachs, Mary's Suit, 2019,  
Mixed Media, 142.5H x 70W x 70D inches.  
Foto: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs





Tom Sachs, Space Program: Mars - Park Avenue Armory, New York, 2012,  
Context: Commander Ennarino extracting a sample at the dig site on Mars.  
Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs



Tom Sachs, NASA, Meatball Logo, 8' Color, 2007,  
Mixed Media, 96H x 115W x 2.5D inches.  
Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs

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19. September 2021 - 10. April 2022

**PRESSEFOTOS**

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Photo: Genevieve Hanson © Tom Sachs