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Form and Function I

Epcot Center Entertainment Begins at Future World

Eight uniquely designed pavilions and exhibit areas, each sponsored by a leading U.S. corporation, provide close-up explorations of Future World Themes on communication, transportation, energy, agriculture, ocean life and research, imagination, technology and 21st century lifestyles.

The towering gateway to the Future World is Spaceship Earth, a 180-foot-high geosphere that is the symbol of Epcot Center and the largest structure of its kind in the world. Spaceship Earth . . . is the dominant architectural symbol of Epcot Center.

Presented by AT&T, the Spaceship Earth adventure highlights milestones in the communications vital to man's survival, from Cro-Magnon cave paintings to electronic space communications.

Scenes include Egyptian hieroglyphics, Phoenician traders, Greek dramatists, Roman and Islamic empire builders, medieval monasteries, Gutenberg's print shop, Renaissance Italy and Michelangelo at work on the Sistine ceiling. Then come the important eras in modern communications—newspapers, motion pictures, telephones, radio, television, computers and electronic networks for information.



Hieroglyphics and authentic, ancient dialects are correct, and the quadrant held by a medieval Islamic astronomer is an exact replica of the real thing. Even costuming for the 65 life-like Disney "Audio-Animatronics" figures has been thoroughly studied for historical accuracy.

"Spaceship Earth is more than a show about communications," says show designer Pat Scanlon, "It's a testimony to human enterprise for surviving and flourishing on this planet."

Forty thousand years of human history are condensed into a 15 minute journey.

Reprinted from Disney promotional material on Epcot Center.