

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**FRIDAY 01 MAY 2009****Lecture Nights Reveal the Real Physics Behind *Angels & Demons***

(Vancouver, B.C.) — The particle physics community is taking a walk down the red carpet, and invites everyone to join in.

On May 15, 2009, Sony Pictures Entertainment will release *Angels & Demons*, a major motion picture based on Dan Brown's best-selling novel. Starring Tom Hanks and directed by Ron Howard, the film focuses on an apparent plot to destroy the Vatican using antimatter made at the Large Hadron Collider and stolen from the European particle physics laboratory CERN.

Through a series of public lectures, scientists are using this opportunity to tell the world about the real science of antimatter, the Large Hadron Collider and the excitement of particle physics research. Across the Canada and the United States, scientists from more than 30 colleges, universities and national laboratories will host public lectures as part of the "Angels & Demons Lecture Nights: The Science Revealed" event. More information about the series, including a list of lectures and local contacts, is available at http://www.uslhq.us/Angels_Demons.

Worldwide, scientists working on experiments at the Large Hadron Collider will host lectures and other *Angels & Demons*-related events for press and the public. Lectures are planned at particle physics institutions across Europe, Asia, Central and South America. For more information on the LHC, visit CERN's Web site at <http://www.cern.ch>.

Canadian lectures are being scheduled in seven cities across the country: Victoria, Vancouver, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Sudbury, Toronto, and Ottawa. See http://www.uslhq.us/Angels_Demons for details and local listings.

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FOR EDITORS:

The team behind the global phenomenon The Da Vinci Code returns for the highly anticipated Angels & Demons, based upon the bestselling novel by Dan Brown. Tom Hanks reprises his role as Harvard symbologist Robert Langdon, who once again finds that forces with ancient roots are willing to stop at nothing, even murder, to advance their goals. Ron Howard returns to direct the film, which is produced by Brian Grazer, Ron Howard, and John Calley. The screenplay is by David Koepp and Akiva Goldsman.

What terrifying discovery would make the Vatican turn to Robert Langdon, the man who cracked history's most controversial code? When Langdon discovers evidence of the resurgence of an ancient secret brotherhood known as the Illuminati – the most powerful underground organization in history – he also faces a deadly threat to the existence of the secret organization's most despised enemy: the Catholic Church. Upon learning that the clock is ticking on an unstoppable Illuminati time bomb, Langdon travels to Rome, where he joins forces with Vittoria Vetra, a beautiful and enigmatic Italian scientist. Embarking on a nonstop, action-packed hunt through sealed crypts, dangerous catacombs, deserted cathedrals, and even to the heart of the most secretive vault on earth, Langdon and Vetra will follow the 400-year-old Path of Illumination that marks the Vatican's only hope for survival.

TRIUMF is Canada's national laboratory for particle and nuclear physics. Physically located on the south campus of the University of British Columbia, TRIUMF is owned and operated as a joint venture by a consortium of the following Canadian universities, via a contribution through National Research Council Canada and supported by the Province of British Columbia: University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, Carleton University, University of Manitoba, l'Université de Montréal, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto, and University of Victoria. See <http://www.triumf.ca>.

CERN, the European Organization for Nuclear Research, is the world's leading laboratory for particle physics. It has its headquarters in Geneva. At present, its Member States are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. India, Israel, Japan, the Russian Federation, the United States of America, Turkey, the European Commission and UNESCO have Observer status.

Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE) is a subsidiary of Sony Corporation of America (SCA), a subsidiary of Tokyo-based Sony Corporation. SPE's global operations encompass motion picture production and distribution; television production and distribution; digital content creation and distribution; worldwide channel investments; home entertainment acquisition and distribution; operation of studio facilities; development of new entertainment products, services and technologies; and distribution of filmed entertainment in more than 100 countries. Sony Pictures Entertainment can be found on the World Wide Web.

Canadian participation in the Large Hadron Collider project is supported by the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada and the National Research Council of Canada. **U.S. participation** in the Large Hadron Collider project is supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Science and the National Science Foundation.

ATLAS-Canada comprises about 150 faculty members, post-doctoral fellows and students from eleven Canadian institutes: the University of Alberta, University of British Columbia, Carleton University, McGill University, Université de Montréal, University of Regina, Simon Fraser University, University of Toronto, TRIUMF, University of Victoria, and York University. See <http://www.atlas-canada.ca>.

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under a contribution through National Research Council Canada

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