

## The Solarium Experience:

A permanent exhibit at the NASA Goddard Visitor Center allows visitors to witness the awe-inspiring high def imagery from **NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory (SDO)** on a **floor-to-ceiling projection**.



Image from the NASA.gov Solarium Website: <http://www.nasa.gov/solarium>

Scientists use SDO to trace how material courses through the layers of the solar atmosphere, the corona, powering gigantic burst of x-rays, called solar flares, and eruptions of solar particles, **massive eruptions of charged plasma 5, 10 and sometimes even 50 times the size of Earth** that swirl upward and fall back down — or sometimes escape the sun's gravity altogether, surging out into space.

Through SDO's impressive ability to capture stunning images of our home star, we see the sun's atmosphere dancing, giant loops swelling up, and waves sweeping through the sun's surface. We as they explode out into space.

With Solarium, earth-bound viewers now, too, can witness **how truly powerful and active the surface of our sun really is**, as well as take in its breathtaking beauty. Solarium highlights the artistic side of Heliophysics data, and also shows how materials travel throughout the solar atmosphere. Viewers observe solar flares, sunspots and eruptions as plasma flows along the sun's magnetic field lines. These fiery explosions of energy are projected in combination with soothing sounds which has been captivating audiences for over a year.

The Visitor Center at GSFC is not the only place you can enjoy the Solarium experience; there is a traveling Solarium exhibit in addition to the permanent installation in Maryland. Recently, Genna Duberstein, one of our senior editors and media producers, attended a Solarium event opening at the American Museum of Natural History's (AMNH) Black Hole Theater in New York City. This is the second year AMNH has requested Solarium to be a part of their annual Sun Earth Day event. She created the Solarium Installation from concept to completion with two other talented creators - video producer, Scott Wiessinger and Tom Bridgman, a data-driven visualization artist.

Solarium installations are currently being considered in London by The Natural History Museum and the Science Museum.

The London Natural History Museum, which sees 15,000 – 20,000 visitors per day, is motivated to be the first to show the installation in Europe. Venues in Singapore and Paris have also expressed interest in participating in what we hope to be a **5 year international tour**.

For more information on where you can see this stunning visual display of the sun's brilliance and power, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/solarium>