



ESHE *European Society for the study of Human Evolution*

PRESS RELEASE

Inaugural Meeting European Society for the study of Human Evolution, Leipzig, 23-24 September, 2011

Humankind has always been fascinated by the question of where we come from. Historically this quest for our evolutionary origins started in 19th century Europe with the discovery of Neanderthal fossils in several countries. Despite this long research tradition there has never been a Europe-wide forum supporting and promoting the study of human evolution.

In Leipzig, 23-24 September, 2011, this will now change with the formal inauguration of *ESHE*, the European Society for the study of Human Evolution, and its first international scientific conference.

ESHE will promote research into human biological and cultural evolution by stimulating communication and cooperation between scientists and by raising public awareness and understanding. The inaugural meeting in the historic centre of Leipzig will bring together experts from many European countries and elsewhere, who will present and debate their research.

As part of the *ESHE* meeting there will be a **free public lecture on Friday evening 23 September by Professor Svante Pääbo** of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology in Leipzig. Professor Pääbo is world-renowned for pioneered techniques to extract and read DNA taken from fossils of extinct species. His research group has recently published the first draft of the Neandertal genome and discovered an entirely new branch of humanity from the DNA of a tiny finger bone. In this lecture he will discuss this ground-breaking work and what it means for how our extinct relatives evolved and interacted. The lecture will be held **at 19:00 at the University of Leipzig, Universitätsstraße 3, Hörsaalgebäude, Lecture Hall 9.**

For more information about *ESHE* see www.eshe.eu

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KEYNOTE ADDRESS & PUBLIC LECTURE

Svante Pääbo, Friday 23 Sep, 19:00-20:00

Exploring the Genomes of Archaic Humans

University of Leipzig, Universitätsstraße 3,

Hörsaalgebäude, Lecture Hall 9

