

Lost World:

The Life and Death of Dinosaurs

American Museum of Natural History, New York NY

This was the most elaborate traveling dinosaur exhibit ever mounted. And it was the first time the American Museum of Natural History has installed a full-blown theatrical lighting system to complement an exhibit program.

The exhibit traces the entire history of dinosaur life and it was important to the exhibit's executive producer that the lighting help create a dramatic atmosphere for the exhibit's first stop on a North American tour. The setting for the exhibit was the Hall of Ocean Life,

a very large space dominated by a 94' (29m) blue whale. To help keep the focus on the dinosaurs-in-residence, we wanted to define a lighting environment that was steamy, colorful, kinetic, directional, and highly focused.

A loop of kinetic lighting cues envelops the center island of the film's dinos and props. Broad strokes of color and highly directional light graze across the figures in an ever-changing array of color and motion. A series of uplights distributed among the trees, shrubs, and props create interesting shadows and highlights.



Exhibit Design: Museum Design Associates

Completed: 1997