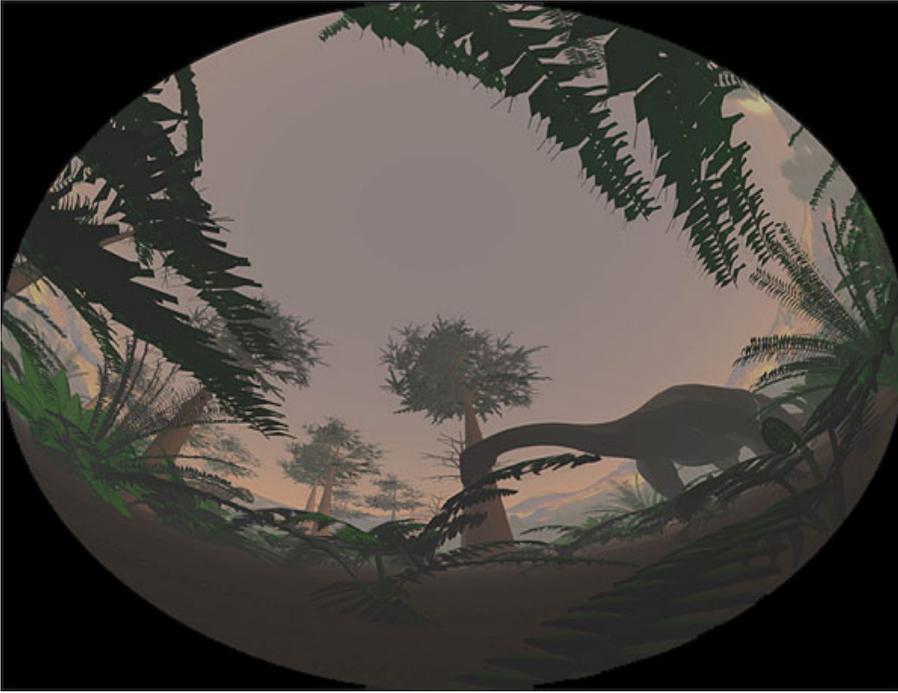


# Home Run Pictures

## "Wild Ride" Dinosaur sequence for the Immersive Earth Project



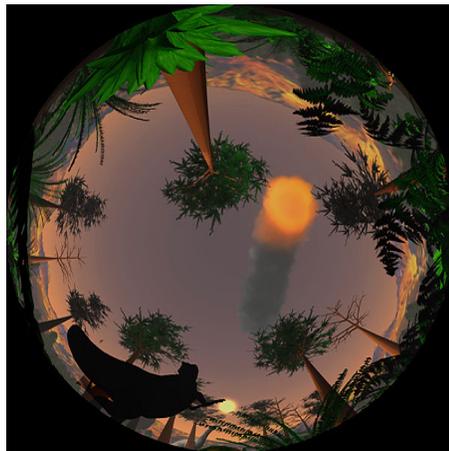
Imagine sitting just under the belly of a stalking Tyrannosaurus as he hides just out of sight... a long necked saurapod, her towering form stretching high over your view... or skirting quickly through a forest of ferns along side a tiny gallimimus. A new sequence that will become part of the The NASA/ Rice University/Houston Museum of Natural Science's "Wild Ride" planetarium show gives the viewer just such a close-up look at these extinct creatures.

The 90 second scene takes full advantage of the new hi-definition full-dome projection system being used at the museum's Burke Baker planetarium. The viewer is immersed and transported back to the late Cretaceous period to experience a moment that scientists theorize began the extinction of these amazing animals. The scene closes with the appearance of a lone object hurdling across the dome's view of the sky as the Tyrannosaurus roars in defiance as the sky begins to darken.

Home Run Pictures animators used Maya software to produce the sequence with the combination of modeling for the creatures and vegetation... and matte painting for some of the background elements.

The dinosaurs are depicted with the look of the current scientific thinking... not the plain gray, reptilian-like creatures of 20 years ago, but colorful and with movements that reflect the present understanding of bio-mechanical possibilities.

Computer models of plant life thought to have existed as identified from the fossil record were created to fill out the environment the dinosaurs possibly lived in. Input from scientists guided the animators during the production to insure an accurate depiction from scientific theory.





Several other scenes are being produced for this immersive full-dome show, including subjects ranging from woolly mammoths to volcanos and thunderstorms. The show is expected to premier early in January 2005.

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