

Cruisin' the Fossil Freeway ***with Artist Ray Troll and Paleontologist Kirk Johnson***

About the Exhibit Collaborators

Artist Ray Troll and paleontologist Kirk Johnson, the self-described “paleo-nerd duo,” have been working as a team ever since they took a road trip across the American West in search of fossils. In 2007, the pair published the book *Cruisin' the Fossil Freeway*, and have collaborated with the Burke Museum of Natural History and Culture in Seattle, Wash., to produce a traveling exhibit by the same name. *Cruisin' the Fossil Freeway* is on view at the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia from October 23, 2010 through January 2, 2011.



About Ray Troll (left in photo) From his tree-top studio, high above the Tongass Narrows in rain-swept Ketchikan, Alaska, Ray Troll draws and paints fossil-filled images that migrate into museums, books and magazines around the globe. Basing his quirky images on the latest scientific discoveries, Troll brings a street-smart sensibility to the world of paleontology. He has a bachelor of arts from Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kan., an MFA in studio art from Washington State University, and an honorary doctorate from the University of Alaska Southeast. He is a proud member of the Gilbert Ichthyological Society and recently earned a gold medal for distinction in the natural history arts from the Academy of Natural Sciences in Philadelphia.

About Kirk Johnson, Ph.D.

Since 1991, Dr. Kirk Johnson has been working as a paleontology curator at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, where he now serves as vice president of research and collections and chief curator. Johnson studies fossil plants, terrestrial stratigraphy, geochronology, and extinction. He has a doctorate in geology from Yale University. Johnson loves to produce museum exhibits and other media that popularizes earth sciences.

Photo of Ray Troll (left) and Kirk Johnson.