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## THE MORGAN CELEBRATES THE 100<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF ALBERT EINSTEIN'S PUBLICATION OF THE GENERAL THEORY OF RELATIVITY

*Amended end date: on view through September 25, 2016*

**New York, NY, September 23, 2016** — A century ago, Albert Einstein published the general theory of relativity, the crowning achievement of the great physicist's illustrious career. In celebration of this landmark achievement, the Morgan Library & Museum presents a pop-up exhibition from June 28 through September 25 featuring a trio of Einstein items.

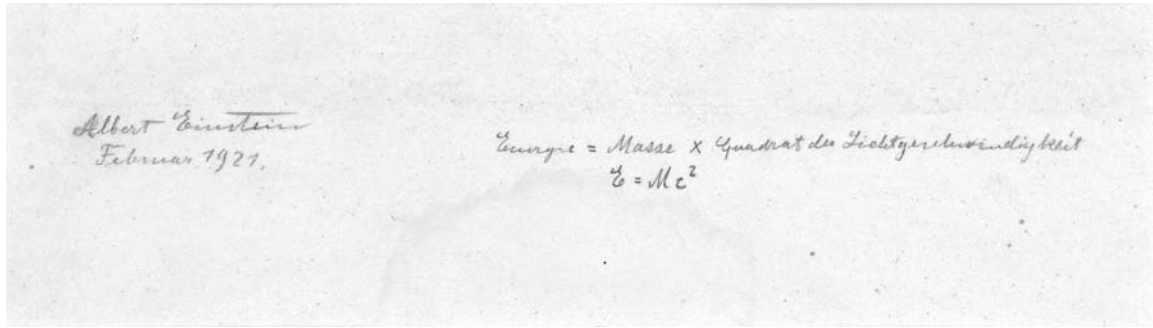
The general theory of relativity, published in 1916, expanded on Einstein's earlier 1905 special theory of relativity and its famous equation  $E=mc^2$ . The exhibition features a letter written by Einstein to the noted astronomer Erwin Finlay Freundlich, who was attempting to confirm the general theory through astronomical observations. One of twenty-five such letters in the Morgan's collection, Einstein questions Freundlich's methods, which were ultimately unsuccessful.

In addition to the letter, the pop-up show includes a very rare written summation of the special theory in the scientist's own hand. Also featured is a photograph inscribed by Einstein in 1921 while he was in the United States to deliver speeches and lectures, and to raise money for the newly founded Hebrew University in Jerusalem.



Herman Mishkin (1870–1948), Albert Einstein, Photograph, signed and inscribed by Einstein, 1921. Private Collection.

In this centenary year scientists are yet again confirming Einstein's general theory. Just days ago U.S. researchers reported observations that detected gravitational waves caused by the collision between two black holes. This is the second time in human history that gravitational waves have been detected, proving definitely that Einstein's June 1916 presentation of the general theory of relativity has passed the test.



Albert Einstein, The world's most famous formula, the general theory of relativity:  $E=mc^2$ , Autograph manuscript, signed and dated February 1921. Private Collection.

### **Organization and Sponsorship**



The programs of the Morgan Library & Museum are made possible with public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the City Council, and by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew Cuomo and the New York State Legislature.

### **The Morgan Library & Museum**

A complex of buildings in the heart of New York City, the Morgan Library & Museum began as the private library of financier Pierpont Morgan, one of the preeminent collectors and cultural benefactors in the United States. Today it is a museum, independent research library, music venue, architectural landmark, and historic site. A century after its founding, the Morgan maintains a unique position in the cultural life of New York City and is considered one of its greatest treasures. With the 2006 reopening of its newly renovated campus, designed by renowned architect Renzo Piano, and the 2010 refurbishment of the original library, the Morgan reaffirmed its role as an important repository for the history, art, and literature of Western civilization from 4000 B.C. to the twenty-first century.

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