

CORONA

About the Team

Participate in a medieval feast in the coronation hall.

In the coronation hall, you can use your Aixplorer to get an introduction to the space as in the other rooms. If you select "CORONA" on your Aixplorer, however, you are transported back into the middle of the coronation feast of Charles, V in 1520. You hear general noise and fragments of conversations, just as if you were here while the coronation feast is happening.

As you walk around the coronation hall, you can listen to different conversations. Try turning your head to locate them! Here's a speech in one corner, there are emissaries discussing daily politics in another, and there are maids gossiping about the food or the common folk outside.

A special radio system tracks your position and orientation inside the coronation hall down to a few inches. From this, your Aixplorer calculates the corresponding spatial audio signal. Depending on your position, it adjusts loudness, reverb, and tone of the different voices. This audio simulation is a first in a museum setting.

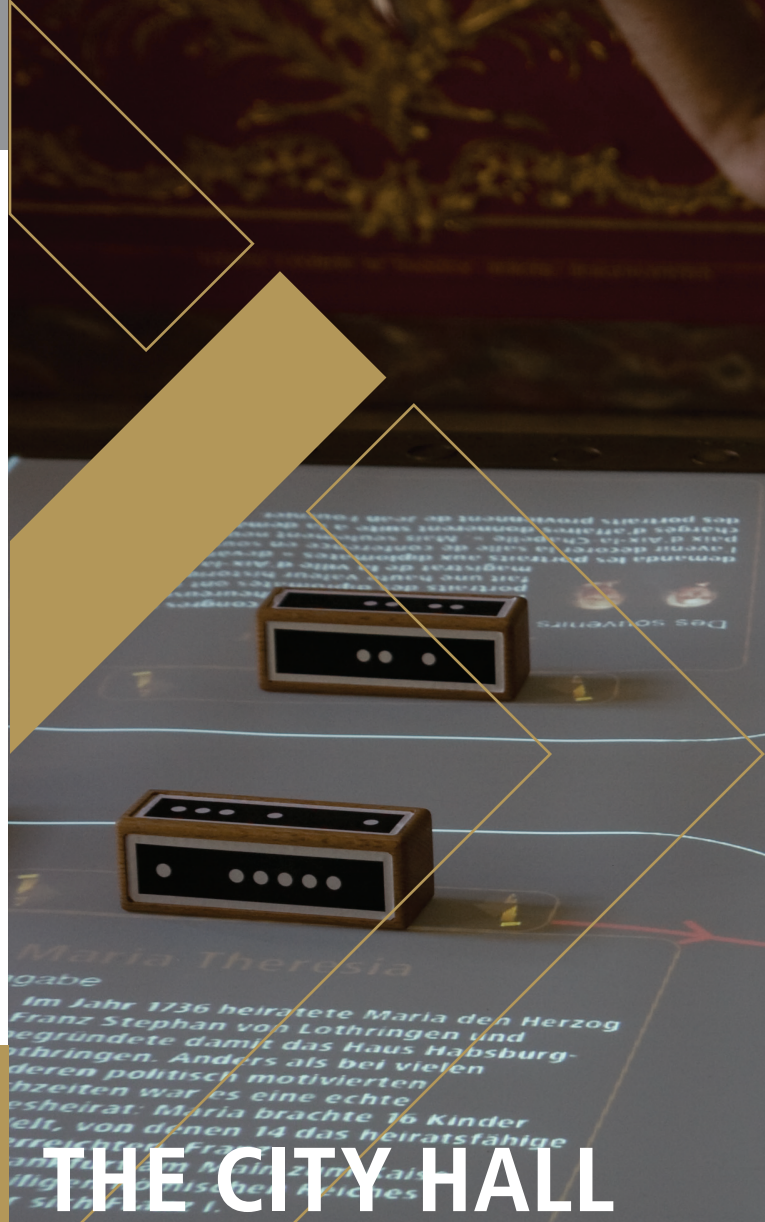
The Aixplorer and the other interactive exhibits were developed in close collaboration between RWTH Aachen University and the City of Aachen.

Concept and development for the Aixplorer, CORONA, the interactive table, the Charlemagne Prize pillars, and the city hall photo album was carried out by the Media Computing Group at RWTH Aachen University, headed by Prof. Dr. Jan Borchers. He was supported by his doctoral students Jonathan Diehl, Florian Heller, Gero Herkenrath, Thorsten Karrer, Leonhard Lichtschlag, Max Möllers, Malte Weiß, and Moritz Wittenhagen, as well as countless student assistants and diploma students.

Prof. Dr. Alexander Marksches, Myriam Kroll and Katja Eßer from the Chair of Art History at RWTH Aachen University prepared and verified the historic content of all exhibits. Interior design for the exhibits was carried out by Heike Falkenberg and Jörn Wähnert at RKW architects.

More information about the exhibits and the people behind the curtain can be found at:

www.route-charlemagne.eu



THE CITY HALL

Interactive Exhibits



**RWTHAACHEN
UNIVERSITY**



**ROUTE
CHARLEMAGNE
AACHEN**



media
computing
group



Aixplorer

The Aixplorer is your mobile guide through the city hall as the first station of the Route Charlemagne, Aachen's new tourism concept.

Pick up your Aixplorer in the foyer of the city hall for free while stocks last.

The Aixplorer detects automatically which room you are in. Should it make a wrong guess, just walk to the center of the room.

For each room, choose from the various audio and video features listed on the display. We recommend always starting with the introduction. While listening, tap the button near the bottom to pause playback, or tap on the button near the top to go back to the selection screen. To listen to the audio together, just unplug the headphones.

The Aixplorer also works outdoors. On the market place, it will tell you about the city hall façade and nearby buildings. Future versions will grow with the Route Charlemagne to cover the entire old town of Aachen, introducing you to "Aachen's secrets". More information about the Aixplorer can be found at www.aixplorer.de.

The Aachen Peace Treaty

Explore the connections behind the Aachen Peace Treaty of 1748 on an interactive table.

The "Peace Hall", or Red Hall, was outfitted for a historic peace treaty in Aachen in 1748. The table in this room lets you discover the historical background of this event.

Each wooden block on the table represents a key figure of the peace treaty. Move the block towards you into one of the four marked working areas, and information about that person appears below the block. Flip the block over to learn more about that person.

Infrared cameras below the table recognize the markers on each block. Two computers project the matching information from there onto the table surface.

A red line connects each person to the next to unravel the historic thread of events, from Maria Theresa to the envoys of 1748, to today's Aachen Peace Award.

The Music for the Royal Fireworks playing in the background was composed by Friedrich Händel for this peace agreement.

The Charlemagne Prize Pillars

Discover the Charlemagne Prize, its recipients, and the reasons for the award in a new way at four interactive pillars.

On the first landing of the staircase, a first interactive pillar answers ten frequently asked questions about the Charlemagne Prize. Tap on a question to get to its answer. On the next landing, you can find out more about the Charlemagne Prize laureates at two additional pillars.

Tap on one of the fifty portraits to learn about that person. Select their biography, excerpts from their speech and eulogy, or video clips from the ceremony.

Particularly interesting is the cloud of words above the portrait. It shows words that appear unusually often in the speech. This shows at a glance what a speech was about. Try comparing different laureates!

As with all exhibits, you can choose between four languages at the bottom of the screen. On the ground floor is a wheelchair-accessible pillar designed for barrier-free access.

