There are disruptions on the landscape of Philadelphia’s history and science museums. The Penn Museum’s Egyptian galleries are closed for another four to six years of heavy-duty renovation. Its Mexico and Central America gallery and the Africa gallery have just closed for a year — again for extensive renovations.

At the Independence Seaport Museum and the Science History Institute, significant additions and enhancements are coming to permanent exhibitions. Both will remain open during the period of change.

Despite such inconveniences and uncertainties — museums, which can seem so static are, in fact, constantly changing — there are some extraordinary exhibitions on tap for the fall.

And two beloved dioramas at the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University — gorillas and takin (a kind of antelope or goat from western China) — will reopen after an extensive rejuvenation that has lasted most of the year.

The African American Museum in Philadelphia will present artist-photographer John Dowell’s visionary exploration of cotton. The National Museum of American Jewish History will host the first major exhibit of the work of witty cartoonist Rube Goldberg in nearly 50 years.

The American Swedish Historical Museum will explore the impact of filmmaker Ingmar Bergman on the world of fashion. And the Franklin Institute brings in a boatload of Vikings. Skol!

**Ingmar Bergman and His Legacy in Fashion and Art** (Through Jan. 21, American Swedish Historical Museum). This exhibition focuses on Bergman’s use of costumes in some of his most recognizable films. It features photographs, a timeline of Bergman’s career (which includes 60 films and 172 theater productions), and an installation of 32 rarely seen clips. (215-389-1776, americanswedish.org)
Playing chess with Death, from Ingmar Bergman’s 1957 film “The Seventh Seal.”

Kindergarten: The Foundation to Life (Through Sept. 28, Historical Society of Pennsylvania). HSP continues to mine its vast archives for small “document displays” open to the public. This one features materials highlighting the kindergarten experience from the 1800s to the early 1900s. The next one (Oct. 2–Nov. 9) will explore the year 1968. Then, for the holidays (Nov. 13–Dec. 21), comes an exhibit featuring cookbooks, menus, ads, and other items related to food. (215-732-6200, hsp.org)

From the Heart, Made by Hand: Treasures from the Women of Sweden (Sept. 16-March 10, American Swedish Historical Museum). This exhibition includes selections of the 75 handmade textiles presented to the American Swedish Historical Museum in 1938 from every province of mainland Sweden. In a related show running concurrently, fiber sculptor Ted Hallman examines the relationship between traditional and modern craft. (215-389-1776, americanswedish.org)
Fiber artist Ted Hallman, subject of a forthcoming exhibition at the American Swedish Historical Museum.

**Gorilla and Takin Dioramas** (Sept. 20, Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University). The academy reopens its famous displays of these animals in their natural habitats. The displays have been closed since February for their first renovations since installation more than 80 years ago. (215-299-1000, ansphiladelphia.org)

**An Arborist's Angle: Laurel Hill's Specimen Trees** (Sept. 23, Laurel Hill Cemetery). Laurel Hill was created nearly 200 years ago not only as a burial place but as an arboreal retreat. Aaron Greenberg, Laurel Hill's contemporary tree guy, leads a walking tour of the grounds as a historic horticultural center. (215-228-8200, thelaurelhillcemetery.org)


**What the Nose Knows: Using Dogs for Odor Detection Research** (Sept. 27, Wagner Free Institute of Science). Jennifer Easler from the Penn Vet Working Dog Center presents canine olfactory wonders, part of the Weeknights at the Wagner series of talks and presentations. (215-763-6529, wagnerfreeinstitute.org)

**Spit Spreads Death** (Sept. 29, the Mütter Museum of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia). A day of activities and previews in anticipation of the museum's 1918 flu pandemic exhibition due in late 2019. The flu killed about 13,000 Philadelphians in six weeks and sickened half a million. The Mütter will offer free flu shots while they last — probably a first for area museums. (215-574-0380, muttermuseum.org)


**Explore Philly's Buried Past, 2018** (Oct. 6, the Philadelphia Archaeological Forum). The National Constitution Center hosts this annual event, sponsored by PAF and Independence National Historical Park, featuring professional archaeologists who present recent highlights of area excavations. (phillyarchaeology.net)
Free Library of Philadelphia

A Bird’s Eye View of Philadelphia, an 1850 lithograph by John Bachman.

Science on Tap: Ancient Egypt and Nubia with Conservator Molly Gleason (Oct. 8, Penn Museum). The Egyptian galleries may be closed for renovation, but that means there’s time to conserve many artifacts in the Egyptian collection. Project conservator Molly Gleeson discusses the ongoing work and research in an informal presentation at National Mechanics bar and restaurant on South Third Street. Attendees must be 21 or older. (215-898-4000, penn.museum)

From Oyntments & Salves to Kotex & Pills (Oct. 9, the Mütter Museum of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia). This pop-up exhibit, mounted as part of Archives Month Philly, looks at how women’s health care has changed, from 17th-century recipe books to mid-20th-century manuals. (215-560-8564, muttermuseum.org)

Philadelphia: The Changing City (Oct. 10-April 13, Free Library of Philadelphia, Parkway Central, Rare Book Department). Images of the evolving city drawn from 300 years of prints, photographs, documents, and maps reveal the planned and unplanned changes. (215-686-5322, freelibrary.org)

In Philly museums: Vikings, Rube Goldberg, a diorama reboot, and flu s... http://www2.philly.com/philly/entertainment/arts/vikins-franklin-institu...
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The Art of Rube Goldberg (Oct.12-Jan. 21, National Museum of American Jewish History). This exhibition explores Goldberg’s cartoons and illustrations, including his elaborate and whimsical invention drawings. The Pulitzer Prize-winning cartoonist died in 1970, the year of the last major exhibition of his work. (215-923-3811, nmajh.org)
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That A Marsh Island (1885), a little-known novel by Maine writer Sarah Orne Jewett, should be considered the nation's first gay novel. This program will be held in collaboration with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. (215-546-3181, librarycompany.org)

**Door 10: Skeletons in Our Closet** (Oct. 18, Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University). Quirky science meets themed soiree for adults. Skulls courtesy of the Mütter Museum. (215-299-1000, ansp.org)
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