

THE BIRTH OF "PLANETA": NEW PRIVATE MINERALOGICAL MUSEUM IN THE URALS

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Museum "Planeta"

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Photo 1–5: Mikhail V. Tsyganko,
6–20: Michael B. Leybov.

1. At the opening ceremony of the Museum "Planeta". December 20, 2020:
from left to right (first row) E.S. Tsyganko, S.M. Skachkov, A.O. Frolova, M.P. Popov, E.N. Popova, A.M. Skachkov, A.S. Panfilov, G.V. Skachkov, A.V. Donskov, A.P. Chertikhin, L.A. Ermolenko, A.I. Zhukov, D.V. Lisitsin, M.Yu. Anosov, S.A. Panfilov, A.N. Antonov, N.V. Filchenko, A.B. Nikiforov, T.S. Medvedeva; *(second row)* V.P. Borzykh, V.S. Andreev, A.M. Mirkamalov, M.V. Grishin, B.K. Zommer, F.M. Nurmukhametov, A.V. Kozlov, V.A. Medvedev, Yu.V. Tsygankov, V.M. Kalinin, S.V. Busygin, L.I. Kapustin, D.I. Belakovskiy, A.O. Karpov, V.I. Ermolenko; *(third row)* V.A. Kozlov, A.V. Vinogradov, V.V. Chuprakov.

A remarkable event occurred in Yekaterinburg, the capital of the Urals, on December 20, 2020: a new mineralogical museum was opened to the public. The museum received a sonorous and promising name: "Planeta" (the planet). The museum has developed its exhibition according to a splendid idea: it has put on display mineral specimens, stone carvings, and jewelry borrowed from private collections. To establish and make up a museum is usually a complicated and long-term process, and this is why it is so amazing that it took as little as five months to create this museum.

The "Planeta" Museum of private collections is situated at the very heart of the city of Yekaterinburg, and it is symbolical that it is the Urals — with its historic traditions of searches for, processing, and collecting minerals and articles made of them — where the aforesaid idea was implemented.

At the museum opening ceremony, a speech was given by its director Vyacheslav A. Medvedev, who was the author of the idea of the museum and the person who not only invested in this museum but also, and primarily, put his heart into it and spent part of his life on it.

"The exposition of our museum is compiled and gifted to us by a team of talented mineral collectors from around Russia, who are people sharing their love for minerals. "Planeta" is a symbolical name that comprises the fantastic diversities of geological forms and shapes and combinations of elements. A tiny particle of these diversities is gathered in our Museum".



13. **Azurite** nodules in clay. 11.5 × 9 × 5.5 cm. Mikheevskoe deposit, Varnensky district, South Urals, Russia. Specimen: Nikolay B. Belenkov.



14. **Fluorite**. 18 × 14 × 11 cm. Khuray deposit, Dzhida region, Buryatia, Russia. Specimen: Vyacheslav A. Medvedev.



15. **Quartz**. 15 × 10 cm. Matinskoye, Tirlyan village, Beloretsk district, Bashkortostan, Russia. Specimen: Vyacheslav A. Medvedev.

16. **Stilbite**. 7 × 9 cm. Nizhnyaya Tunguska River, Krasnoyarsk Krai, Siberia, Russia. Specimen: Vladimir A. Pelepenko.

17. **Corundum**. 10 × 13 cm. Ilmeny mountains, South Urals, Russia. Specimen: Matvey V. Grishin.

18. **Beryl** (heliodor). 10 × 2 × 2.5 cm. Murzinka, Middle Urals, Russia. Specimen: Vyacheslav A. Medvedev.

