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To: The Museum Exhibition Design Company

Dear Sir/Madam

We are writing to you concerning a project we are planning for our next season of exhibitions and would very much welcome your ideas and participation.

The project we have in mind concerns an exhibition of items found recently in a discovery in Greece.

Last Spring a team of cavers uncovered a hidden chamber while exploring a cave in the mountains of the Kallídhromon massif in Northern Greece. As you may know this location is close to a famous battle called the battle of Thermopylae. The chamber had been hidden by a collapse in the ceiling and was only discovered by the cavers because of a recent small earthquake that disrupted the rocks allowing the explorers to crawl in (we have included a map of the cave system on the power point slide show that accompanies this letter).

When they got beyond the rock fall they made an amazing and important discovery. They found the remains of a young man who must have been trapped when the ceiling collapsed (see the photograph in the slide show). As well as the skeletal remains, the cavers also found an array of different items from ancient Greece: swords, helmets etc. and a smaller amount of personal items (we have attached a complete list to this letter).

The cavers immediately reported their find to the Athens museum who sent a team of archaeologists to properly excavate the site. Their research confirmed the skeleton and the artefacts were over two and half thousand years old and represent one of the most exciting and significant archaeological discoveries of recent years.

Once the artefacts are removed from the cave they will be put on display at the Athens Museum of Ancient History. However, the Athens museum is currently undergoing a major rebuild and while the work is being completed the British Museum has negotiated a temporary loan of the objects for a special exhibition. This is where your company come in.

We would like your team to visit the cave to view the items as they were found and then to design an exhibition to be held at the British Museum. We would like the exhibition to fulfil the following criteria with the aim of informing and educating visitors:

1. The context of ancient Greece – culture, life, history, tradition, religion etc.
2. The story of how the cave was found.
3. Exhibiting the artefacts found with the remains of the young soldier.
4. The life, training and role of hoplite soldiers in ancient Greece.

We hope this is a project you will feel as excited about as we are and we look forward to hearing your thoughts and ideas.

Yours with warm regards,

Prof. Sue Treadman
(Director of Ancient Greece history)