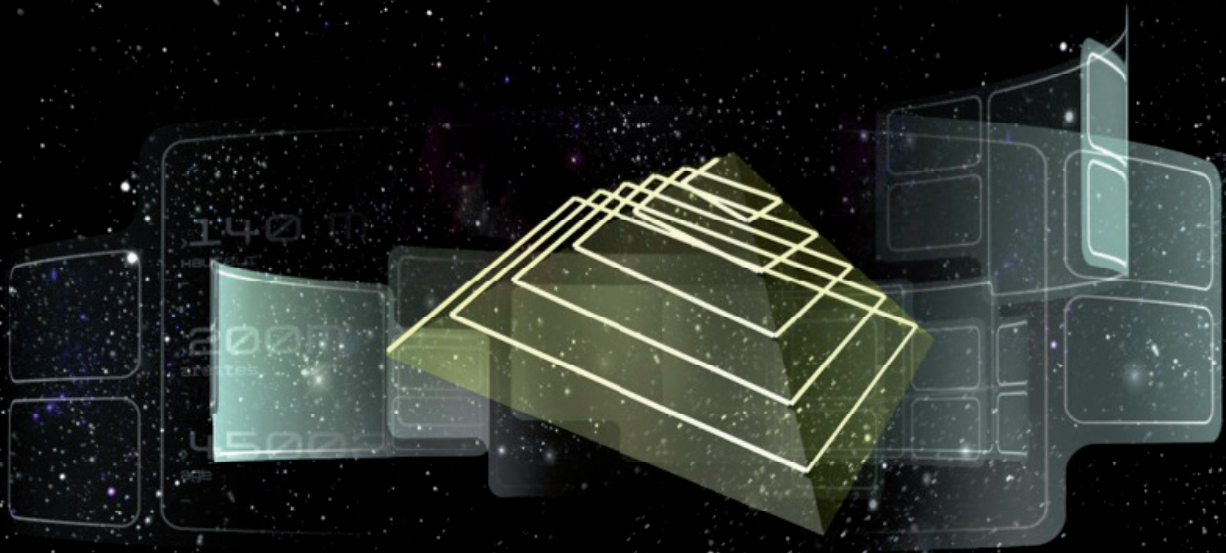


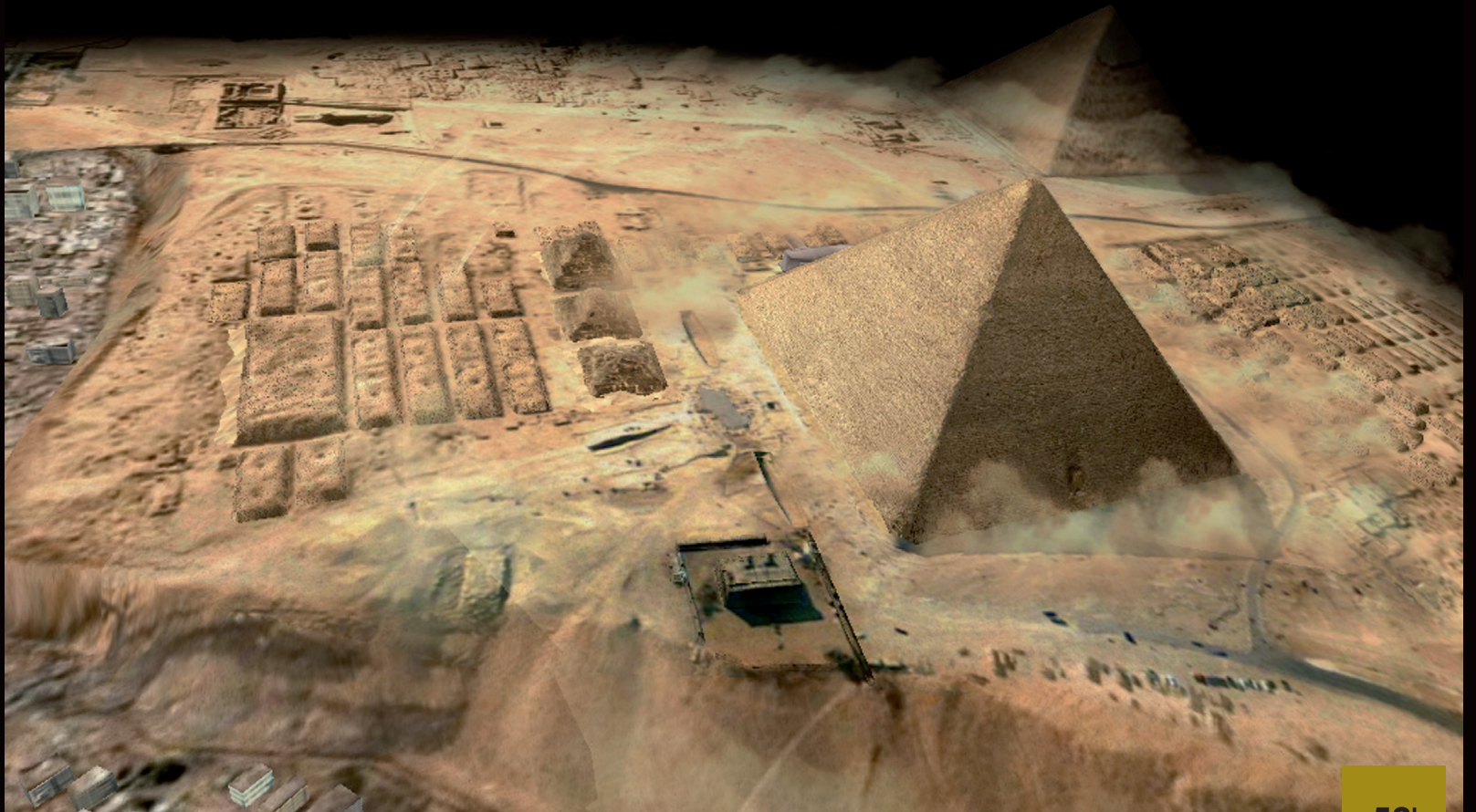


TERRANOVA



# KHUFU REVEALED

Unveiling the genius of Ancient Egypt's architects



52'

Providing an exclusive full virtual 3D reconstitution of the Kheops Pyramid

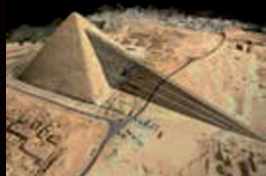
HD





# TERRANOVA

4500 years ago, a civilization that knew nothing of iron tools, wheels or pulleys built the Great Pyramid of Khufu in Egypt. For centuries, its construction remained an unsolved mystery. But recently, a French architect disclosed a revolutionary theory: the pyramid may have been built from the inside out. Using the most advanced scientific 3D technology, Jean-Pierre Houdin tested and re-enacted the construction of Khufu's tomb. He believes that an internal spiral ramp is still there.... just waiting to be discovered.

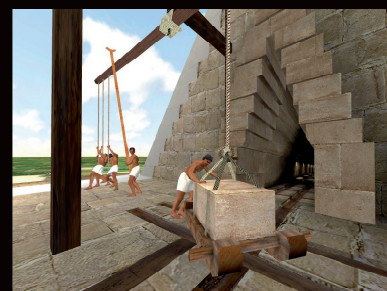


For centuries, people have wondered how the ancient Egyptians managed to lift these blocks – some of which weighed up to 60 tons – 140 meters above the ground. Many ingenious ideas have been suggested....as well as utter hogwash such as alien intervention.



Until now, two theories were favored by specialists: the use of a big external ramp that would have reached all the way to the top of the pyramid, or the use of "machines" – ancient cranes that hoisted the blocks from one level to another. The film will explain the major flaws of these previous theories and show why they can't be true.

Jean-Pierre Houdin's radical new ideas, however, might just provide the solution. If correct, it would demonstrate a level of ingenuity by Egyptian architects and engineers far greater than anything ever imagined before. His theory suggests that for the bottom third of the pyramid, the blocks were hauled up a straight, external ramp. But a second ramp was being built inside the pyramid to transport the blocks for the top two-thirds of the pyramid, which in fact would be made from the stones of the external ramp! This explains why no remains of a big ramp have ever been found on the site.



But this is only the first part of Houdin's theory. The second part reveals how the Grand Gallery, the huge corridor which leads to the King's Chamber, is in fact a giant counterweight system. Thanks to this clever device, 60-ton granite beams could be positioned above the King's Chamber. True evidences are there to back Houdin's intuitions. And several engineers spent two years confirming the hypothesis of the theory with 3D technology, rebuilding the pyramid level by level in a virtual environment! Now, an international team is being assembled to probe the pyramid using radars and heat detecting cameras. A scientific survey that we'll have

exclusive coverage of!

Combining scientific investigation, magnificent CGI and re-enactments, this film will unveil the true genius of ancient Egyptians. It will take us on a journey of 4,500 years of mystery and fascination. How Khufu's "Horizon" – as Egyptians used to call the pharaoh's final resting place – was "rediscovered", "opened", analysed and measured, etc. How all the previous research, theories and mistakes enabled Jean-Pierre Houdin to design this unique re-constitution of its construction.

Producers:

**Gedeon Programmes / Dassault Systemes /France 2  
/ France 5 / RTBF / TSR / NHK / TVO / Télé Québec**

Director:

**Florence Tran**

**52'** Shot in **HD**  
History & Science

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