

For immediate release

17 January 2018



## **Colour: The Rainbow Revealed at the Horniman**

Explore the endless ways in which colour shapes our world in ***Colour: The Rainbow Revealed***, an interactive exhibition for all the family opening at the Horniman Museum and Gardens in south London on Saturday 10 February 2018.

Through hands-on exhibits and exciting games and challenges, visitors to this award-winning exhibition can explore the science of colour and discover the fascinating ways it is used in nature, art and culture around the world.

Peer through a giant human eyeball to discover how we see and interpret colour; find out how and why some animals use colour to camouflage themselves or to attract a mate; look at how different colours mean different things for people across the planet; and learn about the surprising origins of some paints and dyes – from crushed up mummies to cows' urine!

With an Art Machine to create your own vibrant masterpiece, a Mood Room to find out how colour can influence the way you feel; and a Colour Café to learn why certain colours tempt your taste buds, ***Colour: The Rainbow Revealed*** gives a dazzling insight into the wonderful world of colour.

Dr Emma-Louise Nicholls, Deputy Keeper of Natural History, says: 'Colour is everywhere – from butterflies and rainbows in nature, to fashion and media in the human world. Animals and plants have extraordinary abilities to use colour for survival; using different combinations of colours and patterns to communicate and interact with, or hide in, the world around them. A red toadstool with white spots says 'stay away', the stripes of a tiger allow it to blend in, enabling this large animal to be a stealthy hunter, whilst the stoats in the exhibition show how this species can go from brilliant white in winter to a rich brown in the summer, in order to camouflage with the environment.

***Colour: The Rainbow Revealed*** explores how humans, plants and animals see, create and respond to the multitude of colours around us.'

**Colour: The Rainbow Revealed** is open from Saturday 10 February to Sunday 28 October 2018.

Ticket prices: Child £4.40; Adult £7.70; Family (2 adults, 2 children) £18.70. Prices include voluntary 10% Gift Aid donation. Standard prices are also available. Horniman Members and Benefactors enjoy free, unlimited visits to the exhibition. For more information and to book tickets go to [www.horniman.ac.uk](http://www.horniman.ac.uk).

An exciting programme of colour themed activities and events linked to the exhibition also runs throughout the year including a celebration of the brilliant colours of Carnival costumes at **Big Wednesday: Colour and Carnival** (14 February); craft activities in **Family Art Fun** (12-13 & 15-16 February); a vibrant evening of performance, music and tours at the **Neon Late** (1 March); and an exciting day of colour-inspired family activities at the **Youth Takeover Family Day** (24 March). For more information go to [www.horniman.ac.uk](http://www.horniman.ac.uk).

### Ends

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### Notes to Editors:

- **Colour: The Rainbow Revealed** is an award-winning family-friendly touring exhibition, created by National Museums Liverpool and funded by the National Lottery through the Millennium Commission. The exhibition, shown elsewhere with the title *Eye for Colour*, has been seen by more than one million people across Europe.
- National Museums Liverpool is one of England's most popular museum groups. Its collections are among the most important and varied in Europe and contain everything from Impressionist paintings and rare beetles, to a lifejacket from the Titanic. National Museums Liverpool attracts around three million visitors every year.
- **The Horniman Museum and Gardens** opened in 1901 as a gift to the people in perpetuity from tea trader and philanthropist Frederick John Horniman, to 'bring the world to Forest Hill'. Today the Horniman has a collection of 350,000 objects, specimens and artefacts from around the world. Its galleries include natural history, music and an acclaimed aquarium and Butterfly House. Indoor exhibits link to the award-winning display gardens – from medicinal and dye gardens to an interactive sound garden and an animal walk – set among 16 acres of beautiful, green space offering spectacular views across London.
- **Please note:** The anthropology galleries (African Worlds and Centenary Gallery) are now closed until June 2018 while we develop a new World Gallery and studio space. To find out more visit [horniman.ac.uk/worldgallery](http://horniman.ac.uk/worldgallery)
- The Horniman Museum and Gardens is core-funded by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and since 1990 has been governed by an independent charitable trust, registered charity no. 802725. The Horniman Museum and Gardens also receives funding from Arts Council England as one of its Major partner museums.
- **Opening times and admission.** The Horniman Museum is open daily 10.00am-5.30pm, except 24 - 26 December, when it is closed. The Gardens open at 7.15am Monday to Saturday and 8.00am on Sunday and Bank Holidays, and close at sunset. Entry to the Museum and Gardens is free but charges apply for the Aquarium, Butterfly House and some special exhibitions and events. Horniman Members go free – [horniman.ac.uk/members](http://horniman.ac.uk/members).
- **Access.** The Museum and the Gardens are both wheelchair and pushchair friendly with accessible toilets. Limited on-site parking is available for Blue Badge holders.
- **Travel.** The Horniman is situated at 100 London Road, Forest Hill, London SE23 3PQ on the South Circular Road (A205). It can be reached easily by train to Forest Hill station (London

Overground/Southern, travel time approx.15-20 minutes from east/central London or East Croydon) and by local buses (176, 185, 197, 356, P4).