

For immediate release

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Horniman appoints Studio Egret West for estate Master Plan

The Horniman Museum and Gardens has appointed Studio Egret West (SEW) as its Master Plan architects, to develop proposals for a series of discrete projects to support the development of the south London attraction's estate and properties.

SEW is a growing practice of international architects, urban designers and landscape architects who have delivered a wide variety of successful framework projects over the last 14 years.

Nick Merriman, Chief Executive for the Horniman, says: 'Studio Egret West stood out for us during the tender process because of their extensive experience, their consultative practice, their enthusiasm for the Horniman as visitors themselves, and their creative yet realistic take on what our future could look like. We're excited to work with them to develop a framework for the Horniman.'

The Master Plan for the estate will be vital in delivering the strategic vision for the future of the Horniman Museum and Gardens, which includes attracting a million visitors a year by 2023, engaging audiences in global issues as London's only museum where nature and culture are seen alongside each other, and more closely matching London's diversity in its audiences.

Led by Founding Director David West, SEW's team will work in collaboration with specialists from management consultancy Fourth Street, Expedition Engineers who will look at structural engineering and sustainability, and heritage consultant Michael Copeman. SEW have six months to develop their recommendations and hold public consultations, with the results to be presented to the Horniman's Trustees in July 2019.

David West, Founding Director of Studio Egret West, says: 'We are delighted to work with the Horniman, an institution and place that we have much personal affiliation and admiration for. We see so much potential to expand the nature and breadth of the draw of the Horniman Museum and Gardens through carefully considered interventions and programmes within a multi-layered landscape.'

Ends

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Notes to Editors:

- **Studio Egret West (SEW)** was founded in 2004 and has designed and delivered numerous high quality place making projects through the symbiosis of memorable architecture, strategic urban design and ecology-driven landscape; with the public realm prioritised as the foundation of sustainable communities.
- SEW has worked on numerous schemes through the UK and abroad that create a blend of living, learning, working, playing and enterprise. These include: Clapham Library; The Old Vinyl Factory in Hayes; Mayfield in Manchester; New Bermondsey; Millharbour Village in Canary Wharf; Caxton Works in Canning Town; Eastwick and Sweetwater adjacent to the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park; and the East Croydon Station. egretwest.com
- **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. A new World Gallery of anthropology opened in June 2018 and a new arts space, The Studio, opened in October 2018. Indoor exhibits link to the award-winning display gardens – from medicinal and dye gardens to an interactive sound garden, Butterfly House and an animal walk – set among 16 acres of beautiful, green space offering spectacular views across London. horniman.ac.uk
- 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 National Portfolio Organisations.
- **Opening times and admission.** The Horniman Museum is open daily 10am-5.30pm, except 24 - 26 December, when it is closed. The Gardens open at 7.15am Monday to Saturday and 8am 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 and Benefactors go free – 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. horniman.ac.uk/visit/disability-and-access.
- **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).