

For immediate release  
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## Horniman open for (Monkey) Business from Monday 17 May

The Horniman Museum will reopen on Monday 17 May with the launch of its new family-friendly exhibition **Monkey Business**.

The Museum has been closed since 16 December 2020 in line with pandemic lockdown measures. The Horniman's Gardens have remained open, giving local residents much-needed green space during the pandemic.

Entry to the Museum will be by pre-booked free ticket, available on the Horniman's website [horniman.ac.uk](http://horniman.ac.uk) from today (Thursday 13 May).

Tickets to **Monkey Business**, priced from £5, are also available to book from today.

The Museum, Aquarium and Butterfly House will be open six days a week, remaining closed on Wednesdays to help the Horniman save costs and manage an anticipated £500k annual deficit caused by Covid closures and restricted visitor numbers.

Visitors can support the Horniman by joining as Members, renewing lapsed Memberships, or becoming Benefactors at [horniman.ac.uk/support-us/](http://horniman.ac.uk/support-us/)

Members and Benefactors enjoy free, unlimited entry to **Monkey Business**. This extraordinary exhibition explores the diversity of primates and features more than 60 spectacular new taxidermy specimens of monkeys, apes, lemurs, lorises and bushbabies, alongside models, engaging interactives, stunning photography and film.

Visitors from 17 May can also enjoy extended runs of two exhibitions which opened in 2020. **From Birth Till Death: Scrolled Life Stories**, recently shortlisted for the Museums + Heritage Best UK Exhibition Award, is a dramatic installation of over 40 papyrus scrolls telling local life stories through a series of painted symbols. The photographic art exhibition **An Ode to Afrosurrealism** explores contemporary relationships with spiritualism, reality and surrealism, through a Black British lens.

Other new attractions include a display celebrating Nigerian independence, created in collaboration with Alafuro Sikoki-Coleman. This is a development of her work Private Atlas: Nigeria 1960, brought together with the Horniman's collection from 1960s Nigeria.

All visitors must book a free ticket in advance online for admission to the Museum, and wear a face mask during their visit (unless exempt). In accordance with government guidelines, all visitors over the age of 16 must also provide their name and contact details for the NHS Test and Trace scheme.

Visit [horniman.ac.uk](https://horniman.ac.uk) for ticket booking and to plan a visit.

### Ends

Horniman Press Office - Tel: 020 8291 8166 - [press@horniman.ac.uk](mailto:press@horniman.ac.uk)

### Notes to Editors:

- **Coronavirus impact** - The Horniman Gardens remained open throughout the pandemic, but with the Museum forced to close and with ongoing restrictions on visitor numbers, we are anticipating an annual deficit of over £500k this financial year. In recent years, the Horniman has increasingly relied on self-generated income to help care for the collections, Gardens, animals and Aquarium residents. The support of returning visitors, our supporters and their generous donations, is now more important than ever. [horniman.ac.uk/support-us/](https://horniman.ac.uk/support-us/)
- **Monkey Business** is a National Museums Scotland exhibition, touring in association with Nomad Exhibitions.
- **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](https://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.
- On 29 July 2019 the **Horniman Museum and Gardens declared an ecological and climate emergency**, pledging to place carbon reduction and environmental issues at the heart of its work. The declaration – and the subsequent **Climate and Ecological Manifesto**, published in January 2020 – is a consolidation of existing work and a commitment to renewed ambitions to reduce the Horniman's environmental and pollution footprint, increase biodiversity, and inspire others to do so. Find out more about the Horniman's manifesto commitments and progress so far at [horniman.ac.uk/climate](https://horniman.ac.uk/climate).