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**Horniman appoints Navjot Mangat as Senior Curator of Social Practice**

The Horniman Museum and Gardens has welcomed Navjot Mangat asSenior Curator of Social Practice, a new post which aims to link collections and communities.

As Senior Curator of Social Practice, Navjot’s goal is to make the Horniman more accessible for communities and people who have been historically marginalised and underrepresented. He is currently developing and consulting on a major new exhibition for 2023.

Nick Merriman, Chief Executive of the Horniman Museum and Gardens, says: ‘This new role is an important step for our reset agenda priorities of engaging with wider audiences, consulting people and working in partnership. Navjot brings invaluable experience of participatory practice, and we’re looking forward to working with him to find new ways of working across exhibitions, programming and processes that put our communities at the heart of what the Horniman does.’

Navjot joined the Horniman at the end of January, from his previous role at the Victoria & Albert Museum where he was Senior Interpretation and Participation Producer for V&A East. He is also a Trustee of The Line Art-Walk, and a member of the Museums Association Decolonisation Working Group.

**Ends**

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Pictured: Navjot Mangat, credit Suki Dhanda

**Notes to Editors:**

* See the website for **Navjot Mangat’s** [full biography](https://www.horniman.ac.uk/people/navjot-mangat/).
* The Horniman’s[**Reset Agenda**](https://www.horniman.ac.uk/story/resetting-the-agenda-for-the-hornimans-future/)is a coordinated programme drawing together different strands of work to focus on priority areas – addressing the Horniman’s colonial history, attracting a more inclusive audience and workforce that better reflect the diversity of the London population, addressing environmental and social issues, and securing the Horniman’s economic future.
* **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](http://www.horniman.ac.uk/)
* **Coronavirus impact: Every month the Horniman was closed cost around £150,000 in lost income** from ticket sales, memberships, the shop and café. In recent years, the Horniman has increasingly relied on this vital income to help care for the Gardens, animals and Aquarium residents, to run events and to look after the collections. The support of returning visitors, our supporters and their generous donations are more needed than ever. [horniman.ac.uk/support-us/](https://www.horniman.ac.uk/support-us/)
* 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://www.horniman.ac.uk/about-the-horniman/climate-and-ecology/).