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**Horniman appoints Feilden Fowles as lead architect for Nature + Love**

The Horniman Museum and Gardens in Forest Hill, south London, has appointed Feilden Fowles as lead architect for its **Nature + Love** project, it announced today (25 May 2022).

With initial support\* of £475,000 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, made possible by National Lottery players, the **Nature + Love** project aims to make the Horniman more inclusive and accessible, placing environmental sustainability and a commitment to fighting the climate emergency at its heart.

Feilden Fowles will lead a team of conservation and landscape architects, engineers and designers to develop designs for three new attractions at the Horniman:

* a Nature Explorers Adventure Zone, introducing a nature-themed play area and children’s café, encouraging learning and wellbeing through exploration and play
* a Sustainable Gardening Zone with new plant nursery and sustainable planting displays encouraging improved health and wellbeing
* a redisplayed Natural History Gallery and indoor Nature Explorers Action Zone, exploring human understanding of and impact upon the planet, and supporting people to make changes on a local and personal level.

Kirsten Walker, Director of Collections Care and Estates at the Horniman Museum and Gardens, says: ‘Feilden Fowles stood out for us at tender because of the ambition of their sustainable approach to our Nature + Love project, combined with their impressive track record of successfully embedding environmental sustainability into their work. We’re looking forward to working with them and seeing these exciting proposals develop into detailed and deliverable designs, ahead of our Stage 2 bid to The National Lottery Heritage Fund.’

Feilden Fowles will be developing RIBA Stage 2 concept designs between now and September, and RIBA Stage 3 detailed designs by February 2023. The Horniman will submit its Stage 2 bid to The National Lottery Heritage Fund around early March 2023.

**More**

Fergus Feilden, Director at Feilden Fowles, says: ‘We are thrilled to be selected for this special commission along with our collaborators J&L Gibbons and our experienced team of consultants. The project brings together significant and current topics around inclusivity, diversity, environmental sustainability and education. The Horniman is a unique setting with a wonderfully diverse collection, buildings and landscape. This exciting project will help expand access to a wider audience while responding to the climate.’

The full design team headed by Feilden Fowles, is:

* Feilden Fowles - lead consultant, architect and principal designer
* Fiona Raley Architecture - accredited conservation architects
* J&L Gibbons - landscape architect, including landscape conservation
* Structure Workshop - structural engineer
* Skelly & Couch - services engineer
* Michael Grubb Studio - lighting design
* OFR - fire engineer.

In addition to Feilden Fowles, the following team have also been appointed for the project:

* Studio MB - exhibition design team
* Focus Consultants - project manager and contract administrator
* Artelia UK - quantity surveyor
* 3 Adapt, sustainability consultant
* Direct Access - access consultant
* Emily Smith Associates - digital feasibility consultant
* Anna Cullum Associates and SAM - evaluation consultants.

**Ends**

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**Notes to Editors:**

* **About The National Lottery Heritage Fund** \*National Lottery Heritage Fund grant applications over £250,000 are assessed in two rounds. Nature + Love has initially been granted round one development funding of £474,957 by The National Lottery Heritage Fund, allowing it to progress with its plans. Detailed proposals are then considered by The National Lottery Heritage Fund at second round, where a final decision is made on the full funding award of £4,508,122.
* Using money raised by the National Lottery, we **Inspire**, **lead** and **resource** the UK’s heritage to create **positive and lasting change** for people and communities, now and in the future. [heritagefund.org.uk](http://www.heritagefund.org.uk/).
* Follow @HeritageFundUK on [Twitter](https://twitter.com/HeritageFundUK), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/HeritageFundUK) and [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/heritagefunduk/) and use #NationalLotteryHeritageFund
* Since The National Lottery began in 1994, National Lottery players have raised over £43 billion for projects and more than 635,000 grants have been awarded across the UK.
* **Feilden Fowles**was founded in 2009 by architects Fergus Feilden and Edmund Fowles. The practice is recognised for its socially and environmentally sustainable buildings across a variety of sectors. Current commissions include the Urban Nature Project at the Natural History Museum; the ongoing strategic masterplan for Ralph Allen School, Bath; student accommodation at Green Templeton College, University of Oxford; an exhibition hall for the National Railway Museum in York; and Brockwell Park Community Greenhouses in Lambeth, London. Recent built works include Homerton College Dining Hall, University of Cambridge; The Fratry at Carlisle Cathedral (RIBA North West Award, 2022); The Weston visitor centre and gallery at Yorkshire Sculpture Park (RIBA Stirling Prize finalist, 2019); and Waterloo City Farm, where the practice’s studio is located. Feilden Fowles was named BD’s ‘Gold Architect’ and ‘Public Building Architect of the Year’ in 2021, and featured in The AJ’s 40 Under 40 in 2020. [feildenfowles.co.uk](http://www.feildenfowles.co.uk/)
* **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, alongside a World Gallery of anthropology and a flexible arts and exhibition space, The Studio. 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/)
* **The Horniman Museum and Gardens** has been selected as one of the five finalists for [Art Fund Museum of the Year 2022](https://www.horniman.ac.uk/story/horniman-shortlisted-for-100000-art-fund-museum-of-the-year-2022/), the world’s largest museum prize.
* **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/).