

RAI Horniman Museum Collecting Initiative (2014-2015)

Date : September 2, 2014

As part of *Collections People Stories: Anthropology Re-Considered*, an Arts Council England (ACE) funded project taking place at the Horniman Museum, 2012-2015, we are seeking PhD Students or Postdoctoral Fellows, who plan to carry out fieldwork in 2014-2015 to make small collections for the museum.

Deadline: 30 September 2014

Collections People Stories: Anthropology Re-Considered is undertaking a detailed review and documentation of the Horniman's Anthropology collections, highlighting the range, scale and importance of both its stored collections and those on display. The project sets out to investigate new and innovative ways of collections research, engagement and interpretation. It will facilitate academic and community consultation and debate, to both unpack the legacy of the anthropology collections and unlock their values for communities and visitors today. The different activities and events over the course of the project will feed into establishing a vision, and funding bid, for a major new anthropology gallery at the museum.

The Horniman has had a long legacy of fieldwork collecting. As part of the *Collections People Stories* project, they are keen to further expand on their remit of contemporary collecting at the museum.

We would like applicants to collect a single object or small selection of objects related to their own research area that would be of interest to the museum. The object needs to be visually appealing and culturally significant, an object that would easily lend itself to being displayed at the museum. The object/s collected should also have a rich context and we strongly encourage the use of photographs and videos showing the object being used and/or being made.

We are also interested in proposals that employ different models of field collecting, for instance asking local people what they would collect to represent themselves etc.

Please send us a proposal (up to 1,500 words) outlining, in brief, your research interests, fieldwork plans, including a proposal of objects you would like to collect for the museum.

£500 in expenses will be given to 3 people, selected by the Royal Anthropological Institute.

Please note: This fee includes object acquisition, packing and transport costs, so please take this into account within your proposal. Please also bear in mind museum conservation and storage issue when choosing your object. The Horniman's Acquisition Policy can be found here: <http://www.horniman.ac.uk/media/file/Policies-Acquisition.pdf>

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Those selected will be expected to meet with Horniman curators before fieldwork, write a short report for the museum and an object narrative which will be posted on the museum's website, <http://www.horniman.ac.uk/>.

If you have any questions regarding the Horniman Museum collections, or want to know more about the holdings from your specific research areas, please contact Sarah Byrne, sbyrne@horniman.ac.uk

All submissions should be sent by **30 September 2014** to: Amanda Vinson, Royal Anthropological Institute, 50 Fitzroy Street, London W1T 5BT (email admin@therai.org.uk).