

For immediate release



Horniman appoints new Musicians in Residence

Anti.net, Daniel Tsz-shing Lei, Gabriel 'Sekuru' Makamanzi,

The Horniman Museum and Gardens has appointed the second cohort in its **Musicians in Residence** programme, celebrating the vibrant music scenes of London through the creation of new music.

The Horniman's **Musicians in Residence** programme links early career musicians with its Musical Instrument collection as a stimulus for them to create new work, culminating in live performance.

The **Musicians in Residence** are:

- **Anti.net** – a punk rap and art collective from East and South East London known for their disruptive energy and genre-blurring performances.
- **Daniel Tsz-shing Lei** – a dizi flautist from Hong Kong whose artistic vision lies in merging traditional Chinese folk music with modern classical composition.
- **Gabriel 'Sekuru' Makamanzi** – a Zimbabwean mbira player and singer based in London, dedicated to honouring the rich musical traditions of his homeland.

They follow in the footsteps of Bloomer (Faith-Melody Ramautar), Pouya Ehsaei, and Shola (Shola Dayo) who created new music and narratives that engaged with, and offered fresh insights into, the Horniman's Musical Instrument collection, premiering their work at three unique public performances.

Over six months the musicians will work with Saava Benjamin Balagadde, Rudi Schmidt and Joseph Rubio from the Horniman's Curatorial and Community Engagement teams to produce new music, digital content, and immersive live performances at the *Horniman Museum Lates* in February – April 2025.

Their work will also be showcased in a joint work in progress *Hear it Live!* performance on Thursday 14 November 2024 at 3.30pm.

Rudi Schmidt, programme manager says: 'We are really excited to work with our new cohort of resident musicians, each one bringing something very different to the Horniman. From deeply held spiritual traditions of the mbira to disruptive punk-rap energy, to contemporary approaches to folk-art, these artists will share a broad range of cultural expression with our audiences. They are all experts of their craft, and we are looking forward to seeing how they respond to our collections and influence the way we work as a museum.'

Anti.net say: 'Big up the Horniman Museum for having us as part of the artists residency. We're looking forward to collaborating with them to bring our sound somewhere new and exciting.'

Daniel Tsz-shing Lei says: 'The residency offers me an encounter with both local and broader digital communities, providing a favourite opportunity to explore new musical performativities through selected objects from the wonderful Horniman Collection.'

Gabriel 'Sekuru' Makamanzi says: 'I've really enjoyed being part of the Horniman Museum's resident project. It's been a fantastic opportunity to connect with other members, and I appreciate the collaborative environment. I'm also learning a great deal about various instruments from around the world, which has deepened my understanding of their cultural significance. This experience has truly enriched my appreciation for global music traditions.'

About the artists:

- **Anti.net:** Comprised of core members Martell (Vice), Regan (Wave Noir), Reece (Skrrgeon), and Jaffar, Anti.net embodies the rebellious spirit of London's underground. Their work will involve reimagining the use of instruments from the Musical Instrument collection, recontextualizing historical sounds within modern electronic music and fusing with their raw punk-rap energy. Anti.net aims to create an EP that synthesises traditional and experimentation to breathe new life into overlooked musical styles through a process they call "reverse anachronism." [Anti.net](#)
- **Daniel Tsz-shing Lei:** A scholar-performer with a multi-genre approach, Tsz-shing Lei is passionate about reviving 'forgotten' instruments from the Horniman's collection. His project, Fading Memory, will highlight instruments like the xiao flute, the stylophone and the 1772 Kirckman harpsichord, exploring how these instruments can be reimagined together. Tsz-shing Lei will create new pieces that bridge Eastern and Western styles, bringing to life the intricate sounds of these rarely heard instruments through mixed-media performances. [Daniel Tsz-shing Lei](#)
[李梓成](#)
- **Gabriel 'Sekuru' Makamanzi:** Having begun playing at the age of 13, Gabriel has developed a distinctive style that fuses Shona tradition with modern musical styles. His residency will focus on showcasing the mbira dzavadzimu, an instrument used in ceremonies to connect with the spiritual world. Gabriel's work at the Horniman will include documenting the craftsmanship of his uncle, a master mbira maker, alongside producing new compositions that explore the mbira's complex role as a tool for storytelling, healing, and ritual. [The Spirit Of Zimbabwe](#)

The Horniman's **Musicians in Residence** programme was made possible thanks to prize money received from **Art Fund** as winner of **Art Fund Museum of the Year 2022**.

Consisting of six, six-month residencies, the programme builds on the success of the Horniman's **696 Project**, aiming to bring to the forefront artists and expressions of music from cultures, communities and peoples that have been historically underrepresented within museums like the Horniman.

Picture shows: Gabriel 'Sekuru' Makamanzi / photographer Joseph Rubio, Horniman Museum and Gardens

For hi-res images of all the artists please contact press@horniman.ac.uk

Ends

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Notes to Editors:

- **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 a World Gallery of anthropology, music, an acclaimed aquarium, The Studio – a flexible arts and exhibition space, and a natural history gallery (closed until 2026 for redevelopment as part of [Nature + Love](#)). 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** relies on income from ticket sales, memberships, the shop and the Café to help care for the Gardens, animals and Aquarium residents, to run events and to look after the collections. The support of our visitors and donors is hugely appreciated. horniman.ac.uk/support-us
- The **Horniman Museum and Gardens** is core-funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and since 1990 has been governed by an independent charitable trust, registered charity no. 802725.
- 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.