

PRESS RELEASE

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GO BEHIND THE SCENES OF MUSEUMS WITH NEW SERIES OF PODCAST *MEET ME AT THE MUSEUM*

- Follow well-known personalities and guests exploring the museums they love
- Series 5 of Art Fund's award-winning podcast launches 11 March
- New series features writer Elizabeth Day, writer and poet Benjamin Zephaniah, and *Gavin and Stacey* actor Mathew Horne

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A new series of Art Fund's award-winning podcast *Meet Me at the Museum* takes listeners to museums across the UK while they remain closed. The latest episodes follow famous faces and their guests going behind the scenes at their favourite cultural venues, from acclaimed author of *How to Fail* Elizabeth Day and her husband reflecting on experiences of conflict at the Imperial War Museum in London to social activist Malik Al Nasir exploring important stories of resistance and abolition at the International Slavery Museum in Liverpool.

Winner of the silver award for best branded podcast at the 2020 British Podcast Awards, *Meet Me at the Museum* first launched in 2018 and is produced by Art Fund, the national charity for art. Over the last three years, the podcast has offered insights into the vast cultural offer across the country, taking listeners to places that provide inspiration, spark conversation, and enrich lives.

New episodes of the podcast will be landing each week, featuring:

- writer and podcaster Elizabeth Day at the Imperial War Museum, London
- comedian Fern Brady at Roman Baths, Bath
- poet and social activist Malik Al Nasir at the International Slavery Museum, Liverpool
- writer and poet Benjamin Zephaniah at Birmingham Museum & Art Gallery
- musician and singer-songwriter Kizzy Crawford at National Museum Cardiff
- actor Mathew Horne at the Museum of Brands, London

The fifth series, produced by Whistledown Productions and hosted by Acast, launches 11 March 2021, and includes stories behind objects like the 'curse tablets' currently displayed at the Roman Baths. Dating from the 2nd to the late 4th century AD, these tablets are small sheets of lead or pewter where people inscribed their private prayers asking for wrongs to be put right and for revenge after suffering an injustice.

Guests from the four previous series have included Mel Giedroyc, Edith Bowman, Kirsty Wark, Russell Kane, Fi Glover, Jane Garvey, Lemn Sissay, Miles Jupp, Anneka Rice, and Jackie Kay, and

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featured a diverse range of UK museums and galleries including V&A Dundee, the National Football Museum, Kelvingrove Art Gallery & Museum, the Barbara Hepworth Museum and Sculpture Garden, Cardiff Castle, the Whitworth art gallery, Glasgow Women's Library, the Freud Museum, and Tate Liverpool.

ENDS

Editors notes:

- Images available at <https://bibli.artfund.org/web/33501093d42b4f76/mmatm-series-5/>

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About Art Fund

Art Fund is the national fundraising charity for art. It provides millions of pounds every year to help museums to acquire and share works of art across the UK, further the professional development of their curators, and inspire more people to visit and enjoy their public programmes. In response to Covid-19 Art Fund has made £2 million in adapted funding available to support museums through reopening and beyond, including Respond and Reimagine grants to help meet immediate need and reimagine future ways of working. Art Fund is independently funded, supported by the 159,000 members who buy the National Art Pass, who enjoy free entry to over 240 museums, galleries and historic places, 50% off major exhibitions, and receive Art Quarterly magazine. Art Fund also supports museums through its annual prize, Art Fund Museum of the Year. In a unique edition of the prize for 2020, Art Fund responded to the unprecedented challenges that all museums are facing by selecting five winners and increasing the prize money to £200,000. The winners are Aberdeen Art Gallery; Gairloch Museum; Science Museum; South London Gallery; and Towner Eastbourne
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