

PRESS RELEASE

18 August 2022

Concerts, discussions, workshops, performances, films, club night

Press day and previews: 15/09/2022, from 8 am

OPEN 24 hours: Opening programme for the new exhibitions in the Humboldt Forum

On 17 September 2022, the Humboldt Forum will welcome visitors to a grand 24-hour programme, from the Schlüterhof to the roof terrace. To celebrate the complete opening of the Humboldt Forum, with the new exhibitions of the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst and those of the Stiftung Humboldt Forum taking centre stage. Through tours, discussions, performances and many other events, international experts and curators will share their personal, in-depth insight into the presentations. The party will go on all night in the Schlüterhof to celebrate the opening, with the Sauer Power club night hosted by the Slavs and Tatars artists' collective. The programme offers over 100 different events and activities, which are free of charge and do not require advanced booking.

With the opening of the East Wing, all the exhibitions of collections of the Ethnologisches Museum and the Museum für Asiatische Kunst of the Staatlichen Museen zu Berlin, as well as five new temporary exhibition spaces, are finally fully open in the Humboldt Forum. With around 20,000 exhibits across over 16,000 square metres of exhibition space, they offer an overview of cultures and art from around the world that spans epochs and continents.

The Humboldt Forum is celebrating the opening of the East Wing with all visitors, along with international experts, artists and curators who have participated in the exhibitions. The 24-hour opening celebrations will involve around 140 partners from Benin (Nigeria), Bolivia, Brazil, Cameroon, Canada, Columbia, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Nagaland (India), Namibia, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Tanzania, USA and Venezuela, as well as from the Berlin community. The partners will share their approaches and perspectives to the collections and objects, enhancing our understanding of their significance and histories.

The 24-hour opening celebrations will start at midday on Saturday, 17 September. The programme includes over 100 events and activities, including discussions, workshops,

performances and augmented reality tours. The discussions with international partners will explore issues such as restitution, the environment and sustainability, knowledge transfer and international cooperation. As the sun sets, films and night-time tours of the collections will begin, along with the Sauer Power club night, where Slavs and Tatars will present concerts and DJ sets in a mix of Asian groove, Tatar pop culture, trance punk and breakbeats. Sunday morning begins with a community sun salutation on the Spreeterrasse and breakfast in the Schlüterhof, along with participation in further discussions. The events will be accompanied by a varied choice of cuisine and opportunities to relax.

The Collections and Exhibitions

The Humboldt Forum presents collections from North, Central and South America, along with the second part of the collections from Asia and Africa. Among the highlights are the exhibition area focusing on the global diversity of Islam, the art of the Khmer and the life of things in the Amazon area, including the Cotzumalhuapa stelas from Guatemala. Visitors can also gain an insight into the ongoing process of critical reappraisal of the objects held in the Berlin collection that came from the historical kingdom of Benin and its world-famous bronzes. In addition, temporary exhibitions explore topics such as the cultures of the Naga in India and the Haida in Canada.

Many of the exhibition modules have been prepared in close collaboration with international partners and members of the 'societies of origin' of the objects on display. Their inclusion has made it possible to appraise and present the objects from a range of perspectives, and to handle them in a differentiated way. The museums and the Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss are doing more than just presenting the latest cooperative research into the objects. Rather, they invite visitors to discover a new concept of exhibitions and communication which challenges visitors to engage with questions about the histories of collections and current postcolonial issues.

Critical scrutiny of this time forms one of the themes of several events in the 24-hour programme. Visitors can put together their own programmes to lead them on a unique path through the Humboldt Forum for a day and a night, as well opportunities to contribute their own knowledge and perspectives to a range of events and activities.

Detailed programme: humboldtforum.org/24hopen

PRESS CONTACTS

Stiftung Humboldt Forum im Berliner Schloss

Michael Mathis, Press Officer

+49 30 265 950-525, michael.mathis@humboldtforum.org

Andrea Brandis, Press and Communications

+49 30 265 950-237, andrea.brandis@humboldtforum.org

Mirko Nowak, Head of Communications

+49 30 265 950-236, mirko.nowak@humboldtforum.org

humboldtforum.org/presse

Ethnologisches Museum and Museum für Asiatische Kunst Staatliche Museen zu Berlin - Preussischer Kulturbesitz

Stefan Müchler, Press Officer (National Museums in Berlin within the Humboldt Forum)

Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz

+49 151 527 515 84, s.muechler@hv.spk-berlin.de

Timo Weissberg, Press Officer Dahlem

Staatliche Museen zu Berlin – Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz

+49 30 266 42 6803, t.weissberg@smb.spk-berlin.de

smb.museum.de; preussischer-kulturbesitz.de