

News release  
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## MADAME TUSSAUDS LONDON GOES APE OVER KONG: SKULL ISLAND DELIVERY

*Iconic attractions in London and New York get set to welcome Kong: Skull Island experience*

**21<sup>st</sup> February 2017.** Today, Madame Tussauds London signed for a monstrous delivery that is set to be a roaring success at the iconic attraction, with the arrival of a larger than life Kong: Skull Island experience. In partnership with Legendary Pictures and Warner Bros. Pictures, Madame Tussauds London and Madame Tussauds New York will bring the experience to life with an eight-foot, multi-sensory animatronic head of the gigantic ape that will wow and terrify visitors in equal measure.

Guests can expect to embark on an adventure deep into the tropical environment of the infamous Skull Island, where they will be challenged to evade the traps of colossal petrifying spiders and uncover artifacts from the film. As they journey through the secluded bamboo jungle, they will be joined by a new wax figure of Captain James Conrad, played by British actor Tom Hiddleston in the upcoming film, before coming face to face with the enormous breathing, blinking, snarling and roaring mystical monster himself.

The enormous animatronic Kong head, made from 64 square metres of specialist faux hair, took 72 days to build and create by 33 team members. Each movement of the head uses state of the art pneumatic controls which was designed specifically for Kong. The system precisely controls the pressure and flow of air to recreate life like facial movements, grunts, snorts and roars made by the ferocious beast. Delivered via a 20ft crate on a flat-bed lorry in the early hours of this morning, the experience will be unveiled in Madame Tussauds London in March 2017 in conjunction with the global launch of Kong: Skull Island.

Edward Fuller, General Manager at Madame Tussauds London, said: “Creating such a large and life like animatronic figure is a first for the attraction and we cannot wait to share it with our visitors. The experience will transport guests who dare enter to the islands of the South Pacific and give them a chance to embark on their own mission of discovery. Alongside our first wax figure of Tom Hiddleston, as Captain James Conrad, they’ll be able to feel the roar of the king of the jungle.”

Kong: Skull Island will be in UK cinemas from March 10 2017.

**ENDS**

**#feeltheroar**

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**Notes to editors**

**Madame Tussauds London and Merlin Entertainments plc**

- Madame Tussauds London is located next to Baker Street tube station and open seven days a week – opening times vary, check the website for details before visiting, [www.madametussauds.com/london](http://www.madametussauds.com/london)
- Madame Tussauds has attractions in London, Hollywood, Las Vegas, New York, Orlando, San Francisco, Washington D.C., Amsterdam, Berlin, Vienna, Bangkok, Beijing, Hong Kong, Tokyo, Shanghai, Singapore, Wuhan, Blackpool UK and Sydney, with experiences built around fame and celebrity. In London, guests can get up close and personal with more than 300 lifelike wax figures of today’s biggest stars; take a time-travelling taxi ride through 400 years of amazing London history; enjoy the exclusive Marvel Super Heroes 4D movie experience; and come face-to-face with 18 of the biggest heroes and villains from the *Star Wars* universe in 12 scenes recreating some of the most iconic moments in film history.
- MERLIN ENTERTAINMENTS plc is the leading name in location-based, family entertainment. Europe’s Number 1 and the world’s second-largest visitor attraction operator, Merlin now operates 111 attractions, 12 hotels/4 holiday villages in 23 countries and across 4 continents. The company aims to deliver memorable and rewarding experiences to its almost 63 million visitors worldwide, through its iconic global and local brands, and the commitment and passion of its managers and c26,000 employees (peak season).
- Among Merlin’s attractions are - SEA LIFE, Madame Tussauds, LEGOLAND, DreamWorks Tours Shrek’s Adventure!, The London Eye, Dungeons, Gardaland, LEGOLAND Discovery Centres, Alton Towers Resort, Warwick Castle, THORPE PARK Resort, Blackpool Tower, Heide Park Resort, Sydney

Tower Eye and SKYWALK. All brands which are distinctive, challenging and innovative – and which have great potential for growth in the future. Visit [www.merlinentertainments.biz](http://www.merlinentertainments.biz) for more information.

### **Kong: Skull Island**

Warner Bros. Pictures and Legendary Pictures' "Kong: Skull Island" reimagines the origin of the mythic Kong in a compelling, original adventure from director Jordan Vogt-Roberts ("The Kings of Summer").

In the film, a diverse team of explorers is brought together to venture deep into an uncharted island in the Pacific – as beautiful as it is treacherous – unaware that they're crossing into the domain of the mythic Kong.

"Kong: Skull Island" stars Tom Hiddleston ("The Avengers," "Thor: The Dark World"), Samuel L. Jackson ("The Hateful Eight," "Avengers: Age of Ultron"), Oscar winner Brie Larson ("Room," "Trainwreck"), John Goodman ("Transformers: Age of Extinction," "Argo") and John C. Reilly ("Guardians of the Galaxy," "Step Brothers"). The international ensemble cast also includes Tian Jing ("Police Story: Lockdown"), Corey Hawkins ("Straight Outta Compton"), Jason Mitchell ("Straight Outta Compton"), John Ortiz ("Steve Jobs"), Thomas Mann ("Beautiful Creatures"), Shea Whigham ("The Wolf of Wall Street"), Toby Kebbell ("Dawn of the Planet of the Apes") and Eugene Cordero ("The Kings of Summer").

Vogt-Roberts is directing the film from a screenplay by Max Borenstein, John Gatins, Dan Gilroy and Derek Connolly. "Kong: Skull Island" is produced by Legendary's Thomas Tull and Jon Jashni with Mary Parent. The executive producers are Eric McLeod and Alex Garcia.

Warner Bros. Pictures and Legendary Pictures Present a Legendary Pictures Production, "Kong: Skull Island." The film will be released worldwide in 2D, 3D in select theatres, and IMAX beginning March 10, 2017, from Warner Bros. Pictures, a Warner Bros. Entertainment Company.

### **Legendary Entertainment**

Legendary Entertainment is a leading media company with film (Legendary Pictures), television and digital (Legendary Television and Digital Media) and comics (Legendary Comics) divisions dedicated to owning, producing and delivering content to worldwide audiences. Legendary has built a library of marquee media properties and has established itself as a trusted brand which consistently delivers high-quality, commercial entertainment including some of the world's most popular intellectual property. In aggregate, Legendary Pictures-associated productions have realized grosses of more than \$13 billion worldwide at the box office. To learn more visit: [www.legendary.com](http://www.legendary.com)

### **Warner Bros. Pictures**

Warner Bros. Pictures has been at the forefront of the motion picture industry since its inception and continues to be a leading creative force in the industry.

Warner Bros. Pictures produces and distributes a wide-ranging slate of some 18-22 films each year, employing a business paradigm that mitigates risk while maximizing productivity and capital. Warner Bros. Pictures either fully finances or co-finances the films it produces and maintains worldwide distribution rights. It further monetizes its distribution and marketing operations by distributing films

that are totally financed and produced by others. Current multi-faceted co-financing joint ventures include those with Village Roadshow Pictures and RatPac-Dune Entertainment. Warner Bros. Pictures also has a distribution, co-financing deal with Alcon Entertainment.

2016 marked the 10th consecutive year Warner Bros. Pictures crossed the \$3 billion mark at the global box office with \$4.93 billion in worldwide receipts (\$1.90 billion domestic, \$3.03 billion international). The year was also 16th consecutive frame that both the domestic and international divisions crossed the billion-dollar mark—a milestone no other studio has achieved.

Among the films on Warner Bros. Pictures' 2017 slate are *The LEGO Batman Movie*, *Kong: Skull Island*, *King Arthur: Legend of the Sword*, *Wonder Woman*, *Dunkirk*, *Annabelle 2* (from New Line Cinema), *It* (New Line Cinema), *The LEGO NINJAGO Movie* and *Justice League*.