

A SEA ODYSSEY

London is bracing itself for an alien invasion. Don't worry, though – these creatures aren't going to wipe us out; they'll be confined to the Science Museum, where a brand new blockbuster exhibition, *The Science of Aliens*, opens later this month.

Its aim is to make sense of our 'emotional attachment' with the search for extraterrestrial life, and it will feature the 'aliens' made famous by the Roswell incident in 1947 and a full-size queen from the Alien films starring Sigourney Weaver.

But as these pictures from the exhibition show, we need look no further than our own oceans to encounter a fascinating array of weird creatures more alien than ET.

These specimens might look odd to us, but they have evolved as a response to the extreme environments they inhabit. And by studying this process of adaptation, scientists can develop a greater understanding of the possibilities for life on other planets. *The Science of Aliens*, from October 15 at the Science Museum, Exhibition Road, London. Visit www.sciencemuseum.org.uk/aliens, or call 0870 906 3890 to book tickets.

