



What's On at Imperial War Museums in 2015

Major Exhibitions

5 March 2015
– 31 Aug 2015

Fashion on the Ration: 1940s Street Style
IWM London

Press View:
4 March

Explore how fashion survived and even flourished under the strict rules of rationing during the Second World War in new and unexpected ways, in this major exhibition at IWM London.

Tickets:
Adults £10
Concessions £7
Children (15 and under) £5

Discover how men and women of Britain found new ways to dress, from adopting more casual styles to demonstrating amazing ingenuity in renovating, recycling and creating their own clothes. See uniforms and textiles from wartime Britain and discover the impact of the war on people's lives – on what they wore, their sense of identity, and how they coped with the demands and deprivations of shortages and austerity.

11 July 2015
- Feb 2016

Horrible Histories®: Blitzed Brits
IWM North, Special Exhibitions Gallery

Press View:
9 July

Free

Marking the 75th anniversary of the Blitz during the Second World War, visitors can discover how people lived through one of the most challenging times in British history. Objects, photographs, art, film and sound recordings reveal personal stories – some on display for the first time – from IWM's unrivalled collections, narrated with the words of *Horrible Histories* author Terry Deary and new animations by illustrator Martin Brown.

Discover why war was woeful for those who stayed at home and how they survived being blitzed by bombs. Step into a 1940s house, brave the Blitz experience, sniff your way through stinky smells and get hands on with intriguing interactives. Created with *Horrible Histories* in partnership with Scholastic Children's books.

14 May 2015
– 30 May 2016

Peter Kennard: Unofficial War Artist
IWM London

Press View:
12 May

Free

In the first major retrospective of his work, *Peter Kennard: Unofficial War Artist* examines the art and practice of arguably Britain's most important political artist.

In a career spanning 50 years Peter Kennard's imagery has become synonymous with political activism. Working outside of the established art system, his iconic artworks have come to represent the protest movement and have inspired many of today's politically-minded artists including Mark Wallinger and Banksy.

Visitors will learn of the artist's motivations and methods, in particular his consistent reworking and reinterpretation of key images. Starting with his *Decoration* painting series (2004), the exhibition will move on to look at his seminal *STOP* paintings, created while still an art student in the early 1970s. It will showcase Kennard's iconic photomontages from the 1980s, centred on the anti-nuclear campaigns of CND and the international arms trade, before concluding with a brand new art installation in which Kennard makes his own innovative and personal appraisal of his career.

15 October 2015 -
31 January 2016

Lee Miller: A Woman's War
Sponsored by Barclays
IWM London

Press View:

Early October (Date
TBC)

Tickets information
available soon.
Check iwm.org.uk

This major exhibition, presented by IWM London in collaboration with the Lee Miller Archive, will examine the impact of the Second World War on women's lives as portrayed in the photography of Lee Miller, one of the most important female war photographers of the twentieth century. This will be the first exhibition to address Lee Miller's vision of gender and will feature photographs, objects, art and personal ephemera, many of which have never been displayed before. *Lee Miller: A Woman's War* will also be accompanied by a major book, published by Thames & Hudson.

Art Displays and Exhibitions

19 February 2015
– 4 May 2015

IWM Contemporary: Hew Locke
IWM London

Free

The latest show in our IWM Contemporary programme features new and existing works by artist Hew Locke, exploring and interrogating naval power. The exercise of control over sea highways which fuel trade, travel and cultural exchange, continues to define power relations between countries.

The show will feature a large scale cord and bead wall drawing created especially for the exhibition, a transformed ship model and a unique painted photograph of HMS *Belfast*, the Second World War cruiser on the Thames which is part of the IWM museum family.

21 February 2015 –
6 September 2016

Withdraw
IWM North, WaterWay Gallery

Press View:
19 February

Free

This small, artistic display explores the impact of British and US armed forces leaving Afghanistan in late 2014. The withdrawal is documented through new drawings by a leading illustrator. The illustrations - created in situ and on public display for the first time - explore how life continues for Afghanistan's civilians during and after the forces' exit.

26 March 2015
– 7 Sep 2015

Hew Locke at HMS Belfast
HMS Belfast

Press View:
25 March

Included in HMS
Belfast Ticket Prices

IWM has invited artist Hew Locke to imaginatively transform the experience of HMS *Belfast*, bringing to life the stories of people on board the ship, exploring the joys and dangers of life at sea, through a creative and surprising art installation.

More details will be available in the new year.

2 April 2015
– 25 September
2016

Visions of War Above and Below
IWM London

Free

Throughout the 20th and 21st centuries the development of flight and aerial warfare has informed and inspired new artistic perspectives.

Visions of War Above and Below shows a variety of imaginative responses to conflict, from surreal depictions of aircraft as creatures, to abstract views of bombing raids and detailed drawings of life in submarines. These artworks, spanning the First World

War through to 21st century conflict, are brought together in order to present multiple viewpoints of war above and below.

Highlights from IWM's art collection include Paul Nash's *Battle of Germany* (1944) and Alison Wilding's *Drones* drawings (2012), together with new additions to the collection on display for the first time. Among these is Bashar Alhroub's video work *Heavenly* (2010), a joint acquisition with Wolverhampton Art Gallery funded by Art Fund's Renew scheme.

4 June 2015
– 6 Sept 2015

IWM Contemporary: Imogen Stidworthy
IWM London

Press View:
TBC

Free

IWM London presents *The Work v5*, a sculptural sound installation by British artist Imogen Stidworthy. This piece was developed through dialogue with two former British soldiers who suffer from post-traumatic stress disorder, and the wife of one of the soldiers, who lives with the effects of war at home. In *The Work v5*, Stidworthy uses the voice as a sculptural material, engrained with traces of experience.

Throughout 2015

Free

Reactions15
IWM North

IWM has been collecting and commissioning artistic responses to conflict since the First World War. This season of art installations and live performances – specially commissioned by IWM North - will unveil new and unique ways to explore the impact of the conflict on everyone involved. Throughout the year, a mix of emerging and established artists from a range of artistic disciplines will reveal new and original creations.

Holocaust Anniversary (70 years)

Monday 19 January
– **Saturday 31**
January

Free

Holocaust Memorial Day Events
IWM North

70 years since the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, events and displays at IWM North, will explore the theme of *Keeping The Memory Alive*.

On Sunday 25 January the acclaimed music ensemble, The Burning Bush, led by Lucie Skeaping, will take over IWM North's Main Exhibition Space to perform traditional music and song from diverse Jewish cultures. Meanwhile a fortnight of storytelling for families will be accompanied by *A Closer Look* tours for all visitors exploring stories and objects on display, such as that of Ruth Wasserman, who came to Britain on the Kindertransport in 1939 and Leslie Hardman, Jewish Chaplain with the British Army who entered Bergen-Belsen concentration camp two days after its liberation.

All Year

Free

Recommended for
children aged 14
and above

Holocaust Exhibition at IWM London

This highly-acclaimed permanent exhibition uses film, photographs and a large number of rare artefacts – many brought from Germany and Eastern Europe – to document the history of the Nazi persecution of the Jews and other groups before and during the Second World War.

The Exhibition features over 600 objects, from moving testimonies of survivors and a 13 metre long model depicting events at Auschwitz-Birkenau, through to the letters of an eight year old French Jewish boy who hid in an orphanage before his betrayal and deportation to Auschwitz.

April 2015

Film Screening - German Concentration Camps Factual Survey

Dates TBC

Following its screening at a series of internationally acclaimed film festivals, with its world premiere at Berlin and a sell-out screening at the BFI London Film Festival, IWM will be presenting the official documentary – *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey* – to mark the 70th anniversary of the liberation of Bergen-Belsen.

Described by critics as ‘*an impressive and important piece of filmmaking, restored with intelligence and care by the museum*’, *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey*, a documentary about German atrocities and the concentration camps has been digitally restored to the instructions laid down by the original production team in 1945.

Major Events and Second World War Anniversaries

23 and 24 May 2015

**VE Day Anniversary Air Show
IWM Duxford**

Times and Ticket

Information available soon.

Check iwm.org.uk

The VE Day Anniversary Air Show pays tribute to the men, women and children who endured six years of conflict on the fighting fronts and the Home Front of the Second World War.

Our flying display honours the Allied forces, and their aircraft, from across the world, which contributed towards Victory in Europe. Across IWM Duxford, we remember the fortitude of the British people on the Home Front and evoke the spirit of celebration and weary relief with which they marked VE Day.

**19 and 20
September , 2015**

**Battle of Britain Air Show
IWM Duxford**

Times and Ticket
Information available soon.

Check iwm.org.uk

The Battle of Britain Anniversary Air Show commemorates the 75th anniversary of the aerial battle that proved a strategic turning point in the Second World War.

We remember RAF Duxford’s role in the Battle of Britain, as the home of the first squadron to fly Spitfires and also for some of the RAF’s best-known fighter pilots, including Douglas Bader.

We honour the men and women who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that those iconic aircraft took to the skies to continue the fight for aerial supremacy.

12 September 2015
– February 2016

**Mixing It (working title)
IWM North, WaterWay Gallery**

Free

On display for the first time, *Mixing It* will reveal the forgotten histories of service personnel who came to Britain and were stationed in North West England during the Second World War.

With large-scale movements of people to Britain – chiefly from the British Empire, Europe and America – the national and ethnic diversity of the population in Britain during the Second World War was unprecedented, but this has played little part in public memories of the conflict.

This small, powerful display will be based on the first major research project ever conducted into the cultural and social history of wartime diversity. Specially

recorded oral history and new research by the University of Huddersfield in partnership with IWM, presented alongside archive material, will reveal personal stories never told publicly before.

11 and 12 July 2015

**Flying Legends Air Show
IWM Duxford**

Times and Ticket
Information available
soon.

The Flying Legends Air Show is famous the world over for its unique presentations of historic piston-engined aircraft in rare combinations and remarkable flying displays. Complementing dramatic displays in the air is the authentic 1940s atmosphere that can be experienced across IWM Duxford.

Check iwm.org.uk

The flying display promises an unmissable fusion of power, sound, excitement and nostalgia as iconic piston-engined aircraft from across the globe perform their breathtaking flights over IWM Duxford's historic airfield.

The balbo, a massed-formation finale, featuring many of the aircraft which have taken part in the stunning flying display, is unique to the Flying Legends Air Show and a world-renowned spectacle.

Last chance to see...

Major Exhibition **From Street to Trench: A War That Shaped a Region
IWM North, Special Exhibitions Gallery**

**Until 31 May
2015**

The largest exhibition ever created exploring the North West of England during the First World War, *From Street to Trench* features extraordinary and surprising personal stories - with objects never before on public display.

Discover how the society we live in today was born out of the rapid changes that resulted from the First World War. In 2015, 100 years after the landings at Gallipoli and the sinking of the *Lusitania*, the exhibition illustrates how the people of that region played a significant role in global events.

Major Art Exhibition **Truth and Memory
IWM London**

**Until 8 March
2015**

Critically acclaimed *Truth and Memory* is the largest exhibition and first major retrospective of British First World War art for almost 100 years and includes work by some of the most important artists of the twentieth century. This exhibition, featuring over 100 works including paintings, sculptures, prints and drawings assesses the immediate impact and enduring legacy of British art of the First World War.

Ends

For more information or images please contact:

- **IWM London, Churchill War Rooms and HMS Belfast:**
Nina Dellow – 020 7091 3069 / nsmetek@iwm.org.uk ;
Rosie Linton – 020 7416 5436 / rlinton@iwm.org.uk
- **IWM North**
Alex Knight on aknight@iwm.org.uk / 0161 836 4040
Lorna McBride on lmcbride@iwm.org.uk / 0161 836 4046
- **IWM Duxford** – Esther Blaine on eblaine@iwm.org.uk / 01223 499 320

Opening Times and Admissions:

- **IWM London:** Open daily* 10am – 6pm. Free admission

- **IWM North:** Open daily* 10am – 5pm. Free admission
- **IWM Duxford:** Open daily*: Summer 10am – 6pm; Winter 10am – 4pm
 - Adult £17.50; Child (5 – 15) £8.75; Child (under 5) Free; Family Tickets (depending on family size) £30 – 46; Concession £14. Group Rates available
- **HMS Belfast:** Open daily*: Jan – Feb, 10am – 5pm; March – October, 10am – 6pm
 - Adult £16; Child (5 – 15) £8; Child (under 5) Free; Family Tickets (depending on family size), £28 - £42; Concession £12.80. Group Rates available
- **Churchill War Rooms:** Open daily* 9.30am – 6pm.
 - Adult £18; Child (5- 15) £9; Child (under 5) Free; Family Tickets (depending on family size) £31.50 - £47.25); Concession £14.40. Group Rates available

*All of our branches are closed on 24, 25 and 26 December.

Notes to Editors:

About Barclays

Sponsor of major exhibition *Lee Miller: A Woman's War* at IWM London

Barclays is a major global financial services provider engaged in personal banking, credit cards, corporate and investment banking and wealth and investment management with an extensive international presence in Europe, the Americas, Africa and Asia. Barclays' purpose is to help people achieve their ambitions – in the right way. With over 300 years of history and expertise in banking, Barclays operates in over 50 countries and employs approximately 140,000 people. Barclays moves, lends, invests and protects money for customers and clients worldwide.

For further information about Barclays please visit our website at www.barclays.com

IWM

IWM (Imperial War Museums) **tells the story of people who have lived, fought and died in conflicts involving Britain and the Commonwealth since the First World War.**

Our unique Collections, made up of the everyday and the exceptional, reveal stories of people, places, ideas and events. Using these, we tell vivid personal stories and create powerful physical experiences across our five museums that reflect the realities of war as both a destructive and creative force. We challenge people to look at conflict from different perspectives, enriching their understanding of the causes, course and consequences of war and its impact on people's lives.

IWM's five branches which attract over 2 million visitors each year are **IWM London**, IWM's flagship branch that recently transformed with new, permanent and free First World War Galleries alongside new displays across the iconic Atrium to mark the Centenary of the First World War; **IWM North**, housed in an iconic award-winning building designed by Daniel Libeskind; **IWM Duxford**, a world renowned aviation museum and Britain's best preserved wartime airfield; **Churchill War Rooms**, housed in Churchill's secret headquarters below Whitehall; and the Second World War cruiser **HMS Belfast**.

First World War Centenary

2014 - 2018 marks the centenary of the First World War, a landmark anniversary for Britain and the world. IWM will mark the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the country, which included the opening of brand new First World War Galleries at IWM London in 2014. www.1914.org

