



Imperial War Museums announces 2017 programme

In 2017 Imperial War Museums (IWM) will mark its centenary. IWM was established while the First World War was still being fought. To commemorate its centenary IWM will present a programme of exhibitions and events across its five branches (IWM London, IWM North, IWM Duxford, HMS Belfast and Churchill War Rooms) with further details to be announced in early 2017.

IWM's rich programme for 2017 reveals responses to conflict and the personal stories of those whose lives have been affected over the last century. Highlights for 2017 include ***People Power: Fighting for Peace*** at IWM London, the first major UK exhibition exploring the evolution of anti-war protest from the First World War to the present day; a series of free exhibitions at IWM London reflecting upon the **ongoing conflict in Syria** and, the first major UK retrospective in more than sixty years of work by twentieth century British artist **Wyndham Lewis** at IWM North. IWM Duxford's **Air Shows** will take place in May, July and September 2017.

IWM London

From 23 March to 28 August 2017 IWM London will present ***People Power: Fighting for Peace***, the UK's first major exhibition exploring the evolution of anti-war protest from the First World War to the present day. This exhibition tells the stories of passionate individuals over the past one hundred years and the struggles they have endured for the anti-war cause. A unique combination of banners, posters, personal items, images, artworks, audio, film and documents will show how the peace movement and creative responses to war have changed and developed over the past century.

In 2017 IWM London will present ***Syria: A Conflict Explored*** a series of exhibitions and events reflecting upon the ongoing conflict in Syria. From 27 April until 3 September, IWM London will stage the first UK exhibition of photographs by **award-winning Russian photographer Sergey Ponomarev**. The exhibition will present a selection of Ponomarev's highly praised colour photographs documenting the human impact of the conflict in Syria. This exhibition will sit alongside ***Syria: Story of a Conflict*** an intimate display, from 27 April until 30 July*, exploring the origins, escalations and impact of the conflict in Syria.

The seismic events of September 11 2001 were a turning point in the public perception and understanding of contemporary conflict. Since this moment war and conflict have become increasingly crucial subject matters for international contemporary artists. From 12 October 2017 until 2 April 2018, IWM London will stage ***States of Emergency****, the first major survey exhibition to explore how contemporary artists have responded to war and conflict since 9/11. Through an array of artworks by leading international contemporary artists, this exhibition will explore responses to the action and impact of the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, changing state legal controls and political protests, amongst other themes. *States of Emergency* will be IWM's largest contemporary art exhibition to date.

**Please note exhibition titles and dates are subject to change*

IWM North

To coincide with the centenary of his commissioning, IWM North will present **the first major UK retrospective** of twentieth century British artist **Wyndham Lewis's** work in more than sixty years. The exhibition, which will take place from 23 June 2017 until January 2018*, marks one hundred years since Lewis was first commissioned as an official war artist in 1917. A radical force in British art and literature and regarded as Britain's true modernist artist, Lewis was the founder of Britain's only true *avant-garde* movement, Vorticism. The exhibition will comprise of around 140 artworks, books, journals and pamphlets from major public and private, national and international collections.

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IWM Duxford

2017 will mark **IWM Duxford's centenary year** with one hundred years since RAF Duxford was built. Further details regarding IWM Duxford's centenary programme of activity will be announced in due course.

IWM Duxford's 2017 annual air show season features **Duxford Air Festival**, which will take place on May Bank Holiday weekend (Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May) and presents a feast of fabulous flying for all the family, including aerobatic displays and powerful contemporary aircraft. **Flying Legends Air Show**, from Saturday 8 until Sunday 9 July, is an unmissable fusion of power, sound, excitement and nostalgia featuring historic aircraft from all over the world. **Duxford Battle of Britain Air Show** runs from Saturday 23 to Sunday 24 September and evokes Duxford's pivotal role in the Second World War, with Spitfires galore and an array of engaging historic activities held across the museum site.

Ends

For more information or images please contact:

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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 £18; Child (5 – 15) £8.75; Child (under 5) Free; Family Tickets (depending on family size) £31.50 – £47.25; Concession £14.40 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 £19; Child (5- 15) £9.50; Child (under 5) Free; Family Tickets (depending on family size) £33.25 - £49.90; Concession £15.20. Group Rates available

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

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**.

IWM Centenary

2017 marks Imperial War Museums (IWM) centenary. IWM was established while the First World War was still being fought. Since its establishment people have entrusted IWM with their stories of war from 1917 to the present day, in the knowledge it will continue to share these stories with future generations. IWM will commemorate its 100 years through a centenary of stories from its rich collections across its five branches (IWM London, IWM North, IWM Duxford, Churchill War Rooms and 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 is marking the centenary by leading a vibrant, four year programme of cultural activities across the world. For more information visit www.1914.org

