



100 YEARS

PRESS RELEASE

Winners announced for IWM Short Film Festival 2017

Short films exploring suffragette surgeons and the intimacies of life in the Calais Jungle are highlights of IWM's Short Film Festival

IWM has announced the winners of IWM Short Film Festival 2017, the UK's only film festival which explores the causes, course and consequences of conflict. Thirty seven shortlisted films have been whittled down to three winners, who have produced extraordinary films exploring complex themes from the Calais Jungle, to the untold story of a military hospital in the First World War run solely by suffragettes.

The three winning films include *Beauty of a Stateless Mind*, a film exploring the lives of three artists living in the Calais Jungle refugee camp; *Deeds not Words: The Suffragette Surgeons of WW1* unveiling the suffragettes who founded and operated a military hospital in the First World War; and *Lula* which follows the dilemma of a pregnant woman in German-occupied Poland who is confronted with undesirable visitors in the midst of the Second World War.

From this Friday, visitors to IWM London will be able to see these winning films for themselves, with free screenings running daily from Friday 17 November until Sunday 26 November. By rating the films they have seen, the viewing public will also determine the final award, the Audience Vote Award, which will be revealed on IWM social media channels after the close of the Festival on 26 November. The winning films will also be screened at [Picturehouse Central in London](#) on Wednesday 6 December, combined with other hard-hitting, relevant and inspiring films from the shortlisted selection.

Richard Melman, a judge for *Best Student Film* says, "This year I have had the privilege of being asked to be a judge for the Emmys, the BAFTA Short Film category and IWM Short Film Festival. The greatest challenge was IWM's *Best Student Film* category due to the extremely high standard of filmmaking shown across the board. From cinematography, to music, to direction and editing, the range of skill shown was remarkable and made choosing a winner extremely difficult. If these are just students, I am beginning to worry for my job when they graduate!"

Beauty of a Stateless Mind has won both *The Annie Dodds Award for Best Documentary* and *IWM Special Category: Age of Terror* awards. Sensitive and compassionate, the film delves deep into the lives of three artists living in Calais 'Jungle' refugee camp. Their day-to-day struggles and dreams of a different future are interwoven with reflections on art and creativity that challenge our assumptions on what it is to be a refugee. Filmmaker Lutia Swan-Hutton is a recent filmmaking graduate who uses creativity to address humanitarian and environmental challenges. Lutia has won use of one of King's College London's historic venues for a film premiere alongside an archive and restoration package worth up to £5,000 with R3Store Studios.

Deeds not Words: The Suffragette Surgeons of WW1 has taken home the *Best Use of IWM Archive Material* award. As part of the broader campaign for women's right to vote, suffragettes Flora Murray and Louisa Garrett Anderson founded the Endell Street Hospital, run entirely by women. Skilfully using rarely seen photographs, letters and archival film, the film tells the remarkable story of the women who tirelessly worked at the hospital. Crafted by Digital Drama production company and director Alison Ramsey, the short documentary intends to

reveal hidden stories from the Suffragette movement. Alison has won an archive and restoration package worth up to £5,000 with R3Store Studios.

Lula has secured the *Best Creative Response* award alongside *Best Student Film*. Based on a true story, and set in the German-occupied Poland during the Second World War, it follows the dilemma of the pregnant Lula who receives unwelcome visitors searching for her husband. As the encounter unfolds and the tension mounts, Lula is faced with a moral dilemma. Writer-Director Aoife O'Kelly combines striking visuals to convey truthful and unusual humanistic stories. *Lula* was completed as the final part of Aoife's MA in Directing Fiction at Goldsmith's University, and she has since worked in TV and film production for the last number of years. Aoife has won both a 12 week paid internship with October Films, along with 5 day access to London South Bank University's impressive film studio facilities.

In addition to the free screenings, a rich programme of evening events is also on offer, from a [hostile environment workshop](#) on 23 November to enable the public understanding of the dangers that journalists can face. The experience will dispel Hollywood myths about weapons, reveal techniques of blending in whilst in a conflict zone, and responding to a trauma situation, including how to potentially save lives.

A [panel discussion](#) charting the impact of terror on reporting conflict in the media will also be held on 22 November. The effect of technology, fake news and social media on news consumption will be explored by a panel including the first person to film virtual reality in a warzone and chaired by the journalist who first tracked down details of the terrorist who shot Malala Yousafzai.

Soon, IWM Short Film Festival will open its 2018 Call for Entries. Interested filmmakers who would like to try their hand at success by responding to past and contemporary conflict through the medium of film can keep updated by signing up to the [mailing list](#). Call for Short Film Festival Entries 2018 will open on 4 December 2017.

-Ends-

For further press information, including clips of the winning films, images and interview requests please contact:

Alicia Powell, Assistant Press Officer on apowell@iwm.org.uk or 0207 416 5436

Notes to editors

- The eleven themes for screenings incorporate Hope, Courage, Family, Loss, Sacrifice, Legacy, Fear, Displacement, Trauma, Relationships and Responses.
- Film Festival Screenings: 17– 26 November 2017 every day at 12pm, 2pm and 3pm in the Cinema at IWM London, with an additional screening at 1pm on Saturday 18, Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 November.
- The full programme details can be found here: <http://www.iwm.org.uk/film-festival>
- Please note that some entries this year are recommended only for adults due to the graphic nature of their content, and this will be clearly indicated prior to Cinema entry and on relevant literature.

Short Film Festival Evening Events

- Evening event 23 November, [Filming Under Fire: Hostile Environment Experience](#) – based on training usually only offered to journalists entering war zones, this experience is a rare opportunity for the public to gain an understanding of the dangers that journalists can face. Set alongside relics of war at IWM London, the experience will dispel Hollywood myths about weapons, reveal techniques of blending in whilst in a conflict zone, and responding to a trauma situation, including how to potentially save lives. Please note: this workshop involves role play, footage of combat situations,

gunfire sounds, and accounts of casualties, which some visitors may find distressing. Not suitable for under 18s.

- Evening event 23 November, [Documenting Terror: Conflict Journalism Since 9/11](#) – a panel discussion exploring the evolution of reporting conflict in the media against a background of terror, and the impact of technology, fake news and social media on news consumption – how has the landscape of newsgathering evolved since 9/11? Panelists include Christian Stephen, the first person to capture virtual reality footage in a war zone and Vaughan Smith, the founder of Frontline Club. The discussion will be followed by a Q&A, moderated by Saima Mohsin, who was the first person to track down details of the terrorist who shot Malala Yousafzai and who covered the capture and killing of Osama Bin Laden for CNN.
- Evening event 6 December, [Conflict on Screen: Best of IWM Short Film Festival](#) – the most hard-hitting, relevant and inspiring films relating to war and conflict in 2017, presented by Picturehouse Cinemas and Imperial War Museums. Featuring an introduction and Q+A with Matt Lee, Festival Director. Films included in this package are *Lula*, *Beauty of a Stateless Mind*, *Tommy - Remembrance of the Dishonoured Casualties in WW1*, *Deeds not Words: The Suffragette Surgeons of WW1*, *Chronicles of a Migrant*, *Spike* and *Fragments*.

About IWM's Short Film Festival

IWM's Film Festival began in 2001 as a student film festival with an emphasis on discovering, sharing and reinterpreting IWM's extensive film archive. Following continued development and the introduction of submissions from amateur filmmakers in 2007, the most recent IWM Short Film Festival was held in February and March 2016. In 2017, IWM Short Film Festival has seen 681 entries in total.

Judges for the IWM Short Film Festival 2017 are:

Lydia Beilby (Short Film Programmer, Edinburgh International Film Festival); Sheyma Buali (Director, BBC Arabic Festival); Jemma Desai (Film Programme Manager, Shorts and Global Exhibition, British Council); Chris Elliott (Head of Division of Film and Media, London South Bank University); Chris Harris (Programmer and Head of Virtual Services, Picturehouse Cinemas); Sandra Hebron (Head of Screen Arts, National Film and Television School); Shona Illingworth (Exhibiting Artist, IWM London: *Age of Terror*); Matimba Kabalika (NET.WORK Talent Co-ordinator and Content Editor, BFI Film Fund); Matt Lee (Director, IWM Short Film Festival), Kevin Loader (Producer, Free Range Films); Jane Manning (Director, Production and Operations, October Films); Richard Melman (Executive Producer, Spring Films); Jack Penman (Freelance Archive Producer, Channel 4, PBS and National Geographic Channel); Helen Upcraft (Assistant Director, IWM Short Film Festival); Dr Toby Haggith (Founding Director, IWM Short Film Festival); Dr Lawrence Napper (Lecturer in Film Studies, King's College London); Bonnie-Chance Roberts (Development & Production Executive, Monumental Pictures).

[@IWM](#)

[#IWMFilmFest](#)

www.iwm.org.uk/film-festival

IWM Film Archive

IWM has managed a Film Archive from its very beginnings as an institution in 1917, and the film collection now covers all aspects of conflicts in which British, Commonwealth or former Empire countries have been involved since the start of the twentieth century. Our constantly growing collection now extends to over 23,000 hours of moving images, representing a wide and diverse range of material from public and service information films, documentaries and unedited combat film, through to official newsreels and amateur films. Highlights of the collection include the original 1916 record of The Battle of the Somme (now granted UNESCO Memory of the World status), Academy Award-winning documentaries *Target for Tonight* (1941) and *The True Glory* (1945), the former library of NATO, UNTV Zagreb newsreels and library, and most recently, digital born material of operations in Afghanistan. There is also a significant collection of amateur film – much of it in colour – covering wide areas of the former British Empire, the Second World War, India and beyond.

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*).



100 YEARS

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

