



Immediate Release

## ***Mercury Prize nominated Field Music set to perform new work at Imperial War Museums' late events in 2019***

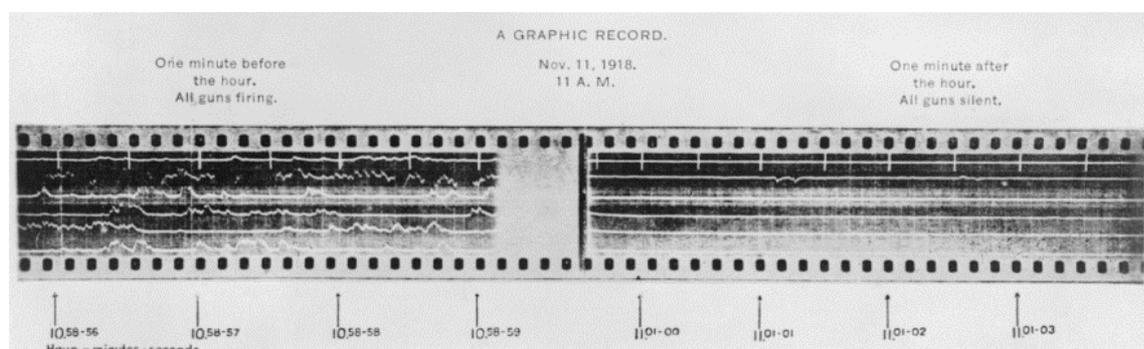
**IWM North: 24 January 2019, 9-11pm**

**IWM London: 31 January 2019, 9-11pm**

#MakingANewWorld

At the close of Imperial War Museums' (IWM) First World War Centenary programming, two unique and specially commissioned performances featuring new music by Mercury Award nominated band Field Music will be staged in 2019. The live performances will take place at IWM North and IWM London in January to bring audiences a night of sound, song and animation set against the dramatic backdrop of galleries representing over a century of human conflict.

Taking influence from a rare document in IWM's extensive collections, a graphic record which proclaims "THE END OF THE WAR" and captures the moment the guns fell silent, Field Music will explore the energy, hope and fragility brought about by the end of the First World War.



The duo, comprising Sunderland-based brothers Peter and David Brewis, boast several critically acclaimed albums including *Commontime* (2016) and *Plumb* (2012) and a reputation for innovative and varied live performances. Since forming in 2004, they have become known for a deconstructionist approach to music and songs, carving a niche in their approach to albums, soundtracks and collaborations. In 2016 they helped commemorate the Battle of the Somme by writing the soundtrack to 14-18 NOW's commissioned film *Asunder*.

**David Brewis, Field Music, says:** "As soon as we saw the graphic record, the possibilities for this project spread out in front of us – a tiny, incomplete fragment, not much more than a moment, but one which could be both the beginning and the ending of a huge story. We've always written about uncertainty and this moment was about as uncertain as one could imagine. This is a situation where it would be impossible to tell anything like 'the whole story', but I hope we can create something worthy of such an awe-inspiring starting point. That we'll be making this music to be performed in two such imposing and evocative spaces makes it all the more exciting."

**Susie Thornberry, Assistant Director of Public Engagement and Learning at IWM, says:** "We were looking for musicians to respond to what happened when the guns stopped and the new world – a world of

jazz, freedom and new ideas – emerged. The live performances are looking to do much more than present an object from IWM’s collections. We want to immerse IWM’s 21st-century visitors in what the first moments of this new world felt like and to make connections with today. Field Music’s critically acclaimed live performances, reputation for deconstructing sounds and cutting edge approach to storytelling meant they were the perfect artist for IWM to collaborate with in delivering these unique performances.”

Field Music’s performances will respond to what happened when the guns stopped and a new world of uncertainty and ideas emerged. Audiences to this once in a lifetime event can expect surprises, crescendos and moments of anti-silence in the galleries of IWM North and IWM London. The events form part of IWM’s *Making a New World* season of exhibitions, installations and immersive experiences taking place at IWM London and IWM North, exploring themes of remembrance and how the First World War has shaped today’s society.

Tickets to performances at IWM North and IWM London can be booked via [iwm.org.uk](http://iwm.org.uk)

## Ends

### **For further press information, including images and interview requests please contact:**

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### **Notes to editors**

Field Music’s live performances will take place in the Main Exhibition Space at IWM North on Thursday 24 January 2019, 9-11pm and in the Atrium at IWM London on Thursday 31 January 2019, 9-11pm. Tickets are £22 plus booking fee. Please note this event is not suitable for under 14s. Tickets to performances at IWM North and IWM London can be booked via [iwm.org.uk](http://iwm.org.uk)

### **Field Music**

Field Music, brothers Peter and David Brewis, hail from Sunderland in the North-East of England. Since 2004, from their own home-town studio, Field Music have managed to carve a niche for themselves, recording critically acclaimed albums, composing soundtracks, and collaborating with orchestras, improvisers and writers. They’ve become known for a deconstructionist approach to music and songs, playfully twisting compositions into new and odd shapes, with a refreshing disregard for convention and cliché.

### **Making a New World**

*Making a New World* is a free season of exhibitions, installations and immersive experiences taking place at IWM London and IWM North in 2018. Through art, photography, film, live music, dance and conversations, the season explores themes of remembrance and how the First World War has shaped today’s society, bringing together five major exhibitions – *Lest We Forget?*, *Renewal: Life after the First World War in Photographs*, *I Was There: Room of Voices*, *Mimesis: African Solider* and *Moments of Silence*.

### **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 London**

IWM London tells the stories of those whose lives have been shaped by war through the depth, breadth and impact of our Galleries, displays and events. Explore the [First World War Galleries](#) and iconic Atrium; find out what life was like at home during the Second World War in [A Family in Wartime](#); delve into the world of espionage in [Secret War](#); visit our [Holocaust Exhibition](#); discover stories of bravery in [The Lord Ashcroft Gallery: Extraordinary Heroes](#) or take in our latest major temporary exhibitions.

Open Daily: 10am – 6pm. Last entry 30 minutes before closing. (Closed 24 - 26 December). Free Admission  
IWM London, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ.

T: 020 7416 5000

[iwm.org.uk](http://iwm.org.uk) / @I\_W\_M / [www.facebook.com/iwm.london](https://www.facebook.com/iwm.london)

### **IWM North**

The multi award winning IWM North brings the national collection to northern audiences. Designed by world-renowned architect Daniel Libeskind to represent a globe shattered by conflict, the iconic building, innovative and dynamic exhibitions, use of digital media through hourly Big Picture Shows and public events explore how war shapes lives and inspires and encourages debate.

Open Daily: 10am – 5pm. Last entry 30 minutes before closing. (Closed 24 – 26 December). Free Admission.

IWM North, The Quays, Trafford Wharf Road, Manchester M17 1TZ (close to MediaCityUK Metrolink and Junction 9 of the M60).

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### **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](http://www.1914.org)

