



Submissions open for IWM Short Film Festival

This year prizes include access to a prestigious film studio and filmmakers will also be in with a chance of having their film screened by Picturehouse Cinemas.

Submissions are now open for [IWM Short Film Festival 2017](#), a showcase of imaginative and challenging films inspired by IWM's collections and the cause, course and consequences of conflict.

IWM is inviting professionals, amateurs and students from across the world, to enter their short films into this prestigious competition.

Films will be judged in two categories, the Annie Dodds Award for *Best Documentary* and *Best Creative Response*, with four additional awards for *IWM Special Category: States of Emergency**, *Best Use of IWM Archive Material*, *Best Student Film* and the *Audience Vote Award*. To encourage engagement with IWM collections, this year filmmakers entering the Short Film Festival are eligible to use up to three films from [IWM archives](#) free of charge.**

Festival prizes this year include an archive and restoration package worth up to £10,000 with R3Store Studios, a 12 week paid internship with October Films and 5 day access to London South Bank University's impressive film studio facilities. Picturehouse Cinemas will also be screening a showcase of selected films from the festival.

IWM will announce the Festival programme, made up of the most significant and inspirational films, as picked by a panel of expert judges in October 2017. The screenings of the shortlisted films will take place at IWM London in November 2017.

Diane Lees, IWM Director-General says, "IWM is committed to exploring multiple voices and viewpoints on conflict and film is a crucial medium for this exploration. We hope that IWM Short Film Festival, in our Centenary Year, will attract the most amount of submissions yet covering the broadest range of perspectives and responses."

Matt Lee, IWM Short Film Festival Director says, "Every year we are astounded by the quality of the submissions and the ingenious ways filmmakers use moving images to tell powerful and engaging stories about war and conflict. I'm sure the 2017 entries will continue to impress, move and challenge our audiences."

We are pleased to announce our sponsor for *Best Documentary* will be [R3store Studios](#), whilst [October Films](#) will be sponsoring *Best Student Film*.

For more information about IWM Short Film Festival 2017 and requirements for submissions please visit: www.iwm.org.uk/film-festival

*The *Special Category* is a new award category. In 2017, the focus of this category is *States of Emergency*, a new IWM London exhibition opening in October 2017. Submissions for this category should link to this exhibition by responding to war and conflict since the seismic events of 11 September 2001.

**Please note that terms and conditions apply for the use of IWM archives. For further information entrants should visit:

http://www.iwm.org.uk/sites/default/files/IWM_Archive_Package_Terms_and_Conditions.pdf.

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For press enquiries and interviews, please contact: Alicia Powell, apowell@iwm.org.uk / 0207 416 5436

Notes to Editors

IWM Short Film Festival Facts

- The judging panel for IWM Short Film Festival will comprise professional filmmakers, IWM Film Archive curators and representatives from the film and television industry.
- For more information on formats and judging criteria visit: www.iwm.org.uk/film-festival
- The deadline for submissions is midnight on Friday 28 April 2017. Films should be uploaded to Vimeo, and submission forms must be received by that date
- Shortlisted entrants will be contacted by Friday 28 July 2017
- The award ceremony will take place at IWM London in November 2017
- The film must be inspired by IWM's subject matter and/or collections
- The Special Category is a new award category. In 2017, the focus of this category is *States of Emergency*, a new IWM London exhibition opening in October 2017. IWM encourages submissions linking to this exhibition, by responding to war and conflict since the seismic events of 11 September 2001
- Films must be no longer than 30 minutes in length
- Submissions are accepted from all filmmakers. IWM encourages submissions from student, amateur and professional filmmakers.
- Films should be in English or provided with English subtitles
- Films which have previously been submitted to IWM Short Film Festival will not be considered for re-submission

IWM and Film

IWM has managed a Film Archive from its very beginnings as an institution, 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 London

IWM London - IWM's flagship branch - 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 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 award-winning [Holocaust Exhibition](#); discover stories of bravery in [The Lord Ashcroft Gallery: Extraordinary Heroes](#); see work by some of Britain's most significant 20th Century artists in our art galleries or take in our latest special exhibition. Our family learning sessions and events encourage debate and challenge people's perceptions of war.

Open daily from 10am – 6pm (except 24 – 26 December)

IWM London, Lambeth Road, London, SE1 6HZ.
T: 020 7416 5000 E: contact@iwm.org.uk
iwm.org.uk / [@I_W_M](https://www.instagram.com/iwm_london) / www.facebook.com/iwm.london

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 attract over 2 million visitors each year. [IWM London](#), our flagship branch, marks the Centenary of the First World War with permanent First World War Galleries and Atrium with iconic large object displays. Our other branches are [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](#).

About the 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, five year programme of cultural activities across the world. 2016 is the centenary of the Battle of the Somme. For more information visit www.1914.org.

