



**DIFFERENT PASTS, SHARED FUTURE - REFUGEE WEEK
SPECIAL EVENT AT THE BRITISH MUSEUM
PRESENTING MUSIC PERFORMANCES, ART
INSTALLATIONS AND WORKSHOPS AND THE MOVING
WORLDS FILM PROGRAMME**

**Sunday 25th June from 11.00-4.30pm,
Great Court and The Hugh and Catherine Stevenson
Lecture Theatre.**



The British
Museum

COUNTERPOINTS ARTS



MOVING
WORLDS

Join us for a rich range of happenings and activities taking place across The British Museum's Great Court – from music performances, to visual installations, youth workshops and much more. Prompted by this year's Refugee Week, 'Our Shared Future', the programme is curated to encourage full participation. Catering for all ages, it's a heady mix of theatre, song, making, engaging or simply watching and listening.



Dead Reckoning Installation
by artist Bern O'Donoghue
11.00-4.00pm | Great Court

Dead Reckoning is an ongoing project bearing witness to the thousands of migrants and refugees who have died, and continue to die, attempting to cross the Mediterranean Sea in search of sanctuary and a better life. Each tiny, hand-marbled paper boat is marked with a relationship to another person, a fragile reminder of the individuals caught up in the biggest humanitarian crisis in Europe since World War II.

Event type: Participatory Installation, Drop In



Refugee-led Gallery Talks: No Single Story
13.30- 14.15pm | Room 34

Join tour guides Ameen and Ahmad on a journey through the British Museum's Islamic World gallery. 'No single story' started as a pilot tour-guiding programme, in which volunteers from refugee backgrounds were trained to give gallery talks at the Museum. Through selected objects, Ameen and Ahmad will share their personal responses to these beautiful collections.

Event type: Music Performance, Choir



Shed Your Fears Installation by artist Richard Dedomenici
11.00- 4.00pm | Great Court

A non-denominational, non-hierarchical booth, into which two people get to confess their fears to each other, privately, anonymously and safely. Designed as a response to recent sociopolitical upheavals, the piece invites participating audiences to share their innermost fears, and by sharing them, hopefully transcending them to the point where they can also share hopes and dreams.

Event type: Participatory Installation, Drop In



Moving Worlds Film Programme
11.00-4.30pm | Stevenson Lecture Theatre

A Moving Worlds programme screening feature-length and short films across two connected themes: *Solidarity: Art Across Borders* and *Crossings: At Home With the World*. Curated in partnership with Highlight Arts, **Moving Worlds** includes panel discussions with filmmakers, artists, advocates and activists working to create change and build social solidarity across communities and sectors.

Event type: Film Screenings, Free Drop In



Citizens of the World
12.45- 1.15pm | Great Court

Currently with over 30 members from 15 plus countries, this community project is a growing choir spreading the message of global unity through song and fun! The choir welcomes refugees to find expression as well as creating a diverse, friendly opportunity for a social occasion. This is one of the first performances for 'Citizens of the World'.

Event type: Music Performance, Choir



Micro Rainbow International's Interfaith Choir
2.10- 2.40pm | Great Court

Micro Rainbow International focuses on the situations of poverty faced by LGBTI refugees. The MRI Interfaith Choir's mission addresses the isolation and sense of helplessness that many LGBTI refugees experience, through building new friendships and creating closer communities.

Event type: Music Performance, Choir



Voices of the Movement
1.30- 1.55pm | Great Court

What if you had to leave your home, and the life you once knew? Could you take a personal journey, not only leaving your home but leaving yourself to become someone new? Ten true life stories come together in this vibrant piece of the theatre which challenges the stigma associated with displacement.

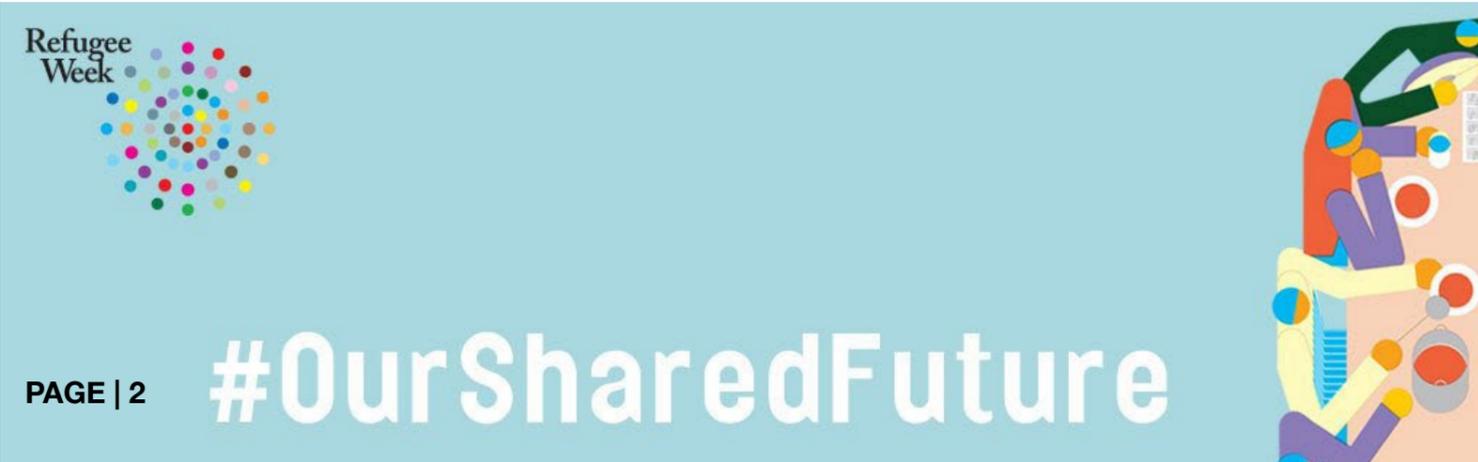
Event type: Collaborative Music Performance



Aar Manta Performance
3.00-3.45pm | Great Court

Described as 'the voice of our generation' by many young Somalis, Aar Manta is a multi instrumentalist who mixes many musical styles with traditional Somali music. He is working with the UNHCR, traveling to refugee camps in Ethiopia and working with young Somali refugees.

Event type: Music Performance, Solo Artist



Sink into your seat and watch a series of short and feature-length films, which capture refugee and migration-related stories about 'rescue at sea', imagining and re-designing precious neighbourhoods, the resilient power of arts and culture, stepping into the shoes of those who have had to flee, plus the building of new, precarious lives by young refugees.

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SESSION ONE: Solidarity: Art Across Borders 11.15- 1.30pm (30' for panel discussion)

Panel speakers: Johanna Schwartz (Director, *They Will Have To Kill Us First*); Ahmed Tobasi (Actor); Hassan Abdulrazzak (Writer). This panel will be chaired by Yasmin Fedda, filmmaker and creative producer at *Highlights Arts*.



WHERE DO ART AND MIGRATION MEET?

2017, 4:02 minutes

Art can be a language shared between individuals, nations, and cultures. It can re-declare identities that have been lost or abandoned when people find new homes. It gives migrant voices a means of being heard in an otherwise unsympathetic world. As seen at the 'Who Are We?' project at Tate Exchange, art can bring up powerful questions around outsider status, legality, and identity.

THEY WILL HAVE TO KILL US FIRST
2015, 99 minutes

Music is the beating heart of Malian culture. But when Islamic hardliners took control of northern Mali in 2012, they enforced one of the harshest interpretations of sharia law in history and, crucially for Mali, they banned all forms of music. Radio stations were destroyed, instruments burned and Mali's musicians faced torture, even death. Overnight, Mali's revered musicians were forced into hiding or exile where most remain even now. But rather than lay down their instruments, the musicians are fighting back, standing up for their cultural heritage and identity. Through everything, they have used music as their weapon against the on-going violence that has left Mali ravaged.



SESSION TWO: Crossings: At Home in the World 1.45- 4.15pm (30' for panel discussion)

Panel speakers: Matthew Saltmarsh (Senior Communications Officer, UNHCR); Laura Padoan (External Relations Officer, UNHCR); Jennifer Laws (Fundraising and Communications Officer, MOAS); Juan delGado (Artist and Filmmaker). This panel will be chaired by *Counterpoints Arts* Co-Director, Áine O'Brien.



AT HOME IN THE WORLD
2015, 58 minutes

AT HOME IN THE WORLD is an intimate depiction of the everyday lives of five refugee children on a Danish Red Cross asylum school. In the schoolyard, Magomed quietly watches from the sidelines as his classmates fight over the soccer ball. The 10-year-old Chechnyan refugee and his fellow classmates at the Red Cross school in the Danish town of Lyngbe are hoping to get a residence permit.



ELLIS
2015, 15 minutes

Set in the abandoned Ellis Island Hospital complex and using JR's UNFRAMED art installations, ELLIS tells the forgotten story of the immigrants who built America. It is the story of the ghosts of the country's past, the individuals who fled poverty, discrimination, and dictatorships, for a new life and eerily foreshadows the plight of those who currently seek the same opportunities and safety in the US today and around the world.



HOME
2016, 20 minutes

A family, led by their confident and caring father (Jack O'Connell), heads out on what appears to be a holiday. However it slowly becomes clear that they are in fact leaving the security and safety of a leafy suburb to cross Europe and make their way into the middle of a war zone. Intimate and touching the film reaches for a truth through its absurd premise of reversing the refugee journey.



MOAS RESCUE AT SEA
2017, 1:06 minutes

A short intense film of a rescue in the Mediterranean sea early one morning. MOAS picked up 461 people at sea with no food or water in just a couple of hours. There were men, women and children as young as three days old on board.



MY REFUGEE STORY
2016, 16:25 minutes

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities (LGBTI) in the Middle East face a heightened risk of violent abuse - sometimes even murder - due to their sexuality. MY REFUGEE STORY recounts the pain of forced displacement in the region through the testimony of a number of vulnerable LGBTI refugees in Lebanon, all victims of abuse in exile.



THE ARCHITECT
2015, 4:55 minutes

THE ARCHITECT invites us into the life of a young boy living in the city of Aleppo in Syria, witnessing the effect of war on his home-town. He rebuilds his city as a modern place, where he wishes to live and maps his dream for the future.



TWINNING TOWNS
2015, 3:24 minutes

Born in Basra, living in Warrington, Hussein Ahmed is on a mission: can he persuade the people and council of his local town to twin themselves with the war torn city of his birth?

