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## Press release

### **New exhibition explores seven migration moments that changed Britain**

Amid uncertainty over Brexit, a new exhibition at the Migration Museum at The Workshop examines seven previous moments that have had profound effects on Britain and its people.

The EU referendum and ongoing Brexit negotiations have sparked debate about our relationship with the world and uncertainty about the future movement of people to and from Britain. But Brexit is far from the first pivotal moment in this country's migration story.

*No Turning Back: Seven Migration Moments that Changed Britain*, a new exhibition opening on 20 September 2017 at the Migration Museum at The Workshop (26 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7AG, [migrationmuseum.org](http://migrationmuseum.org)), explores seven such turning points.

These range from the expulsion of England's entire Jewish population in 1290, to the large increase in the number of people defining themselves as 'mixed-race' in the 2011 census; the first East India Company voyage to India in 1607, to the Rock Against Racism movement of the late 1970s.

Each moment is explored through a combination of personal stories, commentary, photography and art from established and emerging British and international artists and contributors. These moments are presented as starting points to enable visitors to explore themes and stories about migration, and to encourage conversations about moments that matter to them.

"Brexit is currently the centre of attention, but Britain has faced many moments throughout history which have had a major impact on the movement of people to and from these shores," says Sophie Henderson, director of the Migration Museum Project, which has established the Migration Museum at The Workshop and is working to create a permanent national Migration Museum for Britain.

*"No Turning Back* explores seven of these moments. Some brought people together. Others moved people apart. All had a profound effect on individuals who lived through them – and on the country as a whole."

Barbara Roche, chair of the Migration Museum Project, adds: *"No Turning Back* encapsulates what the Migration Museum for Britain that we are creating is all about – providing a cultural space for exploration of how immigration and emigration across the ages has shaped who we are today as individuals, and as a nation.

"Britain's migration history is as complex as it is long, with generation after generation facing challenges, sometimes acceptance and sometimes hostility. Against the current backdrop of fierce national debate, the need for exploration of this important theme that connects us all could scarcely be greater."

ENDS

**For more information and to attend the press view on Wednesday 20 September, please contact: Matthew Plowright (E: [matthew@migrationmuseum.org](mailto:matthew@migrationmuseum.org) M: +44 7585 117 924)**

# Notes to editors

## Exhibition details

**No Turning Back: Seven Migration Moments that Changed Britain**

**Dates:** 20 September 2017–25 February 2018

**Opening hours:** 11am–5pm (Wednesday–Sunday). Late opening until 9pm last Thursday of each month

**Venue:** Migration Museum at The Workshop, 26 Lambeth High Street, London SE1 7AG (Nearest tubes Vauxhall, Lambeth North and Westminster)

**Admission:** Free

## Contributors

Adam Dant, Alex Daw, Andy Barter, Angélica Dass, Déirdre Kelly, Empathy Museum, Hormazd Narielwalla, Leyla Reynolds, Linh Vu, Liz Gerard, Majid Adin, Malgosia Stepnik, Martin Rowson, Nick Ellwood and Kamal Kaan, Rob Pinney, Rock Against Racism collective members (Andy Dark, Caroline Coon, Darla Jane Gilroy, David King, John Angus, Kate Webb, Lucy Whitman, Red Saunders, Richard Lees, Rick Fawcett, Ruth Gregory, Virginia Turbett, Wayne Minter), Roman Lokati, Shao-Jie Lin, The Singh Twins, Verity Newman.

## About the Migration Museum at The Workshop

The Migration Museum at The Workshop is the UK's first museum exploring how the movement of people has shaped the nation throughout history. It is staging an adventurous programme of exhibitions and events in 2017/18. The museum is housed within The Workshop, a temporary arts and community space just off Albert Embankment provided by U+I, a regeneration and investment business.

## About the Migration Museum Project

The Migration Museum Project is increasing knowledge and appreciation of how migration has shaped Britain across the ages through the creation of a national Migration Museum, an education programme, and a knowledge-sharing network of museums and galleries across the UK. Its exhibitions, events and workshops have been attended by over 100,000 visitors and more than 3,500 school children since 2013. The Migration Museum at The Workshop is a major step towards the creation of a permanent national Migration Museum. For more, visit: [migrationmuseum.org](http://migrationmuseum.org)

## Acknowledgments

This exhibition is generously supported by Arts Council England, The Open University, Aziz Foundation and all walkers who raised funds for Imprints, our 2016 fundraising walk. We would like to thank all of the artists and contributors, advisors, researchers and volunteers who have contributed to this exhibition. We are grateful to all of our funders and donors, including Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, Paul Hamlyn Foundation, Alfred Caplin Charity Settlement and Unbound Philanthropy. We would like to thank the following, in particular, for their ongoing support: Hogan Lovells, PwC, Roast, Counterpoints Arts, Open University and the University of Oxford's Centre on Migration, Policy and Society (COMPAS). The Migration Museum Project would like to thank U+I for enabling us to host our museum at The Workshop.



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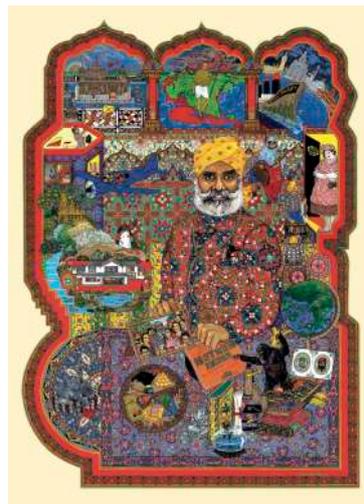


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## Press image sheet



1. *Humanae* (work in progress since 2012)  
© Angélica Dass



2. *All That I Am* (1993/9)  
© The Singh Twins



3. *The Bands of Pride* (2017)  
© Hormazd Narielwalla



4. *Black & White Unite* (1978)  
© Caroline Coon/CAMERA PRESS



5. *Comunicazioni* (2017)  
© Déirdre Kelly



6. *Angela and Daughters* (2011)  
© Andy Barter

For images, please contact: Matthew Plowright (E: [matthew@migrationmuseum.org](mailto:matthew@migrationmuseum.org) T: +44 7585 117 924)