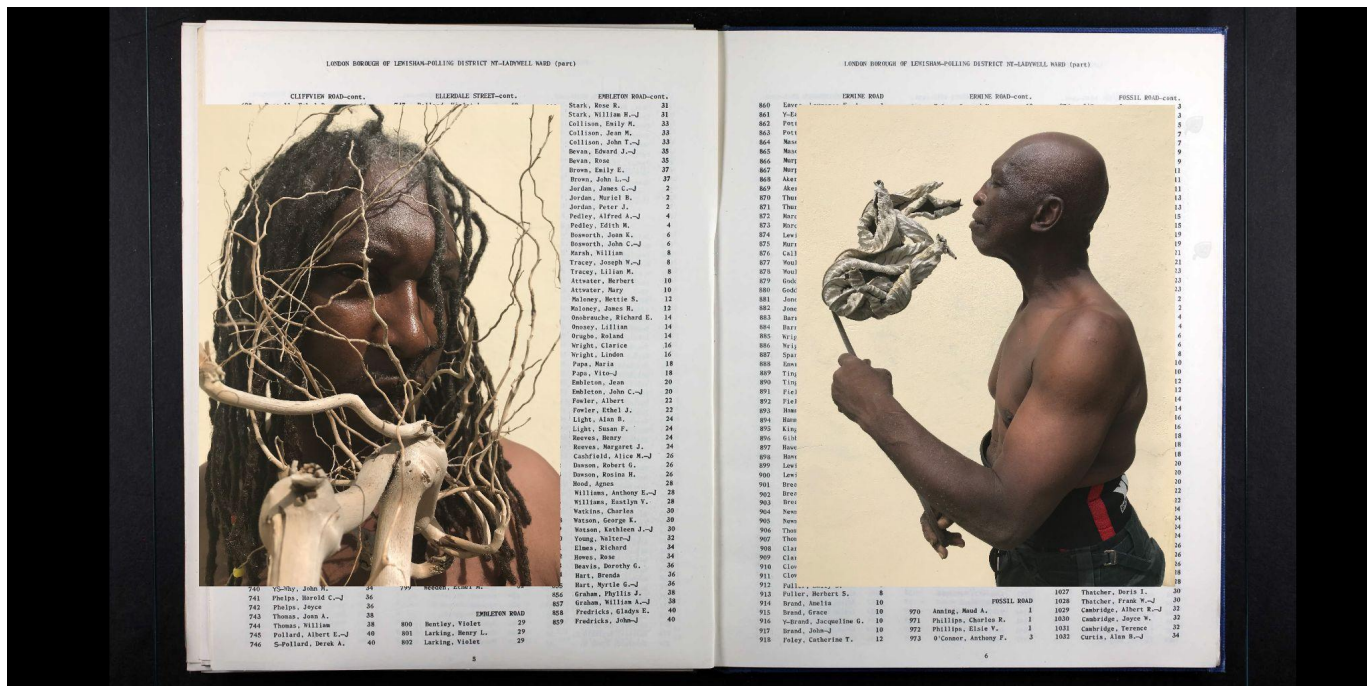


Press release

Migration Museum exhibits new installation by EVEWRIGHT to mark 75th anniversary of Windrush



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The Migration Museum is exhibiting a new installation by multidisciplinary visual artist EVEWRIGHT as part of this year’s Windrush 75th anniversary celebrations, exploring the artist’s own perspectives on growing up in Lewisham as the child of parents from the Windrush generation.

Lewisham in south-east London has always been a place where migrants from all over the world have gravitated to, especially from the Caribbean since the arrival of the Empire Windrush in 1948. The area remains a hub for Caribbean communities: in the 2021 census, 10.8% of Lewisham residents identified as ‘Black, Black British: Caribbean’, the highest proportion of any local authority in England and Wales, while a further 2.9% identified as ‘Mixed/Multiple ethnic groups: White and Black Caribbean’.

Lewisham: About Face, EVEWRIGHT’s new site-specific multimedia installation, reflects on the places and the forgotten heroes of Lewisham’s past and present that have shaped the artist’s life. It pays homage to his mother, Clarice Reid, and the influences of his father, Lendon Wright. His brothers and sisters and other key local individuals also feature as part of a discourse of what it means to be Black and British today.

The installation will be displayed from 5 April 2023 onwards in the windows of the Migration Museum in the heart of Lewisham Shopping Centre, a focal point for youth culture when the artist was growing up in the late 1970s and 1980s, and which remains a popular community destination today.

Lewisham: About Face complements EVEWRIGHT'S acclaimed [Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories](#) site-specific art and sound installation on the walkway used by passengers when they disembarked from the Empire Windrush at Tilbury Port in Essex on 22 June 1948.

EVEWRIGHT says:

"With *Lewisham: About Face*, I want to share my living story, my memories growing up in Lewisham and being influenced by all the people and places that make up the tapestry of my life. A lot of people from the Caribbean moved to Lewisham, including my family. Lewisham market fed us, the cheap housing held our large families, and for us young people it was a destination to go and party.

"I want to move the conversation about Windrush on. It's not about that one white boat, it's about the people who got off that boat and others following it, and what happened to them – and to their children, and their children's children. And for many of us, Lewisham is at the heart of this story."

Ghafar Tajmohammad, Curatorial Assistant at the Migration Museum, says:

"It's been a privilege to work with EVEWRIGHT on this installation. Centring it within his lived experience, the artist shares intimate memories of joy and tragedy through striking imagery and intricate sculptures, sound and vision.

"We can't think of a better place to display it than in the heart of Lewisham Shopping Centre, a focal point for youth culture when EVEWRIGHT was growing up, and a place that remains popular with people from across generations and backgrounds today. We hope that it will resonate, inspire and bring back memories."

Aditi Anand, Artistic Director at the Migration Museum, says:

"We are delighted to be partnering with EVEWRIGHT again to mark the 75th anniversary of the arrival of the Empire Windrush in Tilbury, Essex, this year.

"Every passenger on board, the tens of thousands who made similar journeys, and the hundreds of thousands of people with connections to this historic moment have their own story to tell, knowledge to impart and legacy to share. And collectively, the story of Windrush is relevant to all of us as a central part of our national story. Now more than ever, it's important to recognise and celebrate the lives, achievements, struggles and contributions of the Windrush Generation and their families."

Lewisham: About Face is on display at the Migration Museum from 5 April until 16 July 2023. The museum will be hosting Windrush Legacies, a day-long takeover of the Migration Museum on Saturday 24 June, with activities ranging from food, talks and music to art workshops and story sharing. The Migration Museum previously exhibited EVEWRIGHT'S immersive [Caribbean Takeaway Takeover](#) installation in 2019.

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For more information, please contact:

Matthew Plowright

Email: matthew@migrationmuseum.org

Mobile: +44 (0)7585 117 924

Notes for editors

EVEWRIGHT, Ghafar Tajmohammad and Aditi Anand are available for interview. Please contact matthew@migrationmuseum.org to arrange.

Where and When

Migration Museum
Lewisham Shopping Centre (Entrance in Central Square)
London SE13 7HB

For directions and visitor information, please visit: www.migrationmuseum.org/visit.

Dates

Lewisham: About Face opens to the public at the Migration Museum on Wednesday 5 April 2022 at 11am. It will be on display until 16 July 2023.

Opening hours and admission

The Migration Museum is open Wednesday–Sunday, from 11am–5.30pm (5pm close on Sundays). Admission is free – no booking.

Address

Migration Museum
Lewisham Shopping Centre (Entrance in Central Square)
London SE13 7HB

For directions and visitor information, please visit: www.migrationmuseum.org/visit.

Website and social media

Website: www.migrationmuseum.org

Twitter: [@MigrationUK](https://twitter.com/MigrationUK)

Facebook: [MigrationMuseumUK](https://www.facebook.com/MigrationMuseumUK)

Instagram: [@MigrationMuseumUK](https://www.instagram.com/MigrationMuseumUK)

Media images

A selection of media images can be found [here](#).

About EVEWRIGHT

EVEWRIGHT is a British artist, with parentage from Jamaica. He is a multi-disciplinary visual installation artist, who challenges public environments to make spaces for Black British stories to exist and thrive. His work is a conscious 'mash up' of drawing, sculpture, combined with digital film and live installations. He explores the intricate connections between the body and our experience of the modern environment, and communicates this through bold interactive art, also using urban and rural landscapes as his canvas. He creates mirrors where he can see and recognise himself to instigate conversations in the mainstream about what it means to be Black and British in the UK today.

EVEWRIGHT's work include exhibitions at The Royal Academy of Arts, BFI and Firstsite Gallery Colchester and a series of site-specific art and sound installations including *Tilbury Bridge Walkway of Memories*, a site-specific art and sound installation on one of the walkways used by passengers when they

disembarked from the Empire Windrush at Tilbury Port in Essex, and *Caribbean Takeaway Takeover*, held at Lloyds Bank London, Migration Museum London in 2019, and a Caribbean café in Colchester in 2018.

His sculptural work includes the *££ Kissi Penny \$\$*, a series of sculptures that challenges the notion of value, currency, slavery and trade that is inspired by modern day migration and the ancient African former currency Kissi Pennies.

EVEWRIGHT is also concerned with socio-political issues of place, space and the movement of peoples. He explores film, storytelling in relation to drawing and his practice goes beyond the decorative and the 2D, employing drawing as a documentary tool to give voice to hidden stories and hidden peoples.

Find out more:

Websites: www.evewright.com, www.evewrightarts.org

Twitter: [@evewrightstudio](https://twitter.com/evewrightstudio)

Instagram: [@evewrightstudio](https://www.instagram.com/evewrightstudio)

Facebook: [evewrightstudio](https://www.facebook.com/evewrightstudio)

About the Migration Museum

The Migration Museum explores how the movement of people to and from Britain across the ages has shaped who we are – as individuals, as communities and as nations.

It has welcomed over 400,000 visitors to its exhibitions, events and workshops since 2013, while more than 24,000 school, college and university students have participated in workshops run by the museum's learning team. The Migration Museum is currently based in Lewisham, south-east London. As a free museum in the middle of a busy shopping centre, it welcomes tens of thousands of visitors a year from across London and beyond. The museum will remain in Lewisham until at least 2025/26. Longer term, it has received planning permission for a permanent home in the City of London, close to Aldgate and the Tower of London.

Find out more at: www.migrationmuseum.org.

Acknowledgments

This installation is dedicated to the memory of EVEWRIGHT's mother Clarice Agatha Reid (3 Feb 1935-10 Apr 2020), and the many loved ones from the Windrush Generation who have left a lasting legacy for future generations. This project is a partnership between EVEWRIGHT Studio Productions and the Migration Museum and is supported using public funding by Arts Council England. Thank you to the Essex Record Office, Evewright Arts Foundation and London Metropolitan Archives. Special thanks to Monica Duck, Vivienne Whitehorne, Weston Wright, Errol Wright, Delroy Wright, Sharon Ford, and Leo Wright.



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For more information, please contact:

Matthew Plowright

Email: matthew@migrationmuseum.org

Mobile: +44 (0)7585 117 924