

INMP Newsletter No. 16

September 2016



A Peace Museum for Cambodia

*By Nikki Singer, Peace Museum Team
Leader, Centre for Peace & Conflict Studies,
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Cambodia is a remarkable story of resilience, surviving nearly three decades of conflict including civil war, genocide, occupation by foreign forces, and a legacy of landmines that continue to plague the country. Violence is only one part of the story. Cambodia is home to many peacebuilding initiatives and peacebuilders who have contributed to the current stability and relative peace. Much attention is given to the conflicts, especially concerning the Khmer Rouge, with little emphasis on how people survived such violence.

The desire to move on has meant not discussing the past, not understanding why and how the conflicts happened, and not educating young people about how the country moved forward. With nearly seventy percent of the country's population aged under-thirty, an entire generation lacks sufficient understanding of the past to sustain the peace and stability that have emerged. The vision of the Cambodia Peace Museum is to promote a culture of peace, wherein Cambodians have a deeper understanding of war and peace, and access to choices that contribute to peace. It will be a space for people to share and reconcile memories of the past, to share their hopes for the future; it will inspire visitors to consider how they can contribute to a culture of peace. Through a deeper understanding of the conflict dynamics, of choices made and why, new

generations of Cambodians will be equipped to sustain a peaceful future.



Exhibits will explore the cycles of conflict, without blame, to help understand the past. It will be a space to reflect on big questions facing Cambodians, such as how to write a common history without focusing on the past conflict. How can every Cambodian speak about their true experiences without fear? Creating safe spaces for such a reflection will help understand the past, and ensure that Cambodia does not again experience such violence. The paper *Preventing future genocide: A vision for a peace museum for Cambodia* (2009), by Soth Plai Ngarm, is available by request from the [Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies](#).



Peace museum visionary Soth Plai Ngarm speaking with students about Cambodian perspectives on peace & conflict

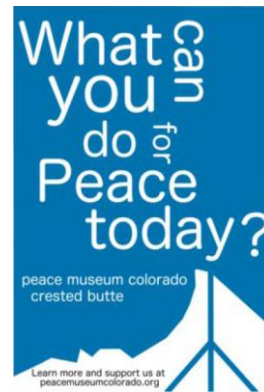
The Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies (CPCS) is a Cambodian organisation which aims to strengthen strategic interventions to violent conflict, with the overall aim of fostering sustainable peace in Asia. The Cambodia Peace Museum has been a dream of CPCS for nearly a decade. The museum will be built in Siem Reap, close to the historic temples of Angkor Wat. Building the museum in Siem Reap capitalises on the increased accessibility in the area, largely due to the tourism industry, and for students attending the nine local university campuses. At the current stage of the project, CPCS is coordinating with the Cambodian government to explore potential sites for the museum. Next steps will include an architecture competition to expand on the conceptual designs, and major fundraising campaign. Museum content is being developed through peace history research, designing peace education programmes for university students, and developing exhibits to mark the twenty-fifth anniversary of the 1991 Paris Peace Accords. CPCS is accepting donations through our U.S.-based partner, the East West Management Institute, which is offering 501c3 tax deductions for donations. For more information about the museum and on how to make a donation, visit us [here](#).

Peace Museum Colorado

Liska Blodgett, founder of Peace Museum Vienna and active INMP supporter, has taken the initiative for the creation of the Peace Museum Colorado, in her hometown of Crested Butte. This small town, named after the mountain that rises 3,700 m. above sea level, was recently voted the number one ski town in the U.S. With only 1,500 inhabitants, the town is a popular destination also for such other outdoor activities as snowboarding and mountain biking.



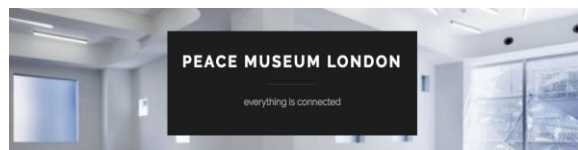
Peace Walk with Peace Museum Colorado



To finance and start up the museum, a ‘spectacularly successful’ peace walk which attracted a huge audience was organised on 4th July (Independence Day). The imaginative ‘Windows for peace’ display of peace heroes in the streets around Peace Museum Vienna is also being replicated in Crested Butte where fifty peace heroes, many local ones, are being displayed. For more information, please click [here](#). To contact Liska Blodgett directly, please click [here](#). Or, to contact the Executive Director of the Peace Museum Colorado, Elise Popp, please mail to: elisepopp@peacemuseumcolorado.org

London Peace Museum – Opening November 2018

By Rod Tweedy, co-founder, London Peace Museum project



Exciting new plans are under way for a Peace Museum in London, with a provisional opening date of November 2018, marking the centenary of the end of the First World War. The museum will celebrate London’s extraordinarily rich history of peacebuilding and campaigning – from the creation of the Society for the Promotion of Permanent and Universal Peace in London on 14th June 1816 (one of the first peace societies in the world, created 200 years ago!) to the pioneering peace work of such influential and inspiring figures as W. T. Stead, Bertrand Russell, Sylvia Pankhurst, Dick Sheppard,

Joseph Rotblat, Bruce Kent, Brian Haw, John Lennon, and Ben Griffin. – The museum will display and provide a permanent home for items and artefacts from the history of the peace movement in London, as well as provide the necessary information, skills, encouragement and resources for people to develop contemporary peacebuilding, and to help mobilise young people towards a future without war through the promotion of nonviolence and conflict resolution. – A key aim of the museum will be to develop critical thinking and support multi-perspectivity, and to explore the links between violence, injustice and inequality.

As Peter van den Dungen has noted, ‘the struggle for peace is a story filled with action, drama, and heroism’ and the London Peace Museum hopes to embody this, both through its challenging and dynamic installations and exhibitions, and its creative engagement with local communities and histories. It hopes to include original artwork by a number of prominent London-based artists and photographers including Don McCullin, Peter Kennard, Mark Wallinger and Damien Hirst. – It will work closely with the Peace Museum in Bradford, as well as with peace museums and peace-related centres around the world, sharing exhibits, information, and media platforms. The educational aims of the London Peace Museum are to equip young people with the skills to bring about a peaceful world through education, learning, and outreach. The museum will work with leading London artists and educationalists to create an imaginative and thought-provoking space within which to explore ideas of cooperation, interdependency, conflict resolution, and diversity. To find out more about the museum, please visit its [website](#).

If you would like to help develop this project or donate material, please get in touch. The museum is looking for people with experience of working in a museum or large-scale project, fundraising, or who simply have an interest in peace and want to be part of this exciting project to redefine and reimagine peace in the twenty-first century. For more information, please contact Rod Tweedy by mailing to: peacemuseum@hotmail.com.

Anna B. Eckstein: Heroine of Peace Museum Meeder (Germany)

In 1982, a peace museum was opened in the small town of Meeder (near Coburg, in Bavaria) which aims to keep alive the peace tradition that emerged in the area shortly after the end of the Thirty Years’ War (1618-1648) that devastated much of Europe. The museum documents and illustrates the history of the annual celebration, going back to 1651, of the end of war and the restoring of peace. The 365th peace thanksgiving festival (*Friedensdankfest*) was held on 21st August. Only Augsburg has a similarly long and uninterrupted annual celebration of the return of peace. The museum also highlights a local peace heroine, Anna B. Eckstein (1868-1947), who was born and died in Coburg. In 1884, she emigrated to the U.S. and trained to become a teacher. In the 1890s, after she moved from New York to Boston, she became a prominent and highly respected member of the peace movement. She joined the Boston Peace Society and as a vice-president of the American Peace Society was a delegate at many of the annual world peace congresses.



Eckstein became famous for organising a petition with one million signatures urging the promotion of international arbitration that she presented to the president of the Second Hague Peace Conference (1907). She then undertook a world tour with the ultimate aim of collecting 100 million signatures in order to promote the Third Hague Peace Conference scheduled for 1915 (which could not be held because of the world war). She also gave talks throughout

Germany and brought American and German women together for dialogues about peace. In 1913 she was nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize. A school in Meeder, as well as a park in Coburg, are named after her. Her extensive diaries, located in the Swarthmore College Peace Collection (near Philadelphia), have been translated by Karl Eberhard Sperl, the founder of the Peace Museum in Meeder. For this purpose, about thirty years ago, he was sent a microfilm of the diaries. Since then he has devoted countless hours to their transcription and translation, a laborious, time-consuming endeavour.



Karl Eberhard Sperl (right) handing over Eckstein's diaries to Henning Schuster (left) of the 'Friends of the Peace Museum'

At last, on 18th August, he was able to present to the museum a handsome set of three sturdy volumes with the full translation and enriched by illustrations. This has been a labour of love that will make it easier for many to become better acquainted with this remarkable peace educator and activist. Also the provincial library, and the St. Moriz Church of which Eckstein was a member, both in Coburg, have received a set. Sperl, who is a retired pastor, praised the vision that Eckstein had set before Coburg, Germany, and the whole world, of a belief in peace and freedom. In overcoming old patterns of thinking, she had provided new ideas which contributed to the founding of the League of Nations and which can be found in the Charter of the UN. We would like to send our thanks and warm congratulations to Karl Eberhard Sperl for this remarkable achievement. He has acknowledged the several contributions that INMP board member Gerard Loessbroek has made to uncover important information about Eckstein.

For a brief report in the local newspaper (in German), please click [here](#).

Monuments against War Exhibition in Anti-War Museum, Berlin

A new temporary exhibition was opened in the Anti-War Museum (Anti-Kriegs-Museum) in Berlin on 4th June (until 4th October). Entitled *Peace for ever: Monuments against war (Frieden fuer immer: Denkmaeler gegen den Krieg)*, it is dedicated to Carl von Ossietzky who, eighty years ago, was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1935. Among the images in the exhibition is the memorial to him at the place of his burial and which carries the inscription that forms the first part of the title of the exhibition. Tommy Spree, the founder and director of the museum, read the words of welcome by Dr. Christian Hanke, the mayor of the Mitte district of Berlin under whose patronage the exhibition is taking place. He said that the exhibition was an invitation and encouragement for Berliners and visitors alike to go through the city with a heightened awareness since they would discover numerous locations where peace was being commemorated. Together with poignant quotations from a wide variety of pacifists and war resisters, such sites are a warning to preserve and strengthen peace – in the neighbourhood and worldwide.



Poster for Monuments Against War Exhibit

The display was curated by Christian Bartolf who guided the audience through the exhibition which consists not only of photos of physical monuments but also of other anti-war and peace images such as drawings, quotations, and poetry. Among anti-war images shown are the broken rifle and the knotted gun (see following article). This is the 14th temporary exhibition that he has curated in the museum since 2008. Previous exhibitions have featured, e.g., Gandhi, Tolstoi, M. L. King, Henry David Thoreau, Rabindranath Tagore, Etienne de la Boetie and Carl von Ossietzky. Christian Bartolf directs the Gandhi Information Centre in Berlin. For more information, please click [here](#). The opening of the exhibition and a virtual tour can be seen in a 20-minute video clip by clicking [here](#).

Carl Fredrik Reutersward (1934—2016), Sculptor of *The Knotted Gun*

Swedish artist Carl Fredrik Reutersward, creator of one of the world's most famous anti-war sculptures, died on 3rd May, aged 81. *The Knotted Gun*, also sometimes referred to as *Non-Violence*, depicts a large revolver of which the barrel has been tied in a knot. It was his response to the murder of John Lennon outside his apartment in New York in 1980. Reutersward had met the singer-peace activist and his wife, Yoko Ono, already in 1969 and discussed creating a work of art for them that depicted the concept of peace. After Lennon's death, Ono urged the artist to continue his efforts. Filled with bitterness and anger, Reutersward immediately began to create a symbol that he wanted to dedicate to Lennon and everyone else who had been a victim of senseless violence. He later commented that he had conceived the idea of the knotted barrel from the start. *The Knotted Gun* was initially placed in the Strawberry Fields memorial in New York's Central Park, across the street from Lennon's Dakota apartment building. In 1988 the government of Luxemburg donated a version of the bronze sculpture to the UN in the same city.

More than thirty copies, sometimes with variations, exist in different locations around the world, including ten in Sweden. The one in Landskrona, where the artist lived latterly, is

notable for having two knots in the barrel. In Europe, there are replicas of the sculpture at the Memorial de Caen (France), the Olympic Museum in Lausanne (Switzerland), the park of the Federal Chancellery in Berlin (Germany), and at the Jean Monnet Building of the European Commission in Luxemburg. Outside Europe, replicas can be found also in China and South Africa.



*Carl Fredrik Reutersward with his sculpture
“Non-Violence” in Munich in 1996
Credit: Istvan Bajzat / picture-alliance / dpa,
via Associated Press*

The sculpture has been used by the Non-Violence Project Foundation, a non-profit organisation established by Reutersward and others in Switzerland in 1993, to inspire, engage and motivate young people to understand how to solve conflicts without resorting to violence. The objective is to reach out to as many schools and sport clubs as possible; so far, six million youngsters, teachers and sport coaches around the world have been educated and trained. For more information about the foundation, please click [here](#) (where also many images can be seen of the various replicas of the sculpture).

Sources: ‘Carl Fredrik Reutersward, Known for Knotted-Gun Sculpture, Dies at 81’, *The New York Times*, 4th May 2016; ‘Carl Fredrik Reutersward: Avant-garde Swedish sculptor and painter who created The Knotted Gun in reaction to the shooting of John Lennon’, *The Times*, 10th June 2016.

For many locations and images of the sculpture, please put ‘Peace sculpture around the world – Reutersward’ in your search field, and then click on the Maripo website.

Pedro Reyes' *Disarm* at Just Peace Festival in The Hague

Mexican artist Pedro Reyes's musical installation *Disarm* ('*Make Music, Not War*') is an imaginative and powerful example of the transformation of the tools of a culture of war and violence into instruments of peaceful art and music.



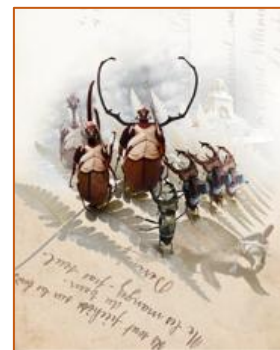
Since the initiation of the project in 2007, he has used the remnants of weapons that the Mexican army and police have confiscated from armed gangs and drug cartels to make mechanical musical instruments. For the present work, *Disarm*, the Mexican authorities provided him with the remnants of 6,700 guns and pistols which, instead of being buried or burnt, provided the materials for making the instruments. They are being produced in collaboration with a team of musicians and a new media studio in Mexico City (Cocolab). The musical machines are programmed and operated via computers, making them capable of performing music concerts with compositions prepared beforehand. The various parts of these automatons are still recognisable as pistols, rifles and shotguns but they can no longer harm, and instead bring joy and harmony.



Disarm is currently making a European tour. Thanks to the assistance of the Mexican embassy in The Hague, the musical installation can be seen and heard during the Just Peace Festival that the 'International city of peace and justice' organises every year around the UN International Day of Peace (21st September). During five days, peace will be celebrated in a wide-ranging and popular programme involving exhibitions, concerts, debates, running events and much more in venues throughout the city. *Disarm* is in Pulchri Studio in the city centre. A fascinating and informative 8-minute video *Turning weapons into instruments* about Pedro Reyes and *Disarm* can be seen [here](#).

Hubris Exhibition at Erich Maria Remarque Peace Center, Osnabrueck (Germany)

A fascinating and highly original exhibition was opened on 18th August in the Erich Maria Remarque Peace Center in Osnabrueck. Titled 'Hybris' (Hubris), the exhibition by German photo-montage artist Harald Reusmann explores human conduct in war and the effect of wearing a uniform on the human personality, and connects this to its visualisation in animal forms. The artist makes use of historical documentation of propaganda through visual images before and during World War I in which the enemy of every country was dehumanised in the shape of one or other animal so as to justify one's own bellicosity. He shows that this process is not confined to history but is still being used today as an instrument of propaganda in conflict and war. Some forty photo-montages connect the representation of animals with the world of war propaganda of the early 20th century.



One of forty photo-montages from "*Hybris*"

The title of the exhibition refers to a basic human character flaw – arrogance, pride – which can contribute to conflict and war. Through the use of animals in photo-montage, the artist aims to elaborate and clarify precisely such human characteristics. All soldiers, presented as animals, are wearing German and French uniforms dating back from the Napoleonic times to World War I, witnesses of a century of European military history. These uniforms represent hierarchies and are an expression of vanity as the artist shows. This photo exhibition on war and militarism will be shown until 20th November.



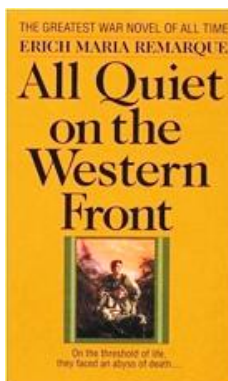
*Erich Maria Remarque's villa,
Casa Monte Tabor*

His villa, *Casa Monte Tabor*, on Lake Maggiore, has been put up for sale by its present owners. In 2011, a committee was created to rescue the villa (from destruction), preserve this ‘significant German cultural monument abroad’, and turn it into an international centre and meeting place for the promotion of an ‘anti-war culture’ in the 21st century, faithful to Remarque’s ‘militant pacifism’. Despite the support of the German government, the city of Osnabrueck, and the Swiss canton of Tessin, it has so far proved impossible to raise sufficient funds for the realisation of this most worthwhile project. For more information (mainly in German) about the Center please click [here](#), for details concerning the exhibition [here](#), and information about the committee can be found [here](#).



Erich Maria Remarque

Remarque (born 1898 in Osnabrueck, died 1970 in Locarno, Switzerland) became world famous following the publication of his novel *All Quiet on the Western Front* (1929); the film version (1930) is widely recognised as one of the first and most powerful anti-war films. The author’s pacifism was rooted in his own experience in World War I and forced him to leave Germany (when the Nazis banned and burned his books). In 1931 he bought a house in Porto Ronco, near Ascona, Switzerland.



His classic anti-war novel

Tehran Peace Museum

On 18th May, at a ceremony attended by a large number of staff members of Iranian museums and officials from Iranian ICOM (International Council of Museums), the Tehran Peace Museum (TPM) was chosen as the best private museum of the year in the category ‘Introducing cultural and historical legacy’. Similar distinctions have been conferred upon TPM in previous years. In the same month, the exhibition ‘My Face for Peace’ was shown (9th – 30th May). This selection of 23 photographs, collected by Iranian-German artists, Saeed and Cordula Dastmalchian, portrays individuals from around the world together with their statements giving face to their wish for world peace. During the past four years, more than 10,000 people from 133 countries have participated; a collection of photographs and statements has been published in a book of the same name.



'My Face for Peace' exhibition – opening ceremony at TPM

On 11th July, the museum welcomed Ms Susanna Terstal, Ambassador of The Netherlands. She recounted that in the 1990s, early in her diplomatic career, she had been involved in the Dutch Foreign Ministry's preparations for the Chemical Weapons Convention. The importance of the Netherlands, host of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), for the work of the museum was among the subjects discussed. The ambassador was very appreciative of the activities of TPM and emphasised that the meetings in the museum with veterans, war victims, volunteers and artists had been inspirational. Ms Terstal also indicated that she was interested in further cooperation with the museum.



Dutch Ambassador Ms Terstal at TPM

A delegation from TPM and SCWVS (Society for Chemical Weapons Victims Support) attended the annual Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony on 6th August; the delegation included members of both organisations, war veterans and survivors of chemical weapons during the Iran-Iraq War, and artists. Survivors

shared their experiences with Hibakusha and students of Hiroshima University. The delegation met with Mr. Kazumi Matsui, the mayor of Hiroshima and president of Mayors for Peace in order to expand the cooperation between the TPM and Mayors for Peace.



TPM delegation at 71st Hiroshima Peace Memorial Ceremony

Later in the same month, TPM hosted a two-day workshop on 'Nonviolent conflict resolution and youth leadership' (24th – 25th). Trainers from Switzerland and Bosnia-Herzegovina focused on concepts such as conflict escalation, de-escalation and prevention, dialogue and communication as well as skills and capacities of young leaders through role playing and interactive methods. Participants were activists from various NGOs in Tehran as well as museum volunteers. For more information about the museum's activities and projects, go to the [website](#).



Exhibition at No More Hiroshima : No More Nagasaki : Peace Museum

In what has become an annual tradition, the No More Hiroshima : No More Nagasaki : Peace Museum in Nagpur, India, organised an exhibition from 6th – 9th August on the dangers of nuclear weapons and the need for their abolition. It was held at the Women's College where more than 1,200 women are studying in various faculties.



*Exhibition at the No More Hiroshima :
No More Nagasaki : Peace Museum (Nagpur,
India)*

They, as well as the general public, were invited and more than 21,000 people came to see the exhibition which, because of the great interest, was extended by several days. INMP board member Dr. Balkrishna Kurvey – president of the Indian Institute for Peace, Disarmament & Environmental Protection (IIPDEP) and executive director of the Peace Museum – gave a talk on the environmental impact of the use of nuclear weapons, based on research by two highly respected peace NGOs, International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War (IPPNW) and Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR).



*Dr. Balkrishna Kurvey chairing a talk on the
environmental impact of nuclear weapons*

It has been estimated that even a so-called ‘limited’ nuclear war between India and Pakistan would put the lives of 2 billion people at risk, half of whom would die of starvation. Given the animosity and mistrust between the two neighbouring countries, and the ignorance of the nuclear threat among their peoples and politicians, there is a great need to spread this information as widely as possible.

Hiroshima: Important Personal Documents Discovered

Earlier this year, Mrs. Keiko Ogura discovered at home the diaries and letters of her late husband, Kaoru Ogura (1920-1979), including 500-pages of typed manuscript and memos and 800 pages of correspondence with Robert Jungk, all in English. Mr. Ogura was born in Seattle, U.S. but later settled in Hiroshima. After working for many years on the collection and documentation of the survivors' testimonies, he was the Director of the Hiroshima Peace Memorial Museum from August 1970 to November 1972.

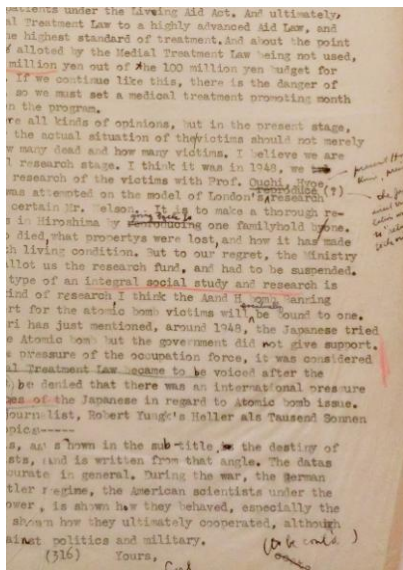


Mr. Kaoru Ogura

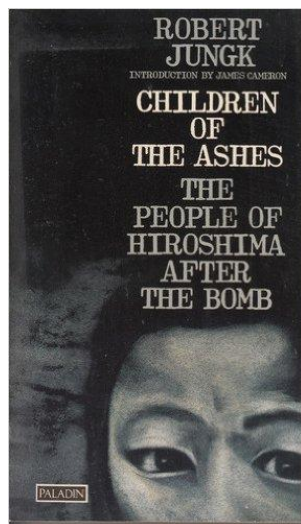
Mr. Ogura was also the Secretary General of the Hiroshima Peace Culture Association from July 1977 to November 1979. Mr Ogura thus played a major role in telling the world about Hiroshima, including the suffering, physical as well as psychological and social, of the atomic bomb survivors. Those who greatly benefited from his help and knowledge, not least by arranging in the 1950s and 1960s the first meetings and interviews with survivors, include in addition to Jungk, Norman Cousins, Robert J. Lifton, and Barbara Reynolds.

Their writings, publications and lectures were among the first to report on Hiroshima’s unhealed wounds. These experiences deeply affected each of these writers and transformed their lives. All this, and much more, is documented in a fascinating and moving documentary that was broadcast on NHK World television on 6th August. The fifty-minute film,

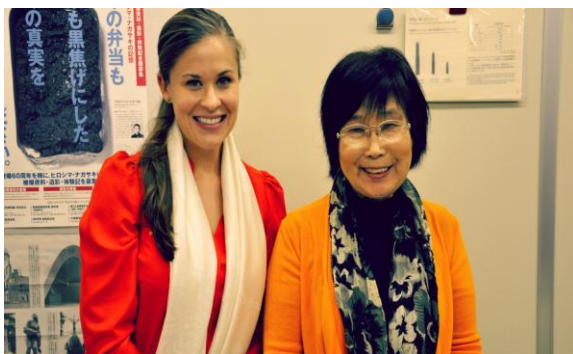
in English, *My Small Steps from Hiroshima*, was available on the broadcaster's website until 22nd August.



A section of page 316 of the recovered manuscript



Robert Jungk's *Children of the Ashes*

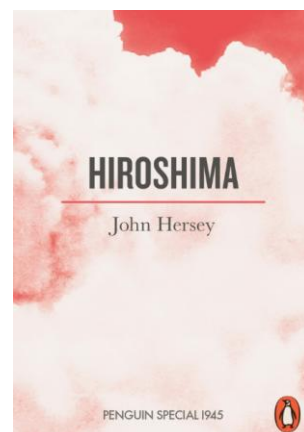


Mrs Keiko Ogura (right) and her interviewer Kari Stinehour

The documentary also features Mrs. Ogura who, as an eight-year old living in Hiroshima, survived the bombing and later shared her husband's passion to educate the world about Hiroshima. With this aim in mind, she founded in 1984, *Hiroshima Interpreters for Peace* (HIP). The volunteer group, whose members guide tourists in English, has grown from twenty to 160 members. An informative interview, entitled 'Keiko Ogura's Curiosity and Compassion: A Hiroshima Atomic Bomb Survivor's Story', can be read [here](#). With thanks to Kazuyo Yamane for informing INMP about the NHK film and for obtaining information from Mrs. Ogura.

John Hersey's 1946 *Hiroshima* Article in *The New Yorker* Remembered

One of the most remarkable and influential events in the early reporting on the atomic destruction of Hiroshima on 6th August 1945 was the long article by American journalist John Hersey that was published one year later in the 31st August 1946 issue of *The New Yorker* magazine. Produced with considerable secrecy, the entire issue was devoted to this single, 30,000- word article – something which remains unprecedented in the history of the famous weekly. It had sent Hersey to Hiroshima in May 1946 where he spent three weeks interviewing six survivors; it is their stories which he reported, matter-of-fact like, in his article.



70th Anniversary edition published 6th August 2015

It was the first the West knew of the human story of the destruction of the city and the suffering of survivors. The article, a publishing sensation, was quickly serialised in some fifty

U.S. newspapers and book editions followed in the U.S. and UK shortly afterwards. In Japan, copies of the book, as well as of the 31st August 1946 edition of the magazine, were banned until 1949 when the article was also translated into Japanese (by Rev. Kiyoshi Tanimoto, one of Hersey's six survivors). The BBC obtained permission to broadcast the entire article in four episodes as part of their new Third Programme and did so in October 1946 (with a repeat a few weeks later).

For the 70th anniversary of Hersey's *Hiroshima*, the BBC decided to broadcast again (for the first time since 1946) the original episodes on four consecutive days (23th – 26th August 2016). A year before, on 6th August 2015, on the 70th anniversary of the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, *The New Yorker* made the entire landmark report available online. It is available [here](#). Joshua Rothman, the magazine's archive editor, then wrote that *Hiroshima* 'is undiminished in its intensity'.

Cartooning for Peace – Tenth Anniversary

Cartooning for Peace is an international network of cartoonists worldwide that was founded at a symposium (titled *Unlearning Intolerance*) that brought together twelve of the world's greatest press cartoonists, and that was called by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and Plantu, editorial cartoonist of the French *Le Monde* newspaper.



The meeting took place on 16th October 2006 at UN headquarters in New York after violent disturbances following the publication in 2005 in Denmark of cartoons depicting the prophet Mohammed. With the support of the UN Office in Geneva and the Swiss Ministry of Foreign

Affairs, the Cartooning for Peace Swiss Foundation was established in Geneva in 2006/2009. In 2008, a similar French Association was founded with headquarters at *Le Monde* in Paris. The first permanent exhibition of the Association was opened in 2010 in the Peace Memorial in Caen (Normandy, France). Among recent exhibitions, with supporting programmes such as lectures and debates, is the *Cartooning for Human Rights* exhibition that was held in the European Parliament on 15th – 16th December 2015 with support from the EU. It involved the participation of 28 cartoonists, one from each member state. From 3rd May – 4th June 2016, a major exhibition was held in Geneva to coincide with World Press Freedom Day.



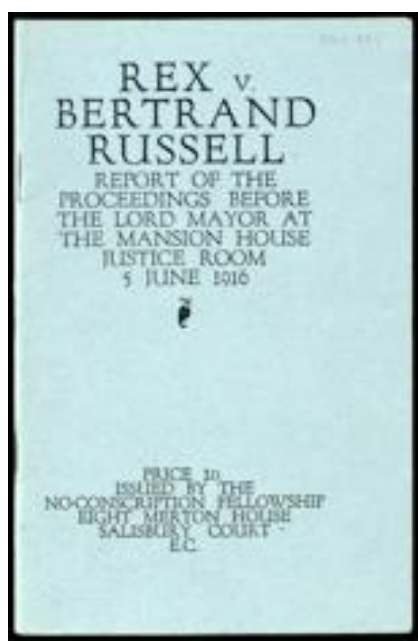
Cartoon poster by Mario Biani (Italy)

This exhibition, with cartoons in very large format, takes place every other year in the open air, along the banks of Lake Geneva. *Cartooning for Peace* will celebrate its tenth anniversary later this year. For more details about the organisation, and about its travelling exhibitions, festivals, awards, and publications, please click [here](#). Cartoons can make us laugh, and cry, as is demonstrated by a selection of drawings made for the Rio Olympics and shown on the homepage.



Display on World War I Conscientious Objectors in National Portrait Gallery, London

In Britain, 2016 is the centenary of the introduction of conscription; the enormous loss of life on the Western front during the first years of World War I left the British army in need of more men than were coming forward on a voluntary basis. The 1916 Military Service Act compelled all unmarried, able-bodied men aged 18 – 41 to join the armed forces. Objection on moral or religious grounds led to non-combatant roles; refusal to serve in any capacity resulted in imprisonment. Conscientious objectors (COs), those who – despite enormous pressure – refused to take up arms and fight, were highly unpopular and were insultingly referred to as ‘conchies’, a new word that entered the English language. During the war, some 16,000 men were officially recorded as COs in Britain, among them were many Quakers.



The National Portrait Gallery in London, home to the largest collection of portraits in the world, is marking the centenary by a modest but interesting display (21st June 2016 – 5th February 2017) which introduces several prominent COs, notably Bertrand Russell, Fenner Brockway, and Clifford Allen, who were

all imprisoned together with many others. Although women were not conscripted, some played an important role in supporting COs such as Sylvia Pankhurst and Lady Ottoline Morrell. The latter was a keen photographer, and a selection of her photographs (all her 12 albums, with nearly 4,000 prints, are held by the Gallery) are shown in a separate display case. They record life at her Oxfordshire home during the war when it became a refuge for war resisters.

A rare and early painting of a ‘Conchie’ is part of the permanent display of The Peace Museum, Bradford (UK).

The 9th International Conference of Museums for Peace (10th – 13th April 2017) in Belfast, Northern Ireland

The year 2017 marks the 25th anniversary of the International Network of Museums for Peace (INMP). This occasion will be highlighted at the [9th International Conference of Museums for Peace](#), 10th – 13th April 2017 in Belfast, Northern Ireland. Please mark your calendars for the Conference, and submit your proposals for panel or paper presentations. Note that the closing date to submit your presentation proposals is 1st November 2016. Details on registration for the Conference, information on lodging, and optional pre-conference and post-conference tours will be announced soon.

Participants in the April 2017 conference are invited to benefit further from their visit to the UK by including a pre-conference visit to Bradford. Bradford is the home of the UK’s only Peace Museum, as well as being the city that hosted the founding conference of INMP 25 years ago in 1992. Independent travellers who make their own arrangements to travel to Bradford can spend Sunday 9th April 2017 on this free organised programme:

- Extended visit and tour of The Peace Museum
- Walk part of the Bradford Peace Trail

- Visit Bradford University, site of the 1st INMP conference in 1992
- Visit the world famous Bradford University Peace Studies Department
- Explore some of the unique collection of peace artefacts in the University Special Collection and the Commonwealth (peace and nonviolence) library



There is a regular morning flight from Leeds Bradford Airport to Belfast City Airport; on Monday, 10th April 2017, this should be in good time for the start of the INMP conference. More details about the proposed visit to Bradford are available from Clive Barrett, chair of The Peace Museum, who can be reached [here](#). Click [here](#) for more information.



NEWSLETTER 17

DEADLINE

The next INMP newsletter (No.17) will be published in December. **The deadline for winter submissions is 1st November 2016.** (max. 500 words with one or two photos.)

Please send your text and images to news@museumsforpeace.org.

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Editors' Note

Editorial board members are Ikuro Anzai, Peter van den Dungen, Robert Kowalczyk and Kazuyo Yamane.

