

Accounts of the Conflict:

Digitally Archiving Stories for Peacebuilding

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

17-18 November 2014

Holiday Inn, Ormeau Avenue, Belfast.

ulster.ac.uk/accounts
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This project has been supported by the
EU's PEACE III Programme, managed by
the Special EU Programmes Body





Accounts of the Conflict: Digitally Archiving Stories for Peacebuilding

Welcome to Belfast, Northern Ireland for the INCORE Accounts of the Conflict: Digitally Archiving Stories for Peacebuilding International Conference! The project team is delighted to have you join us at this event where we will focus our attention on three key issues:

- **ethical considerations in archiving and disseminating personal accounts**
- **the practical development and implementation of archives**
- **dissemination and outreach of oral histories for peacebuilding and social change**

Our international and local speakers will, we know, raise important issues and provide examples of work going on in their areas related to the conference themes. We encourage you to engage in the discussions.

We will also launch the Accounts of the Conflict Archive and look forward to your feedback on this new resource which we hope will grow and develop to include a large cross section of personal accounts related to the 'Troubles'.

Finally, we encourage you to view the Conference Exhibition Textile Accounts of Conflicts which we have commissioned to remind us of the ways 'stories' can be narrated in textile form.

Kind Regards,

**The Project Team, INCORE,
Ulster University**

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INCORE established in 1993 is a centre of excellence and the premier research institute in conflict transformation on the island of Ireland, and an associated site of the United Nations University.

INCORE's vision is of a world where divided societies are transformed from conflict to sustainable peace.

- INCORE's research focuses on deepening knowledge about peacemaking and peacebuilding processes.
- INCORE builds the capacity of local and international researchers, policymakers and practitioners to tackle the complex challenge of moving from violence.
- INCORE hosts an MSc in Applied Peace and Conflict Studies, as well as a stream on young children and conflict in partnership with the NGO Early Years.
- The annual INCORE International Summer School, now in its 15th year, provides an advanced learning opportunity on peacebuilding.
- CAIN is based at INCORE, and is the largest online archive of conflict-related material on Northern Ireland in the world.
- INCORE hosts ARK which makes social science research on Northern Ireland available to the public.

QUICK FACTS

- 40 major projects undertaken
- 25 years of teaching peace and conflict studies
- 400 masters graduates from 25 countries
- 700 delegates from 40 countries at summer schools
- 50 local-global exchanges
- Hosted peace lectures by Kofi Annan, The Dalai Lama, Bill Clinton, Mary McAleese, Hillary Rodham Clinton, John Hume and others
- 17 million website visits to CAIN in 10 years, 50,000 unique visits a month
- 2 million website visits to INCORE and ARK

“...thrilled by all the work that INCORE has done and I hope you will do more of it. Train a new generation of leaders...”

(President Bill Clinton, Public Address, Guildhall Square, Derry, 5 March 2014)

What is Accounts of the Conflict?

www.ulster.ac.uk/accounts

Accounts of the Conflict is a project being carried out at INCORE, Ulster University, to create a digital archive for the long-term preservation of personal accounts related to the conflict in, and about, Northern Ireland. The project is funded from the European Union's PEACE III programme, managed by the Special EU Programmes Body.

The personal accounts of individuals who have been affected by the Northern Ireland conflict in various ways have been collected by individuals and groups across the region over the past few decades.

Accounts of the Conflict aims to work in partnership with those who manage individual story-telling collections, and individual story-tellers, by offering the opportunity to deposit a digital copy of relevant stories with the archive.

Accounts of the Conflict has created a dedicated website to allow users to search for stories and to view them on-line, where appropriate permissions have been obtained. This website provides:

- **Personal accounts from a wide variety of participants**
- **Contextual information from the CAIN website**
- **A searchable database of publicly available information about the stories and the publications where stories are to be found**
- **A comprehensive resource list with links to existing 'storytelling' websites**



DAY ONE, Monday 17 November 2014

10.30am - 11.00am **Registration** and Tea/coffee on arrival

SESSION ONE: OPENING ADDRESSES: SETTING THE SCENE

Chair: Brandon Hamber

11.00am - 11.30am **Welcome and Introduction**
Professor Brandon Hamber, INCORE
Professor Gillian Robinson, INCORE

11.30am - 11.45am **Setting the Scene:** Grainne Kelly, INCORE
The Context of Storytelling and Archiving in and about the conflict in Northern Ireland

11.45am - 12.30pm **Plenary Session:**
Doug Boyd, Director of the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky
Curating Voices: Oral History Archives in the Digital Age

12.30pm - 2.00pm **Buffet Lunch** and opportunity to hear from the curator of the Textile Accounts of Conflicts exhibition, Roberta Bacic, and to view information on local story gathering projects.

SESSION TWO: ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

Chair: Gillian Robinson

2.00pm - 2.45pm **Plenary Session:**
Patricia Valdez, founding director of Memoria Abierta, Argentina
Building memories: witnesses and oral archives.

2.45pm - 4.45pm **Parallel Sessions:** In-depth discussions on aspects of ethical considerations in collecting and archiving personal accounts and materials on sensitive topics.

4.45pm - 5.45pm **Launch of the Accounts of the Conflict Archive**
Professor Richard Barnett, Vice-Chancellor, Ulster University
Pat Colgan, Chief Executive, Special EU Programmes Body
Dr James Nesbitt, Chancellor, Ulster University

5.45pm - 6.45pm **Buffet Dinner** and opportunity to view Textile Accounts of Conflicts exhibition

6.45pm - 7.45pm **Telling Stories on Film: Screenings and Discussion**
Three local projects will showcase extracts from films and documentaries which represent the diversity of stories related to the conflict in or about Northern Ireland which have been recorded in recent times. Q&A and discussion to follow.

Chair: Peter Osborne, Chair Community Relations Council
Prisons Memory Archive
Peace Process: Layers of Meaning
Glortha Aduaidh/Northern Voices

Parallel Sessions (Day One, 2.45pm-4.45pm)

2.1 NAVIGATING THE LEGAL AND ETHICAL PARAMETERS OF ARCHIVING

Working with the personal detail of peoples' lived experiences raises both legal and ethical issues which require careful consideration and planning. The purpose of this session is to explore some of the challenges of navigating the ethical and legal parameter of collecting, archiving and making public the details of people's experiences of conflict.

Chair: Kate Turner, Healing through Remembering
Michelle Moloney, Independent Consultant
Graham Jackson, Public Records Office of Northern Ireland
Cahal McLaughlin, Queen's University Belfast
Doug Boyd, University of Kentucky

2.2 CREATING SPACE FOR CONFLICTING STORIES

The development of a central repository containing personal accounts, or stories, inevitably entails challenges related to the placing of conflicting stories alongside each other. The opinions of those who have given their stories, and the aims of story-collecting projects are some of the issues to be explored. This session will outline, and allow for discussion on some of the challenges associated with placing conflicting narratives together and making them publicly available via the internet or other outlets.

Chair: Adrian Grant, INCORE
Verne Harris, Nelson Mandela Foundation
Triona White-Hamilton, curator of Everyday Objects Exhibition for Healing Through Remembering
Seamus Farrell, Towards Understanding and Healing
Boro Kitanoski, Peace Action, Macedonia

2.3 THE GLOBAL DISSEMINATION OF PERSONAL STORIES ONLINE – CHALLENGES AND ETHICS

It is one thing to collect oral histories of peoples' experiences of conflict. It is quite another to make those stories freely available on the internet, anonymously or not. The purpose of this session is to explore the ethical issues associated with the placing of individuals' stories online, where they are open to question, challenge and contradiction.

Chair: Brendan Lynn, INCORE
Claire Hackett, Duchas Project
Sara Duddy, Pat Finucane Centre
Libby Bishop, UK Data Archive

2.4 ARCHIVES, EXCLUSION AND FORGOTTEN VOICES

The gathering of stories related to the conflict requires active and engaged intervention. Certain stories may

be of greater general interest than others, and are easier to identify and access. The focus on this session is to explore the challenge of getting beyond the more dominant stories, consider which stories are overlooked or forgotten, and to examine why and how some stories are more actively ignored or dismissed. The challenge for those interested in developing central repositories of stories is to ensure the diversity of stories, representing as broad an experience of conflict as possible.

Chair: Kris Brown, Ulster University
Faiha Abdul Al Hadi, Palestine
John Peto, Nerve Centre
Sumona Das Gupta, India
Peter Heathwood, Victims and Survivors Forum

DAY TWO, Tuesday 18 November 2014

9.30am - 10.15am **Registration** and Tea/coffee on arrival

SESSION THREE: THE PRACTICAL DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A COMPLEX ARCHIVE

Chair: Brandon Hamber

9.30am - 10.15am **Plenary Session:**

Professor Norman Duncan, Apartheid Archive, University of Pretoria
Considering the Ethics and Practices of the Apartheid Archive.

10.15am - 12.15pm **Parallel Sessions:** In-depth discussions on a range of practical issues related to the development of effective archives on complex topics.

SESSION FOUR: DISSEMINATION AND OUTREACH OF PERSONAL ACCOUNTS FOR PEACEBUILDING AND SOCIAL CHANGE

Chair: Gillian Robinson

12.15pm - 1.00pm **Plenary Session:**

Vesna Terselic, DOCUMENTA, Croatia.

The role of personal memories in peace building - Reaching out to people who are still not listening – experience from Croatia.

1.00pm - 2.00pm **Lunch**

2.00pm - 4.00pm **Parallel Sessions:** In-depth discussions on the opportunities and challenges of outreach/ dissemination of personal accounts for social change and building peace.

4.00pm - 4.15pm **Tea/Coffee**

4.15pm - 4.30pm **Closing Plenary:** Sumona Das Gupta, Chair INCORE International Advisory Group
Reflecting on conference themes, ways forward, future role of archives in peacebuilding

Parallel Sessions (Day Two, 10.15am-12.15pm)

3.1 MIND YOUR LANGUAGE: THE POLITICS AND PRACTICALITIES OF TAGGING AND SEARCHING ARCHIVES

How do we catalogue information most effectively? In divided societies there is often no consensus around which terms should be used to describe many aspects of life, history and geography in conflict settings. This adds to the complexity of tagging and searching archives. Most digital archive users expect search and cataloguing systems to retrieve as much information as possible, including information which is not exactly matched to the original search term. How do we ensure digital archive cataloguing systems are designed to meet these expectations and that they can link search terms without causing controversy or offence?

Chair: Libby Bishop, UK Data Archive

Louise Corti, UK Data Archive

Clifford Harkness, National Museums Northern Ireland
Joy Carey and David Huddleston, Public Records Office of Northern Ireland

Aileen O'Carroll, Digital Repository of Ireland

3.2 CONSIDERATIONS IN BUILDING A PUBLIC DIGITAL ARCHIVE: REFLECTING ON THE EXPERIENCE OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE CONFLICT PROJECT

The purpose of this session is to provide a deeper insight into the practical and ethical challenges associated with the building of the *Accounts of the*

Conflict archive. The session will explore issues such as: project motivations and the prevailing environment; developing collaborative partnerships with story gathering projects; creating a preservation plan; choosing the right digital platforms and software, and the linking of information to other resources.

Chair: Anna Bryson, Queen's University Belfast
Gillian Robinson, INCORE
Grainne Kelly, INCORE
Martin Melaugh, INCORE
Norman Duncan, Apartheid Archive

3.3 WHO IS THIS FOR? CREATING A DIGITAL ARCHIVE FOR A VARIETY OF AUDIENCES

Different groups have different needs when it comes to accessing materials online. A key challenge in building a digital archive of materials is to design and tailor the material available to suit different user groups. This session will explore the practical challenge of developing an archive or collection for multiple user groups, such as researchers, young people, policy makers, broadcasters, and the archive contributors themselves.

Chair: Elizabeth Crooke, Ulster University
Liam Wylie, RTE Archives
Kate Turner, Healing Through Remembering
Patricia Valdez, Memoria Abierta
Grainne Loughran, Public Records Office of Northern Ireland

3.4 CONTEXT AND RESOURCES AS FACTORS IN BUILDING AN ARCHIVE

How does context shape the development of archives? What are the necessary conditions or elements required to build an archive? What do you need? (resources, political will, skills, timing etc)

Chair: Geraldine Smyth, Irish School of Ecumenics
Vesna Terselic, Documenta, Croatia
Adrian Grant, INCORE
William Blair, Ulster Museum
Catriona Crowe, National Archives of Ireland

Parallel Sessions **(Day Two, 2.00pm-4.00pm)**

4.1 WHAT ARE THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAYS TO DISSEMINATE STORIES

The purpose of this session is to explore the many diverse ways in which peoples' personal accounts of conflict can be disseminated to wider audiences, including multi-media exhibitions, publications and drama. The manner in which stories are disseminated can have an impact on how they appear in an archive.

Chair: Maureen Hetherington, The Junction
Iratxe Momoitio, Gernika Peace Museum
Ramsay Liem, Boston College
Magdalena Weiglhofer, Ulster University
Johnston Price, Forthspring

4.2 THINKING OF THE NEXT GENERATION: ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE THROUGH THE USE OF PERSONAL NARRATIVES OF THE CONFLICT

One often cited motivation for collecting stories related to conflict is to inform and educate the next generation, in order that they might better understand the impact of violence and ensure its non-repetition. The focus of this session is on the ways in which personal accounts of conflict can be utilised in educational settings, and the challenges and opportunities associated with this approach.

Chair: Adrian Grant, INCORE
Alan McCully, Ulster University
Donal O'Hagan, Nendrum College, Comber
Darren Scott, St. Dominic's Grammar School, Belfast
Mhairi Sutherland, Crows on the Wire
Lesley Emerson, Queen's University Belfast

4.3 PEACE, JUSTICE AND RECONCILIATION: THE ROLE OF ARCHIVES IN REBUILDING SOCIETIES AND PROMOTING SOCIAL CHANGE

The role of both oral testimony and documentary evidence has long been key to the successful implementation of transitional justice mechanisms in societies emerging from conflict. The protection, preservation and management of archives and records related to conflict and human rights violations, as well as the dissemination and accessibility of archives associated with transitional justice mechanisms has often been under-estimated or overlooked. This session will explore the role of historical documents and oral testimonies in contributing to broader peacebuilding priorities.

Chair: Brandon Hamber, INCORE
Elisabeth Baumgartner, swisspeace
Proscovia Svard, Sodertorn University, Sweden
Anna Bryson, Queen's University Belfast
Patricia Lundy, Ulster University

Plenary Presenters and Accounts of the Conflict International Advisors



DOUG BOYD

Director, Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History, University of Kentucky

Doug Boyd Ph.D. directs the Louie B. Nunn Center for Oral History at the University of Kentucky Libraries and is a recognized leader regarding oral history, archives, and digital technologies. He recently managed the Oral History in the Digital Age website, which was funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The project established current best practices for collecting, curating, and disseminating oral histories. Boyd currently leads the team that envisioned, designed, and is implementing the open-source Oral History Metadata Synchronizer (OHMS) system, which synchronizes text with audio and video online. He holds a PhD in folklore and ethnomusicology from Indiana University and previously served as the manager of the Digital Program for the University of Alabama Libraries, Director of the Kentucky Oral History Commission, and Senior Archivist for the oral history and folklife collections at the Kentucky Historical Society. He authors the blog Digital Omnium: Oral History, Archives and Digital Technologies, and is the author of the book *Crawfish Bottom: Recovering a Lost Kentucky Community* published in August 2011 by the University Press of Kentucky.



ELISABETH BAUMGARTNER

Head of swisspeace's Dealing with the Past program

Since 2011 Elisabeth has been the head of swisspeace's Dealing with the Past program. One of the projects of this program is called "Archives and Dealing with the Past". The goal of this project is to make a significant contribution to preserving, securing and making accessible archives and records of past human rights violations in countries that have experienced gross human rights violations and serious violations of international humanitarian law and to raise the awareness on the importance of archives and data collections of human rights violations within a broader understanding of dealing with the past initiatives.



IRATXE MOMOITIO ASTORKIA

Director of the Gernika Peace Museum

Iratxe has been Director of the Gernika Peace Museum (unique peace museum in the Basque Country and Spain) since its creation in the year 1998. She has published several articles about Memory, the bombing of Gernika and the Spanish Civil War, about the importance of Art and Peace and about the Gernika Peace Museum in different books and magazines (from Spain and other countries).

She is involved in several International Networks and has been commissioned to participate on an expert group (2012) to design the content and viability of the “Instituto de la Memoria” (Institute of Memory) in the Basque Country.



LOUISE CORTI

Associate Director at UK Data Archive

Louise is an Associate Director and heads the UK Data Service functional areas of Collections Development and Producer Relations. The Collections Development team work to ensure that the most useful data are acquired and made available via the Service, using robust appraisal criteria. The Producer Relations arm works with data producers to ensure that high quality data are created, ensuring that, for example, ESRC grant applicants and award holders gain good advice on creating shareable data and share their data in a timely manner. Louise leads the new Digital Futures project, which is a culmination of bringing together digitally enhanced high quality older data sources with high profile users. She also coordinates the international working group on metadata standards for qualitative data.



NORMAN DUNCAN

Lead Researcher, Apartheid Archive Project

Norman Duncan holds a professorship in Psychology, and Vice-Principal/ Deputy Vice-Chancellor Academic at the University of Pretoria, and former Dean of Humanities at the University of Pretoria. He obtained his qualifications in Psychology from the University of the Western Cape and the Université Paul Valérie (France). His research and publications are primarily in the fields of racism and community psychology. He has co-edited a range of volumes, including ‘Race’, Racism, Knowledge Production and Psychology in South Africa. He currently serves as one of the lead researchers on the Apartheid Archives Research Project, a cross-disciplinary, cross-national study of the enduring effects of apartheid-era racism on people’s lives currently.



PATRICIA TAPPATÁ VALDEZ

Professor of Transitional Justice at Buenos Aires University

Patricia Tappatá Valdez has worked since 1974 for the defence of human rights in Peru, El Salvador and Argentina. She is currently the head of the Directorate in charge of the relationship with civil society organizations at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Argentina. She is also a member of the faculty of the LLM in International Human Rights at the Faculty of Law at the University of Buenos Aires. Until June 2012 she was Director of Memoria Abierta (Open Memory), an organization she created and led in its development for over ten years. Memoria Abierta is an alliance of five Argentine Human Rights Organizations working together to preserve, organize, and exhibit the documented history of state terrorism in Argentina with the goal of encouraging public policy oriented to recuperate

and examine the memory of the recent past as part of the cultural, social, and political identity of the nation. Patricia Tappatá was the Director of the Truth Commission for El Salvador, created as part of the peace agreements signed in that country between the Government and the Frente Farabundo Martí para la Liberación Nacional (FMLN) and implemented by the United Nations, which investigated the twelve-year war in that country. She also directed the Human Rights Department of the National Conference of Bishops in Peru, 1977-1987, and co- founding the Coordinadora Nacional de Derechos Humanos in Perú, integrating its first Executive Committee (1985-1987).

She directed the Political Representation Program at the Fundación Poder Ciudadano in Argentina, 1993-1997. For three years, she also coordinated a regional program on Social Responsibility and Leadership (LIP Program: Leadership in Philanthropy in the Americas) developed by the Kellogg Foundation in seven Latin American countries. She is one of the founding members of the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience and currently serves on its board. She is also on the Advisory Board at “Archives and Dealing with the Past” project (Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, the Swiss Federal Archives and Swisspeace). Tappatá Valdez is the author of several articles and book contributions about human rights, and is an expert in Human Rights issues, Memory and Democracy. She holds a degree in Social Work at the Universidad Nacional de Córdoba and completed his postgraduate studies in Social Sciences at FLACSO-Buenos Aires (Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales)

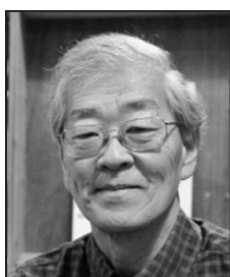


ROBERTA BACIC

Curator of International Exhibitions of Arpilleras

Roberta taught at Universidad Austral de Chile from 1973 to 1981. From 1982 she worked in Carlos Anwandter German Institute and San Mateo College both in Chile. Between 1993 and 1996, she worked for the National Corporation of Reparation and Reconciliation, the successor to the Truth Commission. During this time she also taught in Human Rights at the Catholic University, Temuco, Chile. She then moved to the United Kingdom and took up the position of Programme and Development Officer for War Resisters' International where she worked between 1998 and 2002. She moved to Northern Ireland in 2004.

Since 2008, Roberta has curated more than 50 international exhibitions of arpilleras. Over time, these exhibitions have expanded from arpilleras from Pinochet's Chile, to include expressions of loss, protest and healing from around the world.



RAMSAY LIEM

Professor Emeritus at Boston College

Ramsay Liem is professor emeritus of psychology and visiting scholar at the Center for Human Rights and International Justice at Boston College. He served as co-coordinator for the Asian American Studies Program, continues to teach a seminar on Culture, Identity, and Asian American Experience, and mentors student organizations e.g. the Asian Caucus and Korean Student Association. He is responsible for the oral history project Korean American Memories of the Korean War and served as project director for the multi-media exhibit, Still Present Pasts: Korean Americans and the “Forgotten War” (www.stillpresentpasts.org). The documentary film, “Memory of Forgotten War”, is the most recent product of his work on Korean American legacies of the Korean War. Liem also works on related issues outside the university with organizations devoted to U.S.-Korea relations, Korean reconciliation and unification, Asian American media arts, and human rights and mental health..



VERNE HARRIS

Director of Research and Archive at the Nelson Mandela Foundation

Verne is Director of Research and Archive at the Nelson Mandela Foundation and was Mandela's archivist from 2004 to 2013. He is an honorary research fellow with the University of Cape Town, participated in a range of structures which transformed South Africa's apartheid archival landscape, including the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and is a former Deputy Director of the National Archives. Widely published, he is probably best-known for leading the editorial team on the best-seller *Nelson Mandela: Conversations with Myself*. He is the recipient of archival publication awards from Australia, Canada and South Africa, and both his novels were short-listed for South Africa's M-Net Book Prize. He has served on the Boards of the Ahmed Kathrada Foundation, the Freedom of Expression Institute, and the South African History Archive.



VESNA TERŠELIČ

Director of the Center for Dealing with the Past, Documenta

Vesna Teršelič is Director of Center for Dealing With the Past, Documenta. Documenta – was founded by the Centre for Peace, Non-Violence and Human Rights, Osijek, the Centre for Peace Studies, the Civic Committee for Human Rights and the Croatian Helsinki Committee as an attempt to encourage the process of dealing with the past, establish factual truth about the war and contribute to a shifting of the discussion from the level of dispute over facts (the number of killed people, etc.) towards a dialogue on interpretations. Since its establishment Documenta has contributed to the development of individual and social process of dealing with the past, in order to build a sustainable peace in Croatia and the region by deepening the dialogue and initiating a public debate on public policies that encourage dealing with the past, collecting data, publishing research on war events, war crimes and violations of human rights, and monitoring war crimes trials at the local and regional level as a contribution to the improvement of court standards and practices in the war crimes trials. In order to achieve its goals, Documenta cooperates with its founding organizations, associations of families of the missing people, other civic initiatives, governmental institutions, international institutions and organizations, institutions of state and local government, academic institutions, religious groups, the media and other interested individuals. As a peace activist Vesna founded the Anti-War Campaign of Croatia and in 1998, she was joint recipient of the Right Livelihood Award along with Katarina Kruhonja of the Centre for Peace, Non-violence and Human Rights, Osijek.

TEXTILE ACCOUNTS OF CONFLICTS

An exhibition of textiles and associated memorabilia as part of the International Conference Accounts of the Conflict, hosted by the International Conflict Research Institute (INCORE), Ulster University.

Curated by Roberta Bacic
Assisted by Breege Doherty


In this exhibition Textile Accounts of Conflicts, first hand testimony of the destructive and multi-layered impact of conflict and human rights abuse, in various corners of the globe, is narrated in textile form and is accompanied by associated memorabilia.

Using mostly only the humble needle, thread and scraps of fabric, women worked individually or in groups, often in a clandestine manner at odd hours, in their burning quest to present to the world their lived experiences of conflict. Their finished pieces bring to life stories of disappearances, forced execution, torture, resistance, denouncement, displacement, forced exile and loss of their loved ones. In the midst of that, solidarity, resistance, resilience and return emerge.

This collection of arpilleras (three dimensional textiles from Latin America, which originated in Chile), quilts, wall hangings, memory cloths and story cloths is drawn from Northern Ireland, England, Spain, Chile, Peru, Argentina, Afghanistan, Palestine, Zimbabwe, South Africa, Germany, Brazil, Canada and Colombia.

The memorabilia which form part of this exhibition are at first glance ordinary everyday objects: a headscarf, a symbolic ribbon, a rug, a napkin, a towel and a photograph. Yet the stories they embody; the tangible, tactile memories they store in their folds, of the people who wore them, or used them in time of war, conflict, or human rights violations transform them into extraordinary objects. The keeping, safeguarding and bequeathing of these objects of witness, is a reminder of the stories that refuse to be silenced and forgotten.

The powerful and in-depth way in which arpilleras (and by extension other textiles and associated memorabilia) facilitate the uncovering of conflict and human rights violations is aptly captured by Isabel Allende in the foreword to *Tapestries of Hope, Threads of Love: The Arpillera Movement in Chile*, when she states: "With leftovers of fabric and simple stitches, the women embroidered what could not be told in words..." (2008, Agosin, M., second edition).



Retorno de los exiliados / Return of the exiles
Chilean arpillera, Victoria Diaz Caro, 1992,
Photo Martin Melaugh
Kinderhilfe arpillera collection, Chile/Bonn

Textile Accounts of Conflicts in bringing forth what cannot be told in words allows these women to articulate their own story, engage with and challenge you, the viewer to reflect on their chilling testimonies and perhaps be prompted to take action.

Roberta Bacic & Breege Doherty,
November 2014

www.cain.ulster.ac.uk/quilts

Textile Accounts of Conflicts

List of textiles and other associated memorabilia

Memorabilia are objects kept or collected because of their associations with memorable people or events. In this exhibition, the idea of incorporating them emerged as they have story to tell in themselves; they carry tangible, body contact, tactile memories of the people who wore them or used them in time of war, conflict, or human rights violations and they bear witness to that experience. The keeping, safeguarding and bequeathing of these ordinary, yet extraordinary objects, is in itself a reminder of the stories that refuse to be silenced and forgotten.

Pañoleta / Headscarf

Worn on the weekly Thursday march, by an Abuela de Plaza de Mayo / Grandmother of Plaza de Mayo, to make visible the detention and disappearance on the 12th April 1977 of her son, Carlos Maria Riggerone, his partner Monica Susana Masri and their child, born in captivity in Argentina.

Roberta Bacic collection

Cinta conmemorativa / symbolic ribbon

Carried by an Abuela de Plaza de Mayo, during a Thursday march to denounce the detention and disappearance of Chilean Carmen Delard on the 10th January 1977 in Argentina.

Roberta Bacic collection, Donation from Victoria Cáceres, Chile

Retorno / Return

Colombian arpillera, Mujeres tejiendo sueños y sabores de paz, Mampuján, 2013

Photo Martin Melaugh

“Kalashenkoof”.

Afghan rug made by UNCR refugees from post Soviet civil war, near Peshawar, Pakistan, circa 1995. The AK-74 depicted is the third generation in the family of firearms designed by Soviet weapons engineer Mikhail Kalashnikov and is a common motif used by carpet makers. The rifle and its variants have been used by many Soviet and later Russian troops since 1974.

Colin Peck collection,
Northern Ireland





Ônde estão nossos direitos? / Where are our rights?

Brazilian arpillera, Women of the Movement of People Affected by Dams (MAB), 2013

Photo Martin Melaugh

Courtesy Movimiento de los Afectados por Represas (MAB)

Table napkin

Used as a table cloth by Eva Herzfeld & Vinko Bacic, 1945/1948, during their stay at a refugee camp in Naples and en route on a ship carrying Red Cross refugees from Europe to Argentina and Chile after World War II.

Roberta Bacic collection, Northern Ireland

Towel

Used by Nelson Mandela in his personal office bathroom, c2008-2010.

Courtesy of Verne Harris, Director of Research and Archive at the Nelson Mandela Foundation, South Africa

Photograph

Some of the 132 Jewish children who were rescued from Terezin concentration camp, Czech Republic; around 15,000 perished. In this image they are playing in the park of Castle Olesovice.

War Resisters International photo archive

List of arpilleras, quilts and other textiles

Common loss: 3000+ dead between 1969 and 1994

Northern Ireland four panel wall hanging by Irene MacWilliam, 1996

Irene MacWilliam collection, Northern Ireland

Quilt of Remembrance

Northern Ireland quilt by WAVE trauma centre participants, 2010 - 2013

Courtesy of WAVE trauma centre

No going back

Northern Ireland arpillera by Sonia Copeland, 2009

Courtesy of the artist



The Side of the Wall

Northern Ireland arpillera by Michele Connor, Fab Femmes, Ballymoney, 2013
Causeway Museum Service collection, Northern Ireland

In Times of Trouble

Northern Ireland arpillera by Imelda Purcell, Focus on Families, Ballysally, Coleraine, 2013
Causeway Museum Service collection, Northern Ireland

Ballykelly Bombing

Arpillera by Justene Archer, Focus on Families, Ballysally, Coleraine, 2013
Causeway Museum Service collection, Northern Ireland

Auf der Flucht 1945 / Fleeing in 1945

German arpillera by Mara Loytved-Hardegg, 2010
Roberta Bacic collection, Northern Ireland

Retorno de los exiliados / Return of the exiles

Chilean arpillera, Victoria Diaz Caro, 1992, Photo Martin Melaugh
Kinderhilfe arpillera collection, Chile/Bonn

Retorno / Return

Colombian arpillera, Mujeres tejiendo sueños y sabores de paz, Mampuján, 2013
Roberta Bacic collection, Northern Ireland

NO MAS / No more

Colombian arpillera, Mujeres tejiendo sueños y sabores de paz, Mampuján, 2013
Roberta Bacic collection, Northern Ireland

They burned our homes

Zimbabwean arpillera, 2012
Collective work facilitated by Shari Eppel
Solidarity Peace Trust Zimbabwe,
Killarney Girls collection, Zimbabwe

Memory Cloth

Hand embroidered remembrance inscriptions on cloth by ex-residents of District Six, c1998

Courtesy of Tina Smith, Head of Exhibition
District Six Museum, Cape Town, South Africa

El recuerdo de esta historia / The memory of this story

Spanish arpillera by Ángela Matamoros Vázquez and Ángela Vázquez González
Women Sewing History Workshop, Badalona, Spain, 2009
Fundació Ateneu Sant Roc collection, Spain

Mis memorias de la Guerra / My memories of the war

Spanish arpillera by Rosalía Rodríguez Hernández, Women Sewing History Workshop, Badalona, Spain, 2009
Fundació Ateneu Sant Roc collection, Spain

Exilio de los Republicanos cruzando los Pirineos / Exile of the Republicans crossing the Pyrenees

Catalonian/Spanish arpillera by arpilleristas Fundació Ateneu Sant Roc, 2012
Fundació Ateneu Sant Roc collection, Spain

Ônde estão nossos direitos? / Where are our rights?

Brazilian arpillera, Women of the Movement of People Affected by Dams (MAB), 2013
Courtesy Movimiento de los Afectados por Represas (MAB)

When Silence is Broken

Canadian arpillera, anon, 2009
Courtesy of Lynne Jenkins, Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic, Toronto

¿Dónde están / Where are they?

Chilean arpillera, anon, early 1980s
Theresa Wolfwood collection, Victoria, Canada

Irene, Marta, Hilda, Patricia: Ahora y Siempre Presentes /

Irene, Marta, Hilda, Patricia: Now and Always Present
Argentinean arpillera by students from Escuela de Cerámica, 2013
Roberta Bacic collection, Northern Ireland

Amandla!

South African Story Cloth by Elaine Barnard, 2013-2014
Michigan State University Museum collection.

Libertad a los presos políticos / Freedom for the political prisoners

Chilean arpillera, anon, 1985c

Kinderhilfe arpillera collection, Chile/Bonn

Dia de Visita / Day of Visit

Chilean arpillera, Victoria, Diaz Caro, 1988

Oshima Hakko Museum collection, Japan

Gegossenes Blei / Cast lead

German wall hanging, Heidi Drahota, 2009

Heidi Drahota collection, Germany

The Arch of Jerusalem

Palestinian wall hanging, designed by Siham Abu-Ghazaleh, embroidered by Ribhiyeh Baliut, 2014

Palestinian Culture Centre collection

Rescate de niños judíos / Rescue of Jewish Children

Argentinean arpillera, Ana Zlatkes, 2011

Ana Zlates collection, Argentina

Reflections on violence

English arpillera by Linda Adams, 2009

Courtesy of Linda Adams, England

Violencia en Ayacucho / Violence in Ayacucho

Peruvian arpillera, FCH Mujeres Creativas workshop, 1985

Replica, 2009

Roberta Bacic collection, Donation from Rebecca Dudley, USA/Northern Ireland

La Cueca Sola / Dancing Cueca alone

Chilean arpillera, Gala Torres, 1989

Oshima Hakko Museum collection, Japan

En Chile se tortura / Demonstration against torture

Chilean arpillera by Violeta Morales, 1988

Oshima Hakko Museum collection, Japan

Sala de torturas / Torture Chamber

Chilean arpillera by Violeta Morales, 1996

Marjorie Agosín collection, Chile / USA

Gegossenes Blei / Cast lead

German wall hanging, Heidi Drahota, 2009

Photo Claus Sperr

Heidi Drahota collection, Germany



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