

Museum of Brisbane commemorates Anzac Day with a virtual exhibition and free online talk with artist Greer Townshend

Brisbane; 15 April, 2020

"...Each one of us looked upon him as a tower of strength during the whole of his active service & it is not surprising that his loss is so deeply felt among us." - 15th Australian Field Ambulance upon the death of Private Herbert Mallyon (Forest)

Next **Tuesday 25 April is ANZAC Day**, the day that we as a nation commemorate the service and sacrifice of all Australian servicemen and women—albeit with a twist this year.

To commemorate Anzac Day, Museum of Brisbane have launched a free specially-curated online exhibition, ***Remembering the First World War***, which shares the war experiences of service people who enlisted through primary documents such as photographs, diary entries and letters.

Highlights of the online exhibition are studio portraits of Brisbane and Australian service people; a filmic presentation showing the human impact of war on those who enlisted and those who awaited their return; and fragile paper sculptures *by Brisbane-based artist Greer Townshend*.

Throughout her 2017 Q ANZAC 100 Fellowship at the State Library of Queensland, Greer researched the experience of soldiers and service people during the First World War. Accessing photographs, letters and diaries from the library archive allowed her to develop a deeper insight into the lives of Queensland soldiers, reverends and other wartime workers.

She translates these stories into paper-based miniature worlds illuminated by soft light. Charcoal, origami (paper-folding), kirigami (paper-cutting) and paper cut light boxes present ethereal portraits conveying a sense of fragility and memory, creating a space for intimate reflection.

Visitors are also invited to join MoB and Greer for an artist talk with a twist—it will be delivered online via Zoom. Greer will join independent curator, writer and fellow State Library of Queensland Fellowship participant Tess Maunder for a live, interactive session to discuss Greer's practice, project and developing ideas for her most recent project, *Here I Came to the Very Edge*.

Greer has also developed a paper-based folding activity, ***Sending Love From Afar***, exploring themes of remembrance and symbolism associated with the First World War, which people can download and make at home. We encourage them to display their piece on their front door or mailbox this Anzac Day to memorialise Australian and New Zealand veterans for their service during the First World War.

Remembering the First World War

Artist talk with Greer Townshend – *Here I Came to the Very Edge*

25 April 2020

2pm to 3pm

Held via Zoom. FREE entry.

For more information visit museumofbrisbane.com.au

MUSEUM OF BRISBANE

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Interview, photography and filming opportunities are available with Museum of Brisbane. Director Renai Grace and artist Greer Townshend are available for interviews, filming and photographs.

Museum of Brisbane is temporarily closed due to social distancing practices in response to Covid-19. The museum website is a source of great discovery, where the public can explore online exhibitions, shop pieces by local creative and find fun activities to do at home.

About Museum of Brisbane

Museum of Brisbane brings our city's vibrant art, culture and history to life through our exhibitions, workshops, tours, talks and children's activities.

Located in City Hall, the Museum is part of the living history of the city, examining how Brisbane and its people change over time and how our individual and collective stories reveal our character and create our identity.

Museum of Brisbane is an avid supporter of the city's artists, designers and artisans. We are dedicated to transforming their artistic vision into a stunning reality through our exhibitions and Artist-in-Residence programs. The work of Brisbane's artists, designers and chefs can also be found at MoB Shop which stocks a bespoke range of jewellery, accessories, homewares, design objects, books, artworks and gourmet food.

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