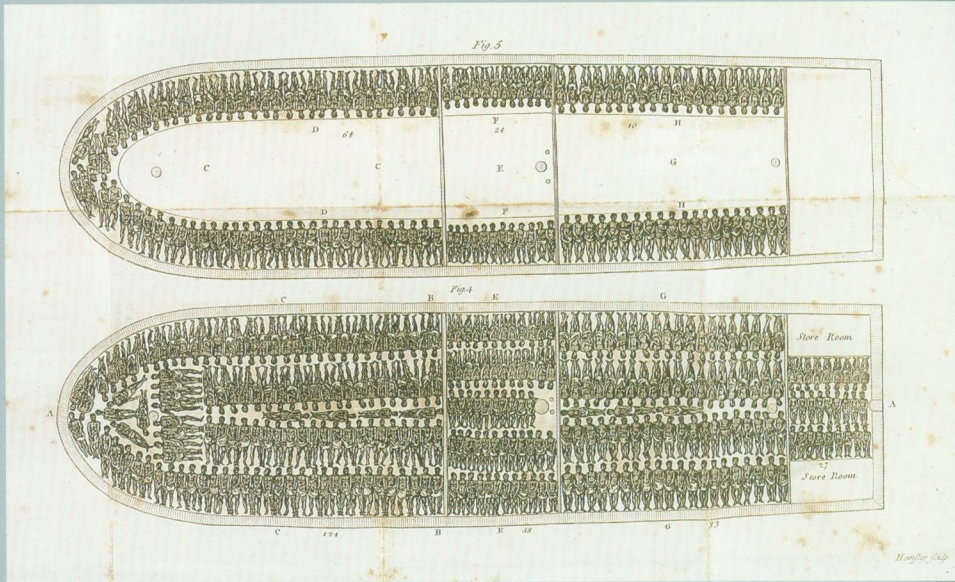


1820-2007  
2007 Bicentenary for  
the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act  
Programme





Plan and sections of a slave ship, James Phillips, 1789. NMM collection.

## Contact and booking details

Unless otherwise stated, all events will be held at the National Maritime Museum, Greenwich, London, SE10 9NF.

To pre-book, contact NMM Bookings on 020 8312 8560 or e-mail [bookings@nmm.ac.uk](mailto:bookings@nmm.ac.uk)

All Birkbeck courses are booked direct with Birkbeck College, University of London.

Further information on the programme can be found at [www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200)

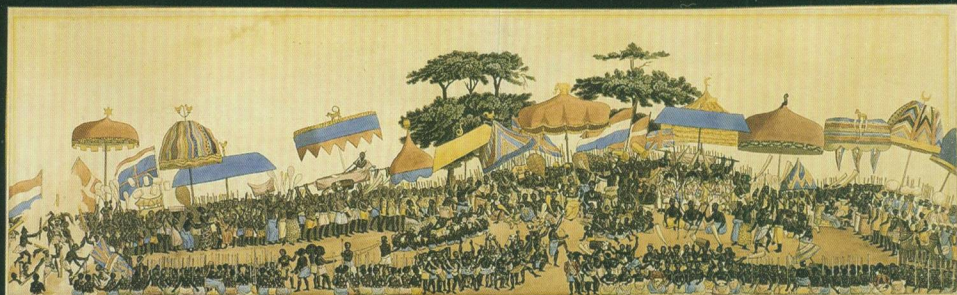
The Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade was passed by Parliament on 25 March 1807. The National Maritime Museum will mark this year with a range of events to remember the millions of people who suffered and died through enslavement, to honour those who resisted it and pay tribute to those who campaigned for abolition.

This programme includes film, poetry, music, a new gallery and publication plus discussion and debate for a range of audiences of all ages.

“ You have seen how a man was made a slave; you shall see how a slave was made a man. ”

Frederick Douglass, 1845

1807



*The first day of the Yam Custom, Robert Havell & Son after Thomas Edward Bowdich, 1818. NMM collection.*

“Bringing the gifts that my  
ancestors gave,  
I am the dream and the hope  
of the slave.

I rise

I rise

I rise.”

Maya Angelou, 1978

# Contemporary commemoration

The 1807 Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade outlawed the trade throughout the British Empire and made it illegal for British ships to be involved in it. This marked the beginning of the end for transatlantic traffic in human beings as a legalized trade. 1807 is one year of many in the long struggle for emancipation throughout the world. A series of special events have been programmed at the National Maritime Museum to commemorate the 2007 bicentenary of the Act.

## Bicentenary weekend

### 'And still I rise'

Friday 23 – Saturday 25 March

Parliament passed the Abolition Act on 25 March 1807 and the Museum will mark this event throughout the weekend with a series of activities, performances and discussion.

Weekend daytime activities are free but there will be a charge for evening events: visit [www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200) for more details.

### The Liquid histories session

Saturday 24 March 18.30 – 23.00

£10 advance booking only

Evoking the spirit of resistance and remembrance, the Museum is transformed for one night by artists, poets and musicians for a commemorative evening of poetry and music accompanied by live digital multimedia presentations.

This evening includes readings by John Agard, Anthony Joseph, Grace Nichols and James Berry. Music sets by Faisal Abdu'Allah and special guest DJs. Visuals by Dub Alchemy (Gary Stewart and Trevor Mathison).

### Deep river

Sunday 25 March 16.30

A performative 'sound clash' of two historical musical traditions, both of which traces cultural resistance and the heritage of diaspora cultures with the New Scorpion Band and New Testament Church of God – Charlton Tabernacle choir.

### In stitches

Sunday 29 April 11.30 – 16.00

The African Families Foundation (TAFF), funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund, has created a quilt by women from English, African and African Caribbean communities. As part of a national tour, the group will visit the Museum to display the quilt and discuss its significance.

### Freedom

Thursday 23 August 18.30 – 23.30

The night of 22 – 23 August 1791, in Santo Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) saw the beginning of the uprising that would play a pivotal role in the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade. August 23 is now the International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition. Now in its 6th year, *Freedom* will showcase the work of artists and local communities exploring the history and legacy of enslavement throughout the year.



# Adults

The National Maritime Museum offers a wide variety of inspiring informal and formal learning experiences, designed to promote knowledge and understanding of the Museum's rich collections. Activities include practical workshops, courses, lectures, seminars and conferences around a broad range of subjects. Programmes for 2007 focus on the history of enslavement and its legacies.

## Courses

### **The 'transatlantic slave trade'**

Thursdays 15 March – 3 May 2007

11.00 – 13.00

9-week course £40/£30

Individual lectures £7.50/£5.50

This course aims to provide a historical narrative, contextualizing Britain's involvement in the enforced traffic of human beings. It will consider West African culture and history, resistance and rebellion by those enslaved, the emergence of the public campaign to abolish the slave trade, abolition culture and the experience of African women. Presented by some of Britain's top academics working on the subject today, including Dr James Walvin, Claude Arduin, Dr John Oldfield, Dr Gad Heuman, Dr Brycchan Carey, Dr Anita Rupprecht and Dr Barbara Bush.



### **\*Manacles, sugar tongs and gin: exploring the roots, routes and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade**

Thursdays 4 October – 13 December

2007 18.30 – 20.30

11-week evening course £110/£50

This course investigates what the National Maritime Museum's collection can teach us about London's role in the transatlantic trade. More widely, it will study what has come to be called 'the Black Atlantic', from Africa to the

Caribbean and the Americas to Europe, specifically Britain. The course tutor is Jane Trowell, Co-Director of Platform London, an arts, social and ecological organization.

### **\*Hidden histories:**

#### **Black British history and memory in the archives and beyond**

6 Saturdays from

October 2007 to March 2008

Full course £120/£65 concession

This innovative, source-led module explores the rich and diverse history and heritage of communities and individuals in Britain from the 18th century to the present. Working in conjunction with some of London's leading archives and museums – including the National Maritime Museum, the National Archives, London's Transport Museum, the London Metropolitan Archives and the Museum in Docklands – this course will cover issues of migration; settlement and diaspora; social history; home and working lives; political identities and protest; arts and culture and issues of gender and sexuality. The course provides an exciting opportunity to handle and interpret documents and artefacts.

\*Courses run in partnership with Birkbeck University.

For more details and to book please contact 020 7631 6652 or [www.bbk.ac.uk](http://www.bbk.ac.uk)

## Conferences

### Exploring and being explored? Africa in the 19th century

Friday 30 – Saturday 31 March

09.30 – 17.00

Registration fee £90

Student concession £45

This conference focuses on the representation of Africa, abolition and geographical exploration. It explores medicine, mapping and exploration in the 19th and early 20th centuries and highlights the common ground between fields that were once thought to be independent of one another. Jointly organized with the Wellcome Trust Centre for the History of Medicine at University College London.

For further conference details e-mail [research@nmm.ac.uk](mailto:research@nmm.ac.uk) or call 020 8312 6716 to book

### Slavery: unfinished business

Wednesday 16 – Thursday 19 May

Location: WISE (Wilberforce Institute for the study of Slavery and Emancipation), Hull

For more details and to book please contact 01482 305182 [www.hull.ac.uk/wise](http://www.hull.ac.uk/wise)

## Study days

### Roots of resistance: Abolition 1807

Friday 23 March 13.30 – 16.00

and Friday 23 November 13.30 – 16.00

Resistance of enslaved people, from the moment of capture to life on the plantations, was an integral part of the abolition movement to end the slave trade. Resistance took many forms, from retaining aspects of cultures and identities, to fighting back and full-scale rebellion. This study session examines both the roots of resistance and the abolition movement through talks by curators and contemporary artists, and object and manuscript handling sessions.

Study session recommended for A-Level students, university undergraduates and course tutors. Free admission but booking required. Book early to avoid disappointment.

## Symposium

### Voiceless odysseys: excavating the unspeakable in enslavement

September 2007

The bicentenary for the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act offers an opportunity to re-examine how the history of enslavement is both represented and remembered. What forms our collective recollection? What is lost amidst what is remembered? What is voiced and what is left unspoken in our collective consciousness of enslavement? How do our cultural translations of the past affect historical legitimacy in the present?

This international symposium draws together artists and scholars to recover the hidden histories of enslavement and the various modes of discourse used in the revision of its legacies. For further details and booking information, please view [www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200)



# Film season

## Film Retrospective

### Euzhan Palcy in conversation with David A. Bailey

Launch of

Euzhan Palcy Film Retrospective

Sunday 25 March 17.30 – 19.30

Free

Euzhan Palcy's phenomenal success with making films that not only entertain but have at their heart, the cultural and political realities that affect us all as human beings, has brought her international acclaim. Like all those who seek to recall and represent their cultural world through stories crafted to bring to life the experiences of people and cultures they know, Palcy brings African and Caribbean realities, dreams and fantasies to the screen with their cultural integrity in tact. A protégée of the poet and architect of the Negritude movement, Martiniquan politician Aimé Césaire, Palcy's films chronicle the black experience from the

days just after slavery (*Sugar Cane Alley/Rue Cases Nègres*, 1983); through struggles for racial injustice in the USA (*Ruby Bridges*, 1997; *The Killing Yard*, 2001); to apartheid (*A Dry White Season*, 1989). It is a life-long Pan-African passion for Palcy to use storytelling to bring the dignity, achievements and history of black peoples to life for successive generations.

Born in Martinique, Palcy studied at the Sorbonne in Paris before meeting and befriending François Truffaut who helped her make her debut feature film *Sugar Cane Alley/Rue Cases Nègres* in 1983. The response to the film was overwhelming; it won 17 international awards, Robert Redford hand-picked Palcy to attend the 1984 Sundance directors' 'lab' and Marlon Brando agreed to star in her second feature, *A Dry White Season*, for no fee. This film is significant in that it made Palcy the first woman of African descent to ever direct a Hollywood movie.

The Euzhan Palcy film retrospective is curated by David A. Bailey and June Givanni.

David A. Bailey has been working as an artist/curator for 20 years and is currently based at Autograph: The Association of Black Photographers. As a curator he has an international reputation and a commitment and investment in a variety of issues on the themes of history, race and representation.

June Givanni is a film curator who has programmed black film internationally for more than two decades. She ran the African Caribbean film unit at the British Film Institute in the 1990s and programmed *Planet Africa* at the Toronto International Film Festival for 4 years. She is a specialist in, and has written about, African and African Diaspora film. She currently works as a freelance film curator.

For further details and booking information, please view [www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/abolition200)





# Understanding Slavery

*Understanding Slavery* is a national education project, which began in April 2003 with funding from the DCMS and DfES as part of the Strategic Commissioning National/Regional Partnerships Programme. The project has been developed by the National Maritime Museum, National Museums Liverpool, the British Empire and Commonwealth Museum, Bristol City's Museums, Galleries and Archives, and Hull Museums and Art Gallery.

*Understanding Slavery* seeks to encourage teachers, educators and students to examine this history and its legacies through the museums' collections and schemes of work within the National Curriculum, particularly History and Citizenship at key stage 3 and 4.



In March 2007, DfES and *Understanding Slavery* will collaboratively launch 'The Big Conversation'. This is a national cross-curricular education project to engage young people in the histories and legacies of the transatlantic slave trade. The resources (printed and online) will be framed by a set of research questions based on units in the Citizenship curriculum.

The project will explore the history of the transatlantic slave trade and its many legacies, while supporting the development of research, analysis and debating skills. A national event will showcase the project and contribute the voice of young people to the commemorations associated with the 2007 bicentenary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act.



department for  
**education and skills**  
creating opportunity, releasing potential, achieving excellence

[www.understandingslavery.com](http://www.understandingslavery.com)

# Families

A free year-round thematic programme of activities is available at the National Maritime Museum for families with children of all ages. Drop-in programmes and events include weekend workshops and performances, family days, holiday activities and early years programmes designed especially for families with very young children. Activities are suitable for all ages, unless otherwise stated.

## March *Sounds of freedom*

The free public programme of events running throughout March will introduce families to the history of the transatlantic slave trade and look at how enslaved peoples used music and dance to inspire each other to fight for their freedom.

Sundays 11, 18 and 25 March

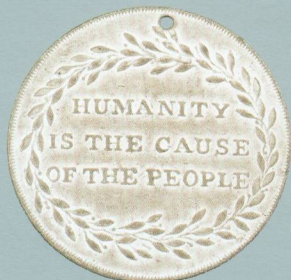
## 'Amazing grace'

Join the choir of New Testament Church of God – Charlton Tabernacle to listen to and learn about the tradition of spiritual and gospel music and its roots as a form of collective resistance for enslaved peoples.



## 'Which nobody can deny'

Join members of the New Scorpion Band to hear and discuss the popular ballads, sea-songs and shanties of the 1800s which are provocative windows to our shared heritage. Recommended for ages 11+

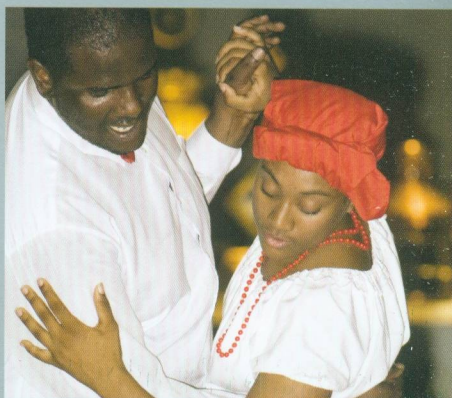


*Election token* William Wilberforce, Britain, 1807. NMM collection.

## Tracing freedom: collections uncovered

Sunday 25 March /  
Wednesdays 4 and 11 April

Trace the history of the abolition of slavery through a rare and revealing session looking at manuscripts from the Museum's collection. Recommended for ages 10+



## Dance of freedom

Sunday 11 and Saturday 24 (Capoeira)  
Sundays 18 and 25 (Caribbean Quadrille)

Work with Carol Muraldo and the London School of Capoeira to discover how movement and dance became a secret language used by enslaved peoples to overcome those who enforced violence and cruelty upon them.

'Sounds of freedom' family day  
Sunday 25 March

## April *Words of freedom*

The free public programme of events running throughout April will explore the power of the written and the spoken word to express freedom and identity. Join in the creative writing activities for families to explore ideas of personal freedoms.

### Word-scape

Sundays in April;  
school holidays 3 – 8 and 10 – 12 April

Explore ideas of freedom and express your response by creating a 3D word to add to a giant word-scape.

### 'A voice has risen'

School holidays 3, 10 and 29 April

Storytelling was a means of keeping national traditions alive for enslaved peoples. Hear stories about finding inner strength and self-identity. Recommended for under-5s

### Inspiring words

School holidays 7–9, 11 and 13 April

Join our poet on a journey of personal expression to create your own reflections on the transatlantic slave trade and ideas of freedom. Recommended for ages 8+

### '...behold the uplifted hands of thousands...' Ignatius Sancho

Visit our 'Trade and Empire' gallery before May and be inspired by the words and verses of freedom fighters. When did you experience a moment of freedom? Write down your moment for everyone to read as part of our collected memories of freedom.

### 'Words of freedom' family day

Sunday 29 April

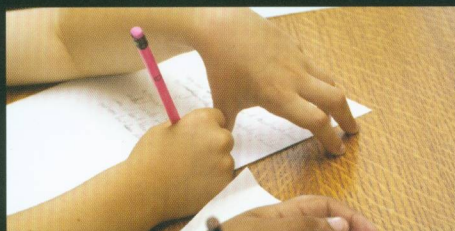
## August *Carnival*

This free public programme throughout August will explore the theme of carnival. Developed as a public declaration of freedom to celebrate the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade, carnival provided a way for former enslaved peoples, who were brought to the Caribbean from various West African countries, to keep their national traditions alive. Carnival took the form of people wearing costumes and masks, dancing, singing, playing music and parading through streets.

Throughout August activities for families will explore the theme of carnival and its symbolic significance. Workshops will include carnival costumes, music and dance. Further information will be available at [www.nmm.ac.uk/families](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/families)

### 'Carnival' family day

Sunday 26 August



## April – November

### Understanding Slavery

Last Sunday afternoon of every month between April – November 2007

Book an object-handling session with your family to discover historical facts about the transatlantic slave trade. This hands-on session explores slavery-related material and objects from the Museum's collection. Recommended for families with children aged 10+

Advance booking only, please contact the NMM for more information or to book into a session; e-mail [bookings@nmm.ac.uk](mailto:bookings@nmm.ac.uk) t: 020 8312 8575 f: 020 8312 6522

# Schools

The collections of the National Maritime Museum support a wide range of subjects for primary and secondary school students and teachers. Free multi-sensory interactive sessions, delivered by experienced museum teachers, provide rich learning opportunities across the curriculum. The following programmes have been developed through the work of the *Understanding Slavery* partnership project.

In addition to these taught sessions, a series of projects will be running in collaboration with formal learning providers throughout 2007; please visit our website for more details [www.nmm.ac.uk/learning](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/learning)

## Taught sessions

### **Understanding Slavery**

Tuesdays 10.00, 11.30 and 13.15

Facilitated sessions exploring the history and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade through examination of museum objects. The following themes are covered: economic motives for slavery, the triangular trade, the middle passage, slavery on the plantations, abolition.

Three approaches are available according to the curriculum needs and ability of your group:

1. History: 'Understanding Slavery; working with sources', a hands-on session in which students take on the role of curators.
2. History: 'Understanding Slavery; an introduction', a differentiated handling session for students of lower ability or those new to the topic.
3. Citizenship: 'Understanding Slavery; a shared history?' Students investigate the human rights issues raised by the transatlantic slave trade, its legacy and how it continues to affect identity and society today.

## Video-conferencing

### **Key Stage 3 History: Understanding Slavery**

Explore the history and legacy of the transatlantic slave trade through our unique collection of slavery artefacts and images using video-conferencing facilities.

To book: [www.nmm.ac.uk/videoconferencing](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/videoconferencing)



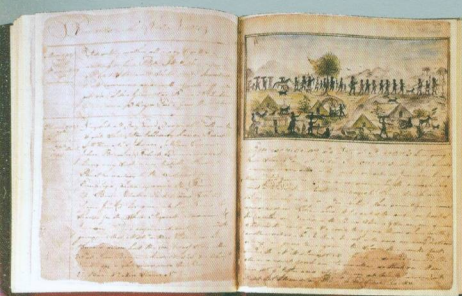
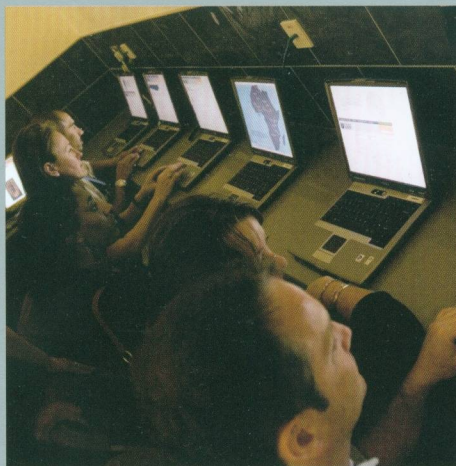
## Printed resources

### Key Stage 3 History and citizenship: Freedom

A comprehensive guide to teaching the transatlantic slave trade, with detailed notes on the triangular trade, oppression, resistance, abolition in Britain and the impact of the trade. The resource includes 29 full-colour object cards and extensive classroom activity sheets.

Free when you book a visit or a video-conferencing session, or £14.99 from the Museum shop or on-line:

[www.nmm.ac.uk/educationpacks](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/educationpacks)



*Log of the slaver-ship Sandown, Captain Samuel Gamble, 1793. NMM collection.*

## Teacher training

### Teaching the transatlantic slave trade

Friday 29 June 2007, 10.00 – 16.00: KS3  
£35 per person including lunch.

Develop confidence and expertise in teaching sensitive subjects in the classroom. The day includes historical context, practical hints and tips, access to real objects and manuscripts, a replica object-handling session and free resource pack.

Details of half-day inset sessions for KS1 and KS2 teachers available on request.

Please contact NMM bookings for more details.

## Online & e-learning

Find out more about the history of the transatlantic slave trade through dedicated on-line resources at the following addresses.

### Understanding Slavery

A new microsite for young people and additional lesson plans and resources for teachers on citizenship and the contemporary legacy of the transatlantic slave trade will be available from June 2007.

Key Stage 3. History and Citizenship website for teachers offering ideas and resources on the why and how of teaching the history of the transatlantic slave trade through collections.

[www.understandingslavery.com](http://www.understandingslavery.com)

### Freedom

Key Stage 3. History and Citizenship resource. Learn about the transatlantic slave trade by exploring objects.

[www.nmm.ac.uk/freedom](http://www.nmm.ac.uk/freedom)

### PortCities UK

Discover more about the local history of the port of London and its connections to the slave trade.

[www.portcities.org.uk](http://www.portcities.org.uk)

# New gallery

A new permanent gallery opening at the National Maritime Museum in winter 2007 will explore Britain's Atlantic empire from the 17th-century to the post-abolition period. The Atlantic Ocean's currents, winds, coasts and climates helped shape that empire as much as economic, strategic, social and cultural forces. Changing ideas about religion, race, empire and freedom circulated around the Atlantic world alongside trade goods, settlers and enslaved peoples. Although the gallery will not focus solely on enslavement, abolition and resistance, these will be key parts of the narrative and will be interpreted through the Museum's extensive collection. These objects are important evidence of a history which has had a lasting effect on the cultures and societies around the Atlantic.

Gallery admission free



Map of Africa, Herman Moll, ca. 1715. NMM collection.

# Publication

## Representing Slavery

Art, artefacts and archives  
in the collections of the  
National Maritime Museum

Commemorating the 200th anniversary of the 1807 Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade in Britain, the NMM is collaborating with Lund Humphries publishing a critical catalogue of slavery-related material. *Representing Slavery* is a catalogue of images, artefacts and documents from the collections of the NMM, along with ten essays that explore a variety of perspectives around the history of objects of enslavement, the slave trade and its abolition.

### Price:

£55 hardback. ISBN: 978-0-85331-966-5

£25 paperback. ISBN: 978-0-85331-967-2

### Publication date:

early September 2007

### Pre order details:

Museum Shop, National Maritime Museum,  
Greenwich, London SE10 9NF

+44 (0)20 8312 6700

shopweb@nmm.ac.uk

www.nmm.ac.uk/shop

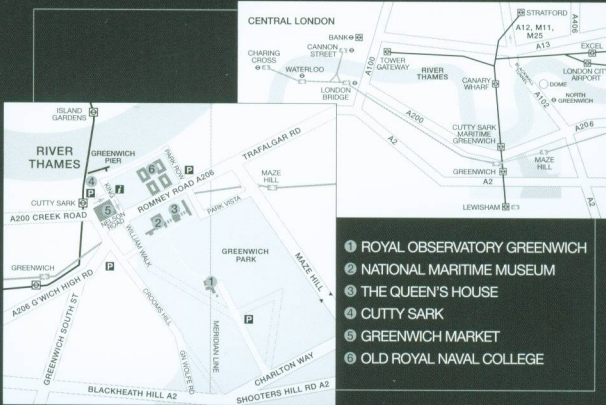


*Seascape*, John Everett, date unknown. NMM collection.

“Where are your monuments,  
your battles, martyrs?  
Where is your tribal memory? Sirs,  
in that gray vault. The sea. The sea  
has locked them up.

The sea is History. ”

Derek Walcott, 1979



National Maritime Museum  
Greenwich, London SE10 9NF  
0870 780 4559  
[www.nmm.ac.uk](http://www.nmm.ac.uk)

### Opening times

Daily 10.00 – 17.00  
(18.00 1 July – 2 September)  
Admission to the Museum is free

### Café

A selection of sandwiches, hot meals, pastries and drinks

### Public transport

- DLR From Bank to Cutty Sark – 20 mins (Zone 2)
- Rail From Charing Cross and Waterloo East to Greenwich – 20 mins
- Bus 177, 180, 188, 199, 286, 386
- River From Savoy Pier to Cutty Sark – 30 mins, Canary Wharf to Cutty Sark 10 mins

© National Maritime Museum  
All information is correct at the time of printing and may be subject to change.  
Cover artwork by Faisal Abdu'Allah, NMM commission 2007

Community Engagement programme supported by the Maritime and Coastguard Agency



Maritime and Coastguard Agency

An executive agency of the  
Department for  
**Transport**

