



The Jewish Historical Society Manchester Branch, partnering with the Centre for Jewish Studies, the University of Manchester, presents:

**Wednesday 27th February at 7:30pm**

Room A113 of the Samuel Alexander building, University of Manchester.

Dr Toby Haggith, Senior Curator at the Imperial War Museum.

The topic: **The hunt for the identity of the voice of the 'harangue' in *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey* (1945-2014)**

When the Allied armies liberated the German concentration camps, they often organised summary acts of justice, retribution and re-education to confront the German people with the crimes of the Nazi regime and to make them aware of their shared responsibility for these crimes. A particularly powerful example took place at Bergen-Belsen on 24 April 1945, when six 'Burgermeisters' (mayors and local government officials) from the area were forced to visit the camp. During the visit they attended a mass burial while a British officer read a 1,000 word speech –known as the 'German harangue' - condemning the SS and the whole German people for the crimes committed at the camp. This scene was filmed and forms one of the most powerful moments in the recently completed and restored British documentary, *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey* (1945/2014). Dr Toby Haggith, Restoration Director of the film at IWM, will show the scene and describe the work to identify the author and the voice of the harangue.

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Dr Toby Haggith is a historian who joined IWM's Film Department in 1988. In 2000 he became Head of non-commercial access to the film and video collection and responsible for devising the daily Public Film Show programme. He is now a Senior Curator in the Department of Second World War and Mid-Twentieth Century Conflict and and champion for IWM's Short Film Festival, which he set it up in 2001. He has a PhD in Social History from the University of Warwick and has published various essays on film and history. He is the co- editor, with Joanna Newman, of *Holocaust and the Moving Image: Representations in Film and Television Since 1933* (Wallflower Press, 2005). In 2007 he was a visiting Research Fellow at the Humanities Research Centre, College of Arts and Social Sciences, Australian National University, Canberra and between 2010 and 2012, with David Walsh he led the project to restore the film *The Battle of the Ancre and Advance of the Tanks* (1917). In 2008, he began a project to restore the Allied concentration camp documentary, *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey*, premiered at the Berlin Berlinale in 2014. In 2015 Toby and his team at IWM were awarded a special award by FOCAL for their work on this film. More recently he has overseen the publication of a Blu-ray/DVD of *German Concentration Camps Factual Survey*, which won the Best Special Feature category at the 2018 Il Cinema Ritrovato DVD Awards, and a Blu-ray/DVD of *The*

Battle of the Ancre and Advance of the. From June 2016-July 2017, as part of the IWM's Centenary programme for the Great War, Toby introduced 27 public screenings of Battle of the Somme (2017).

Entry free for JHS members and students (£3 entry fee for non-members)

Any questions please email: [jhsmanchester@gmail.com](mailto:jhsmanchester@gmail.com)