

National Museum of Singapore collaborates with Australian National Maritime Museum to produce a film commemorating the 75th Anniversary of Operation Jaywick

The film reenacting Operation Jaywick will be featured in the National Museum's Singapore History Gallery in 2019 as part of the World War Two narrative



Film stills from 'Dark Victory - Operation Jaywick: Singapore 1943'. Courtesy of the National Museum of Singapore and the Australian National Maritime Museum.

Singapore, 8 October 2018 – The National Museum of Singapore has collaborated with the Australian National Maritime Museum to produce the short film *Dark Victory - Operation Jaywick: Singapore 1943*, in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of wartime commando raid Operation Jaywick.

Dark Victory provides a chronological overview of Operation Jaywick and its aftermath, reenacted through archival footage, news reports and computer-generated imagery. Conducted on 26 September 1943 during the Japanese Occupation of Singapore in World War Two, the raid resulted in Japanese shipping vessels being destroyed in Singapore waters by a crew of Australian operatives.

Remembering the fortitude of wartime heroine Elizabeth Choy in the operation's aftermath

A version of *Dark Victory* will be featured in the National Museum's Singapore History Gallery, expanding on the gallery's exhibition section about the story of Singaporean wartime heroine

Elizabeth Choy, who had been arrested and interrogated for almost 200 days in the aftermath of Operation Jaywick.

In what came to be known as the Double Tenth Incident on 10 October 1943, the operation's aftermath saw the Kempeitai (Japanese military police) interrogating and torturing civilian residents in Singapore and internees from Changi Prison for their suspected involvement in sabotaging the Japanese vessels. Choy had been directly implicated along with her husband as they were found to have been smuggling radio parts and supplies to the prison internees. Choy was held captive for almost 200 days at the Kempeitai headquarters, though she did not confess to any allegations despite being tortured.

Director of the National Museum of Singapore, Angelita Teo, said, "We recognise the significance of such events in Singapore's history, as well as the fortitude of various individuals and groups during the war, as they have contributed to shaping Singapore as we know it today. We are pleased to partner with the Australian National Maritime Museum to commemorate the historic event and contribute to telling the narrative of our shared history. We hope to continue collaborating with our international counterparts to present engaging recollections of history and culture that inspire and prompt reflection among our visitors."

Cross-country collaborations between Singapore and Australia

The National Museum's first collaboration with the Australian National Maritime Museum is part of efforts to further cultivate diplomatic ties with our Australian counterparts, reflecting the National Museum's commitment to engage with the wider ecosystem of international and local stakeholders and contribute to a progressive and vibrant cultural scene.

The collaboration also strengthens Singapore's collaborative track with Australia, following the signing of the broad Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on arts and culture cooperation between Singapore and Australia in 2015. The MOU paves the way for more cultural cooperation between both countries, including greater exchanges between our artists, establishment of new partnerships between our cultural institutions, and as well as the loan of artefacts and co-curation of exhibitions among heritage institutions and museums.

Dark Victory - Operation Jaywick: Singapore 1943 is now screening at the Australian National Maritime Museum as part of the museum's ongoing *War and Peace in the Pacific 75* programme. A version of the film will be featured in the Singapore History Gallery in the National Museum of Singapore in 2019, as part of the National Museum's plan to enhance the World War Two section of the gallery with fresh content and displays.

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With a history dating back to 1887, the National Museum of Singapore is the nation's oldest museum with a progressive mind. Its galleries adopt cutting-edge and multi-perspective ways of presenting history and culture to redefine conventional museum experience. A cultural and architectural landmark in Singapore, the Museum hosts innovative festivals and events all year round—the dynamic Night Festival, visually arresting art installations, as well as amazing performances and film screenings—in addition to presenting thought-provoking exhibitions involving critically important collections of artefacts. The programming is supported by a wide range of facilities and services including F&B, retail and a Resource Centre. The National Museum of Singapore re-opened in December 2006 after a three-year redevelopment. It refreshed its permanent galleries and re-opened them in September 2015 for Singapore's Golden Jubilee. In 2017, it celebrated its 130th anniversary. For more details, please visit www.nationalmuseum.sg.