

Waves of Protest: from Tunisia to Toxteth and Tottenham

Saturday 22 October, 12.00-17.00

BP Lecture Theatre, British Museum

£3, no concessions

A day of documentaries and discussion

The 'Jasmine' revolution started in Tunisia and spread across the region as the Arab Spring while the Toxteth race riots, Liverpool 1981, followed earlier demonstrations in Brixton. At the core of all of these was the need for equal opportunities. The day considers what characterises a protest wave and what happens afterwards.

Introduction

Dionne C. Walker, event curator

Documentary: They Haven't done Nothin

Toxteth 1981 was the scene of some of the worst riots in Britain. A Task Force spearheaded by Michael Heseltine was set up as the Government's response. This documentary looks at the history of the community and covers the relationships between black Liverpoolians and local and central governments. 50 minutes

Talk: Visualising the struggle: graphic design for protest

Zoe Whitley, Curator of Contemporary programmes, V&A

Documentary: The Film is Meant to be about Stokely Carmichael

Having spent years surrounding herself with white middle class culture, filmmaker Isis Thompson asks herself why making a film about her cousin, 60's Black radical Stokely Carmichael, is such a battle? Is it because, as some say, she isn't very good at being Black? If so how can she improve? And what is being Black anyway? A humorous journey which takes us from leafy North London to the wilds of County Cork in a bid to understand the nature of sex and race in 21st century Britain.

Dir: Isis Thompson, 20 minutes

Documentary: No More Fear

No More Fear depicts the uprising sparked by the self-immolation of vegetable vendor Mohammed Bouazizi, which ended the 24-year dictatorship of President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali and prompted the Arab spring revolutions. The documentary interweaves the perspectives of three characters: a feisty femme blogger, a female lawyer and human rights advocate and a male journalist.

Dir: Mourad Ben Cheikh, 74 minutes

Documentary: Bloody Wednesday

Wednesday 2nd February was a pivotal day of the Egyptian Revolution. The regime's militias attacked Tahrir Square with horses, camels and Molotov cocktails. For 24 hours men and women of the revolution defended themselves armed only with rocks.

Dir: Omar Robert Hamilton, 10 minutes

Performance

Music by Tunisian born singer songwriter Amina Annabi

Panel Discussion

Bellavaria Riberio Addy, NUS student representative; Amina Annabi, Tunisian singer songwriter; Osama Diab, Egyptian journalist and blogger; Matthew Ryder, human rights barrister and judge

Chair: Simon Woolley, Operation Black Vote

Followed by refreshments