

# Creative Methods in Military Studies

Military War and Security Research Group | Armstrong Building  
G.08 | Newcastle University | 5<sup>th</sup> June 2019

## *Chairs*

Alice Cree    Rachel Woodward

## 0845 | Coffee & Introduction

### 0900 | Panel 1: Paper Presentations (Chair: Rachel Woodward)

**Sarah Bulmer (University of Exeter), Victoria Basham (Cardiff University), David Jackson (University of Exeter) | War as a minefield, war as a continuum: Temporalities of experience and unboundedness of war**

**Catherine Baker (University of Hull) | Female military masculinities: Creative methodologies and the aesthetics of 'cross-gender'**

**Alice Cree (Newcastle University), JoJo Kirtley (Workie Ticket Theatre Company), Lindsay Nicholson (Workie Ticket Theatre Company) | 'Women Warriors' in conversation: Ethics, creativity, critique.**

**Natasha Danilova (University of Aberdeen) | Researching Army@Fringe through affective engagements: A case-study of *Invalid Voices***

## 1050 | Morning Break

### 11.20 | Panel 2: Show & Tell (Chair: Alice Cree)

**Hannah West (University of Bath) | Pretty Young Soldiers**

**Erika Hughes (University of Portsmouth), Steve Radley (RAF veteran and photographer), Peter Lee (University of Portsmouth) | Embodied Histories: *The Veterans Project* and Narratives of Service**

**James Robinson (Manchester Metropolitan University) | Modelling military landscapes: Archival encounters, model-making and camouflage practice**

**Melanie Friend (University of Sussex) | The Plain: A Militarised English Landscape**

## 1250 | Lunch

## **1325 | Roundtables (Chair: Alice Cree)**

### **What constitutes 'creative research' in military studies?**

**Amy Corcoran (Queen Mary University of London)** *Bearing witness through sound: The military vs marine life* | **Nick Caddick (Anglia Ruskin University)** *The war in culture: Exploring war stories in cultural products* | **Peter Lee (University of Portsmouth)** *Stories from the drone front line* | **Kate Butcher (Norwegian University of Science and Technology)** *Translation as resistance*

### **| Mindmapping |**

### **What can creative methods offer our understanding of military power and militarized cultures?**

**Gail Ritchie (Queen's University Belfast)** *Unsettling ghosts* | **Laura Mills (University of St Andrews)** *Creative encounters: Seeing, hearing, thinking military/militarized sites differently* | **Rosa Stourac McCreery (Dynamix Extreme CIC)** *Forum theatre with 'Women Warriors'* | **Lindsay Clark (University of Southampton)** *Drone dance - a medium for rethinking military embodiment*

### **| Mindmapping |**

### **What are some of the challenges of this type of work?**

**Katherine Baxter (Northumbria University), Christine Borland (Northumbria University), Cat Auburn (Northumbria University)** *Creativity and the Intangible in Military Studies* | **Audrey Reeves (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University), Victoria Basham (Cardiff University)** *Researching affect and militarism at memorial sites: Methodological explorations* | **Isla Forsyth (University of Nottingham)** *'I would like to get home': Examining the ethics of biography and storytelling in the military archive*

### **| Mindmapping |**

## **1630 | Afternoon Break**

## **1645 | Wrapping up & future directions**

Finish time approx. 1730, followed by drinks at The Crows Nest, 137 Percy St, with optional dinner plans for anyone who fancies it.

# Creative Methods in Military Studies: About

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## What are we hoping to do today?

This event is all about exploring what creativity and creative methods can bring to our work in military studies. To that end, there are a few questions to keep in mind as the day progresses:

- 1) What constitutes 'creative research' in military studies?
- 2) What can creative methods offer our understanding of military power and militarized cultures?
- 3) What are some of the challenges of this type of work?

This afternoon we will be exploring these questions in more depth, using what we learn from the roundtable presentations.

## What does the afternoon 'mindmapping' involve?

Each 'roundtable' will be allocated a question for us to think about. Each roundtable will work like this:

- Roundtable presenters will have 7 minutes to talk through their work and how it relates to the set question.
- After all 4 presentations, there will be 10 minutes for questions from the floor.
- Those of us in the audience will then have 10 minutes to 'mindmap' around the roundtable's set question (e.g. 'What constitutes creative research in military studies?'), thinking about what we have learnt from the presentations and what the broad overarching themes might be. These mindmaps will help us draw everything together in the final part of the day.
- The aim of these mindmapping sessions is to learn from each other and collectively enhance our practice and research in this area.

## What are the possible publication plans from today?

We would love to hear your ideas about future directions and publications emerging from this workshop! Current ideas include an edited book or special issue (possibly in *Critical Military Studies* journal). Please give an indication of whether you'd like to be involved and in what capacity – it would be great to have a diverse set of papers/chapters from practitioners, artists, veterans etc as well as researchers.

**A note on citation practice:** This workshop is in part a space to explore emerging ideas in a collaborative and supportive environment. With this in mind, let's please be mindful of the developing nature of some of the work being discussed today, and be diligent with our citation practice. If someone's work or ideas are instrumental in developing your thinking down the line, please cite/acknowledge them.