

Churchill – de Gaulle

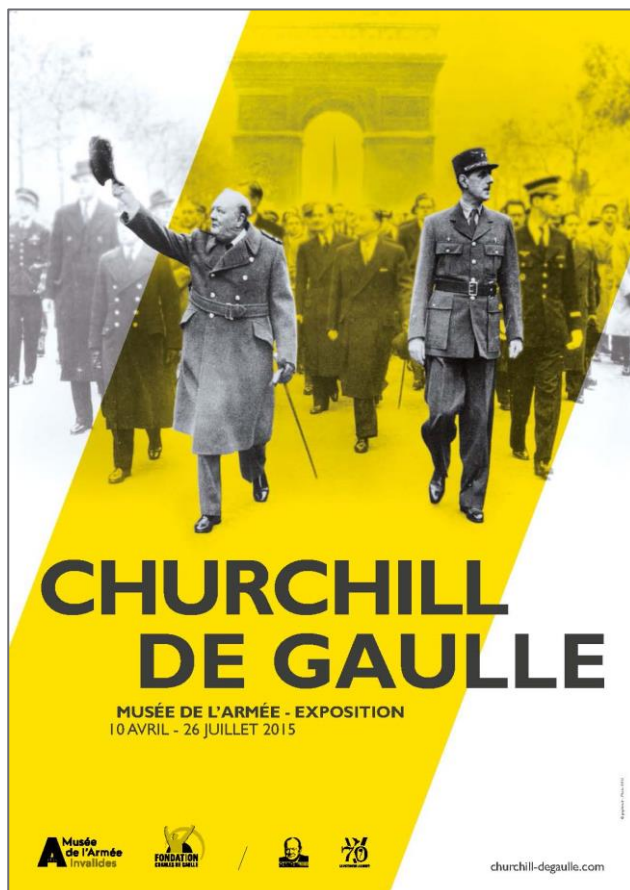
From 10 April to 26 July 2015

The Musée de l'Armée and the Fondation Charles de Gaulle present, at the Musée de l'Armée, in the Hôtel des Invalides in Paris, *Churchill – de Gaulle*. This exhibition takes part of the 70th anniversary celebration of the Libération and the victory over Nazism and the 50th anniversary of the death of Sir Winston Churchill.

In this year of double commemoration, the exceptional destinies of these statesmen will be associated through an exhibition thought at the time as an homage to two major figures of the Second World War, and as a way to discover the public and private aspects of these extraordinary personalities.

Servicemen and politicians, they also were writers, orators and even, in Churchill's case, a journalist and a painter. The intersecting paths of these major figures – both allies and enemy brothers – will be explored through objects, paintings, uniforms and archives, some of which hitherto unpublished, for the first time collected and displayed. A set of multimedia devices designed for the exhibition will reconstitute the military and historic context.

“De Gaulle, a great man? He is arrogant, an egoist, he thinks he’s the centre of the universe... he is ... yes, you are right, he’s a great man!” - Winston Churchill



A chronological path

The voices of the two men and the signing of the Munich agreements welcome the visitor. Then starts a chronological path beginning with their birth, childhood, youth and career choices; their common experience of the Great War, the inter-war political and strategic positions and finally, the meeting between the two men on 9 June 1940. The various episodes in the war recall their relations, sometimes cordial sometimes stormy, and that both of them recount in their memoirs. The exhibition continues on to the Cold War and the construction of Europe and ends with the tribute De Gaulle paid to Churchill, who is made a Companion of the Liberation.

One of the most important events in the 50th anniversary

To organise this event, the Musée de l'Armée and the Fondation Charles de Gaulle had the backing of a large number of partners, including the Churchill Archives Centre in Cambridge and the Musée de l'Ordre de la Libération. Seven years after the inauguration of the Historial Charles de Gaulle which, in the meantime, has been visited by almost 900,000 people, the *Churchill-de Gaulle* exhibition will suggest an original itinerary, closely linked to the various areas in the Musée de l'Armée.

« I want Sir Winston to know this : today’s ceremony means that France remembers what she owes him” - Charles de Gaulle

An adapted path for young audiences

Like for any other Musée de l'Armée exhibition, interactive and special panels punctuate the exhibition so that children, from 9 years' old, can explore the major themes relating to Churchill and de Gaulle. In this way, they will have the reading keys to discover and decipher the objects, posters or archives displayed. Furthermore, they will be offered a game book and guided tours.



Winston Churchill in 1881, aged 7

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Charles de Gaulle, aged 7

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De Gaulle archives, Paris, France / Bridgeman Images

A few figures about the exhibition

236 objects, 2 tanks, 1 reproduction of the BBC studio
75 items never before displayed in France
25 institutions and lenders, of which 10 are British
1 catalogue, 35 authors, 11 of which are Anglo-Saxon

Patronage

The exhibition, produced jointly by the Musée de l'Armée and the Fondation Charles de Gaulle, is under the patronage of Mr François Hollande, President of the French Republic, and Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II.

Curators

Vincent Giraudier, head of the Historial Charles de Gaulle at the Musée de l'Armée
Carine Lachèvre, assistant manager of the Historial Charles de Gaulle department.

Partners

Churchill Archives Centre - Musée de l'ordre de la Libération - INA – ECPAD
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Publication

Catalogue published jointly with the Éditions de la Martinière. Publishing date : 26 March 2015.

Practical information

Musée de l'Armée, Hôtel des Invalides, 129 rue de Grenelle,

Open every day (except 1 May) from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., late night opening on Tuesday up to 9 p.m.

€8.50 for the exhibition or €12 for the ticket and the museum and free of charge for those under 18 years of age.

Guided tours, events for young people, a series of films, concerts, lectures...

Programme will be available on **churchill-degaulle.com**

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