SATURDAY September 4 2021

## orning...

### alist war by bringing an end to n through world socialist revolution.

rt from the Costs of War Project at Brown y has exposed the death toll of imperialist ss the globe. It has exposed the total death uction, the financial cost of war, along with ing the immense profits enjoyed by the manufacturers. According to the report the war on terror' since 2001 has taken almost in lives across the globe and has cost Amerilion over the past two decades.

tz, the co-director of the project, said: 'The been long and complex and horrific and ful ... and the war continues in over 80.' The report estimates that 897,000 to eople have lost their lives as a direct result nether by bombs, bullets or fire.

ust the immediate death toll of imperialist aq. US and UK forces used weapons made of uranium. The radiation poisoned the entire of into the food chain and the water supply. It, the next generation in Iraq was born with rth defects, the like of which had never been ildren born with their organs on the outside odies, born with no eyes and no mouths.

War Project estimates that the 20-year war istan alone cost US taxpayers \$2.3 trillion, sulting in the deaths of 2,324 US military 4,007 US contractors and 46,319 Afghan

ress gave \$2.02 trillion to the top five Amerions companies – Raytheon, Lockheed Marral Dynamics, Boeing and Northrop Grumween 2001 and 2021. And between 2002 and eral funding for those five weapons comparby 188 per cent.

US is the world's biggest arms exporter, the ns the second biggest arms exporter. British urers exported £11bn worth of arms during he second highest figure on record. UK so exceeded those of Russia and France for h year in a row, according to official figures by the Department for International Trade

ro-Palestinian activists have been occupying in headquarters of the Israeli arms manulibit Systems and its factories around the

ion said Elbit's drones had been used by ces to bombard and spy on Palestinian civil-re they entered the global market, where sold as 'battle-tested' and 'field-proven' to nts around the world.

Palestine Action, it has disrupted Elbit's for 105 days out of 365, across the compa-K sites, including Kent, the Greater Manea, Runcorn and Leicester. Such action must up by strike action by the trade unions and out of all Israeli goods and services. British t forces were beaten in Afghanistan now to be beaten at home!

ng with US and German forces have been and driven out in a struggle led by the Tal-country has finally been liberated from for-

has suffered a catastrophic defeat in in, but as the leader of the Russian revolun, said: 'There is no such thing as an hopeless situation for imperialism.' They by capitalism's desperate need to seek out ets, to acquire raw materials for production, ner countries' oil, precious metals and other

ritnessing the most powerful armies of ng beaten by the Taliban has spurred the ass in capitalist nations to rise up against s. In France, Greece, Germany, the US and orkers are rising up, taking to the streets sing strike after strike. s driven to new wars. It is driven to war issia, war against China and war against rialism is also driven to class wars against ig class in the UK and the USA who will the bill for the massive crisis of capitalism.

r in Afghanistan means the UK rulers are p the war against workers at home, cutting sensions and benefits. And for the workers it means mass unemployment, homeless-

ig class, the enemy is at home and it is the 5 ruling classes. The time has come for the in of the UK and US socialist revolutions, to italism and lay the basis for completing the list revolution – to put an end to imperial-putting an end to imperialism itself!



nstallation view featuring three paintings in the Orphic Cubist style by Norwegian artist Thorvald Hellesen, with a row of Theodor Kitt

# Thristen Sveaas Art Foun

### WILLIAM WESTWELL

FANCY a j around the You'll have to watch solve too. tasies and puzzles to landscapes course, but there are imagination? journey Norwefan-

tion, housed in the magical Kistefos Museum on the grounds of his grandfather Anders Sveaas' old wood pulp mill at Jevnaker, Nor-This is an artist's selection (by Ida Ekblad) made from the Christen Sveaas collection, housed in the magical Kistefos Museum on the

> Christen Sveaas
> Art Foundation:
> This is the Night Mail
> Selected by Ida Ekblad Whitechapel Gallery 77-82 Whitechapel High St London E1 7QX Until 2 January 2022 Admission free

Images courtesy of Christen Sveaas Art Foundation

And gossip, gossip from all the nations,

way, which is famously home to a huge sculpture park.

The tag This is the Night Mail' is quickly lost among the variety of the 50-odd items here, but if you know Auden's poem of that name for the 1936 Post Office information film, perhaps the lines:

The cold and official and the heart's outpouring,

Clever, stupid, short

and definitely:

The chatty, the catty, boring, the adoring,

The pink, the violet, white and the blue,

And timid lovers' declara-tions, This is the N Thousands are still asleep.

Dreaming of terrifyin

monsters terrifying

mill give a clue as to the spirit of the show.

There is a presence throughout of the outstanding illustrator Theodore Kittelsen (1857-1914), whose imagination conjured up fairytales and eerie anthronomounts. up fairytales and ea anthropomorphic anii dramas which define folklore of Norway and ar part of the culture. anın



**Theodore Kittelson** 'Do Animals Have Souls?', illustration 1893



Edvard Munch 'Gutt Fra Warnemunde' (Boy from Warnemunde) (1907) Oil on canvas



illustrations underneath

Item number one in the show is Kittelsen's Skogtrold (Forest Troll) of 1905, with its blazing eyes flashing against the dense pines and mountains.

Kittelsen's prints for Do Animals Have Souls? (1893) are here in large numbers surrounding or underscoring much larger works by others, but whilst his reputation rarely crosses the border, it ought to. Be prepared to get on hands and knees to look closer and be agreeably disturbed.

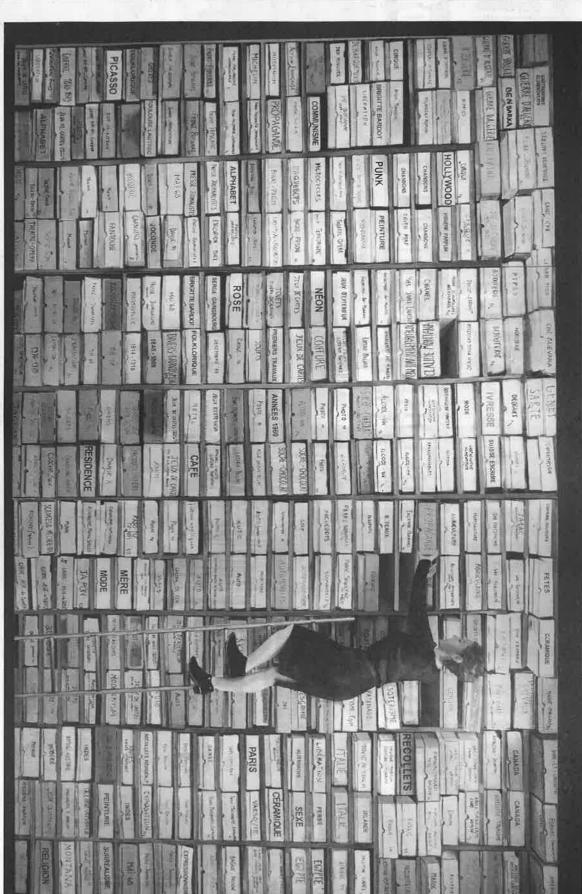
Another Norwegian who clearly should have a wider circulation is **Thorvald Helleson** (1888-1937), three of whose abstract paintings in the Orphic Cubist manner are shown together here, with a row of Kittelson prints underneath.

Harald Sohlberg's 1911
Winter Night is a nocturne of blue mountains seeming to shine beneath a single star, a glowing scene chosen by the gallery to invite viewers in.

The Sveaas Collection was started to promote Norwegian art (there are three oils by Edvard Munch here) but is now by no means confined to it.

Amongst the well-known international names on show here are items by Louise Bourgeois, the veteran surrealist; Giorgio de Chirico, Rebecca Horn (who can forget her motorised upsidedown piano with its jangling keys?); and Howard Hodgkin, represented by a jewel-like piece called Night 2011-12.

Martin Kippenberger, the bad boy of post-war German art and creator of Martin Borman Gas Station in Brazil, is here represented by Nachttisch 1985. Is that really a bust of Adolf Hitler



Paulina Olowska 'A La Galcante' (2015) Oil on canvas with collage elements



Ilya Kabakov 'The Window into My Past' (2012) Oil on canvas

in the photo? It wouldn't surprise me. Kippenberger's works have skyrocketed in value since his death in 1997 in his early 40s.

Another of the international names is that of Ilya Kabakov (b 1937), who enjoyed a career as a children's book illustrator in the Soviet Union and by his own declaration would have stayed there 'forever if perestroika hadn't come'. He now lives with his wife and collaborator in New York, enjoying an international reputation as a creator of quizzical installations.

The large oil painting here is called The Window into My Past and depicts two men seated at desks in what may be a library space in front of a huge painting which may be the real subject of the picture.

The painting of a painting is a Soviet 'socialist realist' canvas intended as much to keep its unknown creator out of prison as to rouse the spirits of the masses: a woman stands before a com-

mittee in front of what may be a bust of Lenin on a stage in front of a large audience. The period is the 1930s when Stalin's purges decimated the party and eliminated Bolshevism.

She is having her Communist Party card handed back to her. The slogan in Cyrillic at the bottom of the painting of the painting is roughly translated as "Tested!"

It is as if the upheavals of the 20th century are an abiding presence, even in unreliable memory. Kabakov's picture of the scene dates to 2012.

Another huge canvas comes from **Paulina Olows-ka**, her *A La Galcante* 2015.

It may be equally loaded with ambivalent significance, and is equally resistant to any final interpretation

A woman, probably the artist or her assistant, climbs a library ladder leaned against a wall of boxfiles, whose labels are all about countries, cities,

authors, terrorism, Mai 68, parties and alcohol.

The files are all of magazines in an archive, La Galcante, in Paris.

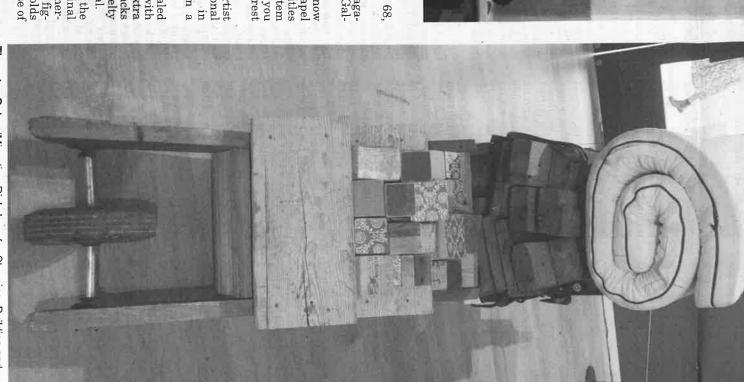
It would be nice to know this, but the Whitechapel provides only a list of titles and artists' names: if an item piques your interest, you need to find out the rest yourself.

Olowska is a Polish artist with a solid international reputation, born 1976 in Gdansk, and working in a broad range of media.

For such a modestly scaled show in a single room with two partitions to make extra hang space, this show packs a punch by the sheer novelty of so much of the material.

Ida Ekblad (b 1980), the artist behind the final choice, has established herself as an international figure and from this holds catholic tastes and a sense of fun.

Expect to be surprised and delighted.



**Theaster Gates** 'Migration Rickshaw for Sleeping, Building and Playing' (2013) Wood, Fabric Huguenot House wallpaper and wheel