

## 1807 Commemorated: Website Launch



***1807 Commemorated*** is launching a new website in December 2007 which addresses the issues and concerns regarding the portrayal of enslavement and abolition in museums in Britain. Containing discussion points, interviews, articles and information regarding the project's activities, it forms a valuable resource for an understudied topic:

**<http://www.history.ac.uk/1807commemorated/>**.

***1807 Commemorated*** is a research project at the University of York, which seeks to understand the commemorative processes, politics of dissonance, recognition, representation and identity work that has taken place in museums throughout Britain as the bicentenary of the abolition of the slave trade is marked. Working with six national museums in the UK the project seeks to understand how the representation of enslavement, abolition, legacies and the Diaspora inform notions of identity, whether, individual, community, regional or national. Based upon a three-fold examination of the wider societal context of the bicentenary, displays at museums and art galleries across the country and large-scale audience surveys carried out at the project's partner museums, the project will assess the production, dissemination and consumption of the anniversary.

The wider aim of the project is to address how traumatic histories such as the Transatlantic Slave Trade and the African Diaspora can be relayed to a diverse public in museum displays and exhibitions. The painful memories of the past, of brutality and exploitation are explored and focused upon as the project builds practical examples for museum practitioners and academics using data collected from audience responses.