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| Artist | Jeremy Deller |
| Title | We’re here because we’re here |
| Date | July 1st 2016 |
| Medium | N/A |
| Scale | Across the whole of the UK including 1400 volunteers |
| Scope | Participants in 2D or 3D |
| Style | Contemporary |
| Patron | 14-18 NOW |
| Location | UK |
| Function | Memorial |

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| Formal features | |
| Composition | 1400 voluntary participants unexpectedly appeared in locations across the UK. Locations included train stations and bus stops, anywhere where there would be a large audience. |
| Costume | Soldiers wore traditional WW1 military uniform that the soldiers who lost their lives would have worn. Equipped with rucksacks, guns, helmets and some smoking cigarettes. |
| Light & tone | N/A |
| Space & depth or relief | Small groups of the soldiers were distributed, showing that they were part of a team. They were in public areas, on the same level and in the same space of strangers to emphasise the fact that the soldiers who died for our country were just like one of us. It enables us to connect with them easily, so much so that members of the public were seen getting emotional and crying as the memorial was so eye opening and moving. |

Critical text quote: -   
*I wanted to make a contemporary memorial… one that moved around the UK…which….took the memorial to the public*- Deller

“We’re here because we’re here”- repeatedly sung by soldiers on the day in the tune of Auld Lang Syne, as sung in the trenches before the battle.

Influence from technological factors:

As social media was so popular at the time Deller knew that despite not everyone being able to see the memorial in the flesh, they would eventually see it online with the hashtag #wearehere circulating on twitter. After the event occurred it was also the head story on the news. This technology gave Deller a huge advantage when it came to the scale of his audience that earlier artists wouldn’t have been able to access.

Influence from political factors:

The Battle of Somme occurred on July 1st, 1916, 100 years before this memorial. That day was known as “the bloodiest day in military history” as 19,240 men were killed on the first day of battle. Each man that died was represented within volunteers and when the public tried to interact with them or simply walk past them, they would give out a small white card. This had a name and regiment of a solider from WW1 that they were representing as well as the date they died which was the 1st July, 1916 as well how old they were.

Influence from cultural/social factors:  
Jeremy Deller wanted to create a memorial that was contemporary and that “took the memorial to the public” instead of being set in one place, as memorial sculptures nowadays tend to be walked past and forgotten about. He therefore was influenced by the contemporary way art had commonly been portrayed as well as giving the public what they want, a different yet moving memorial.

Stylistic comment and artistic influence:

The way that Deller presented this memorial is very controversial. Many people believed that it couldn’t be called a memorial as it wasn’t set in place, it only lasted for a day. However, that day will be remembered in history and through pictures due to its large scale and the effects of social media.

Use or development of materials, techniques & processes:

The soldiers were found in common public areas and in old fashion military clothing in order for members of the public to be forced to look at them and ultimately, remember. By writing the soldiers names on card and giving them out it adds a personal feel to the memorial that was able to really move people.

Image:

