1927

TOPFOTO

IMAGE ARCHIVES

Archives in the age of AI

- Topfoto.co.uk
- Est. 1927
- Physical archive of 5 million images
- c. 600,000 digitised
- 20th Century Press Photo History
- Rights Managed

John Balean – Operations Manager – johnb@topfoto.co.uk

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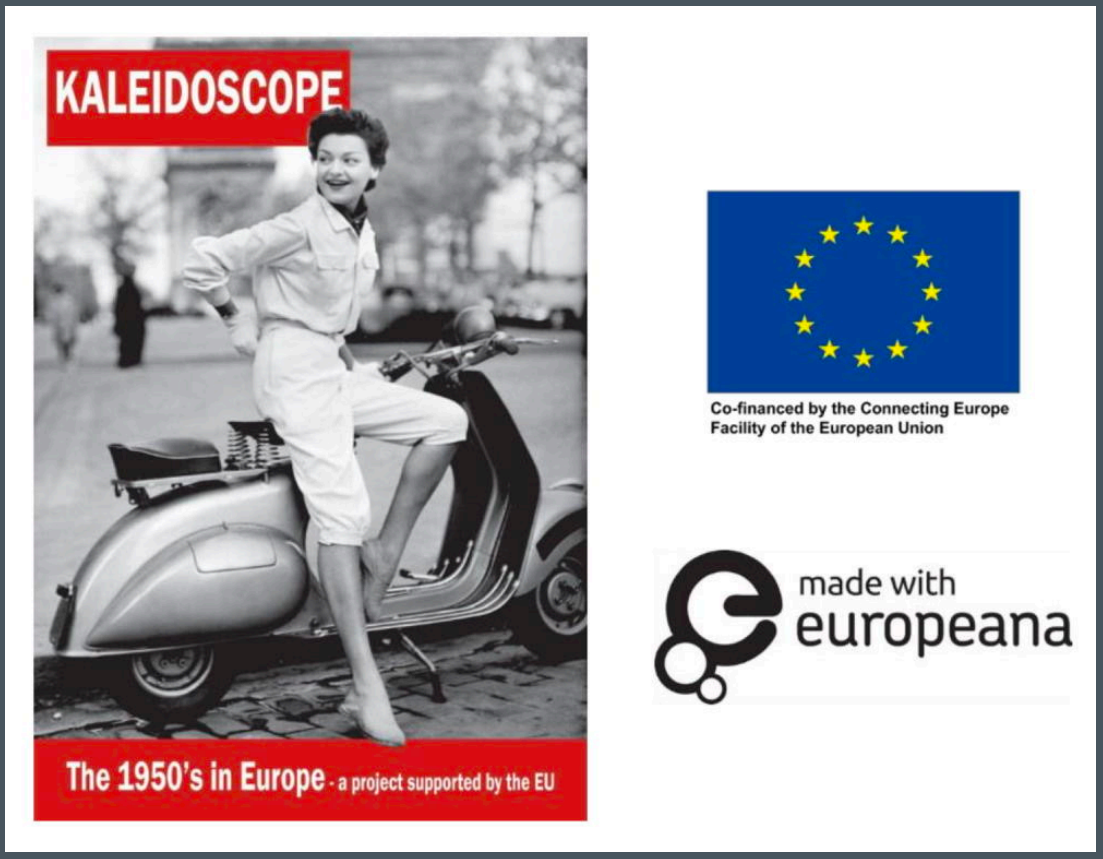
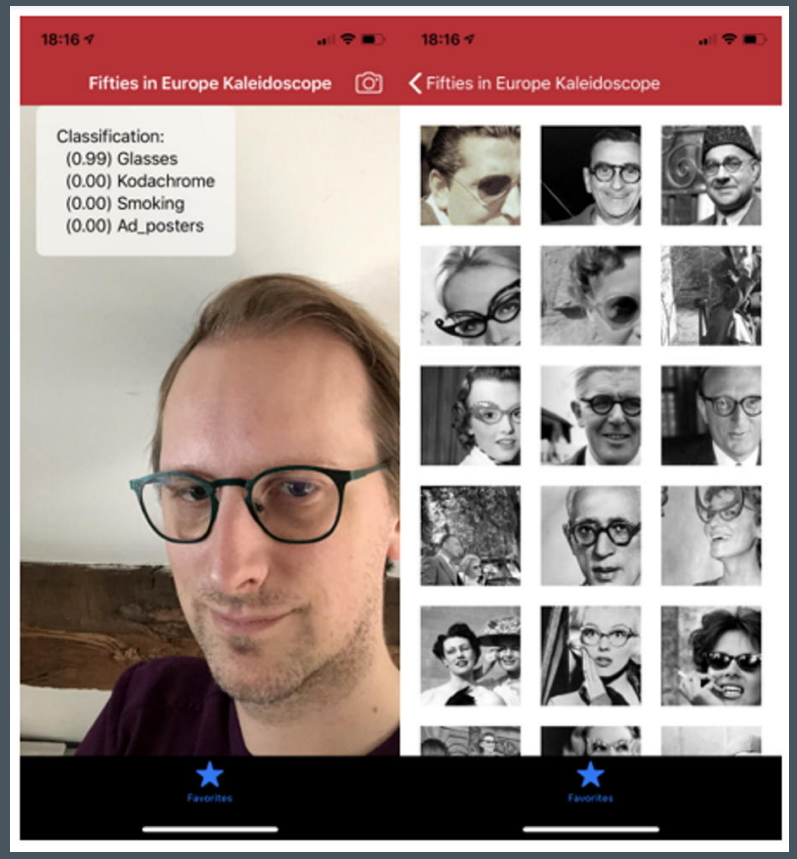


Co-financed by the Connecting Europe Facility of the European Union

made with europeana



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Topfoto's – 1950s Kaleidoscope (2018-2020) – Visual Similarity Search

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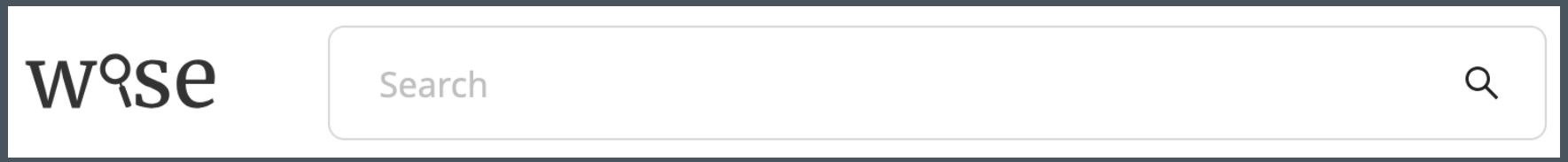

WISE Image Search Engine (WISE) is an open-source multi-modal AI-powered image search engine. Recent advances in machine learning and vision-language models have enabled search based on image content using natural language. With the expressive power of natural language, users can flexibly describe what they are looking for. Furthermore, WISE uses a vision model to understand what's being depicted in an image – search results are retrieved based on image content rather than metadata such as keywords, tags, or descriptions, so the images do not need to be manually tagged or labelled with text captions.

WISE is developed at the Visual Geometry Group, University of Oxford.

TOPFOTO

Topfoto's – WISE multi-modal AI search engine by VGG Oxford University

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PHOTOGRAPHY IS THE HERITAGE SECTOR WHICH IS AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF CRITICAL RISK

-

WE NEED TO SAVE OUR COLLECTIVE VISUAL HISTORY NOW !!

-

MASS DIGITISATION FUNDING IS OUR FRIEND TO PRESERVE THE IMAGE

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Vinegar Syndrome

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TOPFOTO

John Balean in the Topfoto archive

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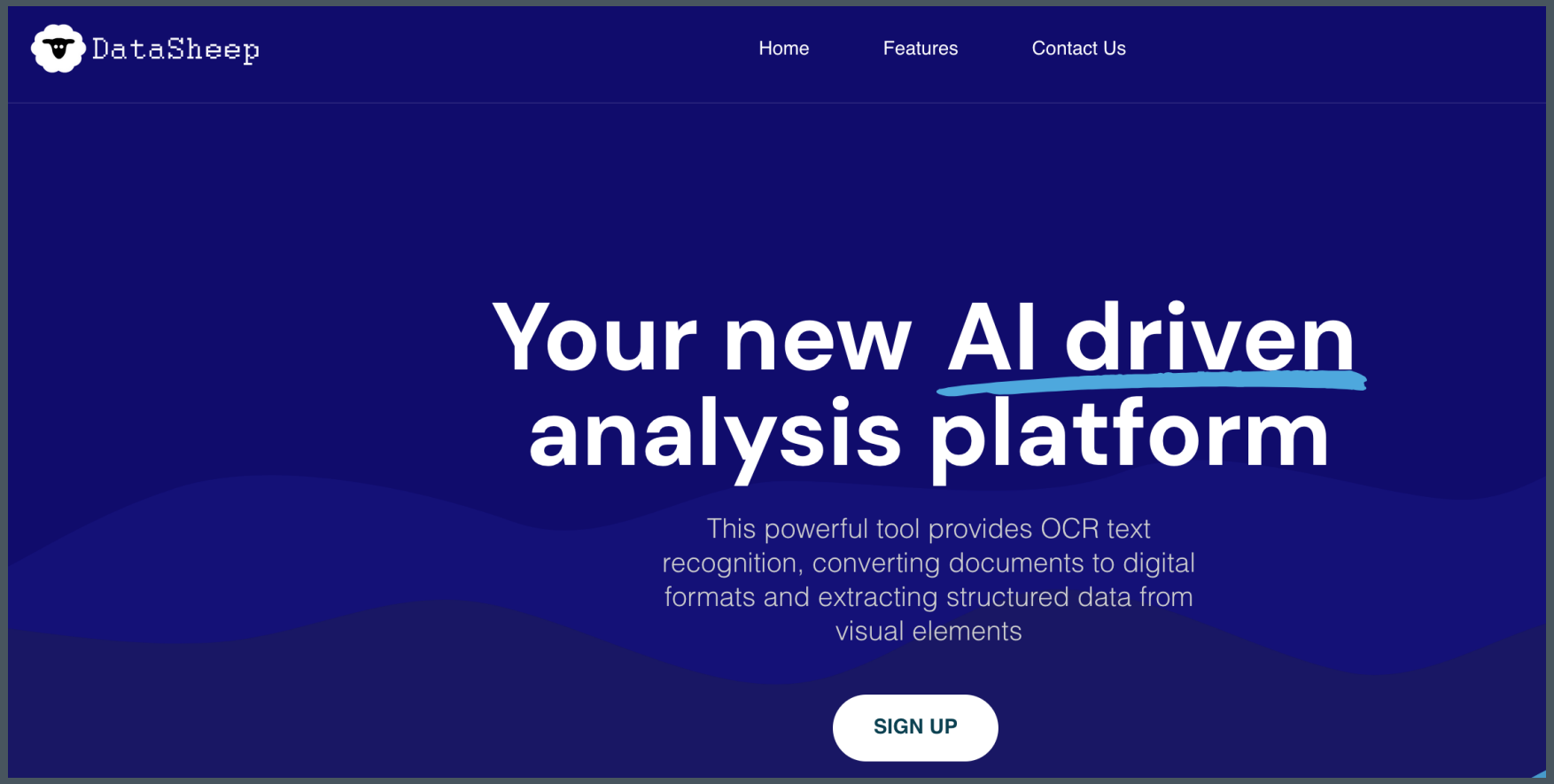

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DataSheep.com – OCR and AI field extraction by BlueBox

TopFoto

FAKE

GEN.AI

TOPFOTO

Topfoto's – Reality Checked FAKE campaign - 2024

Topfoto

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The Moment of Truth – short film by David Baksh , Annex and De Ventos Films

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PLANET NEWS

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EU047082 - Gas masked press photographers at the Anti Gas School at Fairfield . 10 March 1937

TopFoto

TOPFOTO

1161285 - UPI photography war legend Willie Vicoy pictured on assignment during the Vietnam War.
Pd3025405 - Brian Harris pictured pointing at his byline credit in 1986 just as The Independent newspaper was about to launch. Credit: Brian Harris / Topfoto

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ASSOCIATION

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1367423 - A Douglas DC-3 Dakota operated by British European Airways, crashed onto the roof of a house in South Ruislip. 21 December 1946

TopFoto

TOPFOTO

7722065 - Audrey Hepburn awarded an Oscar for Best Actress - 1954
0539679 - 1962 FA Cup Final Tottenham Hotspur v Burnley

TopFoto

Johnny Eggitt for
PLANET NEWS / UPI

TOPFOTO

7722231 - Craven Cottage spectators watch in the heavy rain at the Fulham vs. Aston Villa football match. 18 September 1965. Photo by Johnny Eggitt

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INTERNATIONAL
NEWS PHOTOS

TOPFOTO

7786204 -POPE PIUS XII blessing the great throng gathered at St. Peter's Square during the Papal Benediction 19.4.1954

TopFoto

TOPFOTO

PD1478475 - Timothee Chalamet , selfie with fans during The King premiere in London , 3 October 2019 Credit: Rowena Chowdrey / TopFoto

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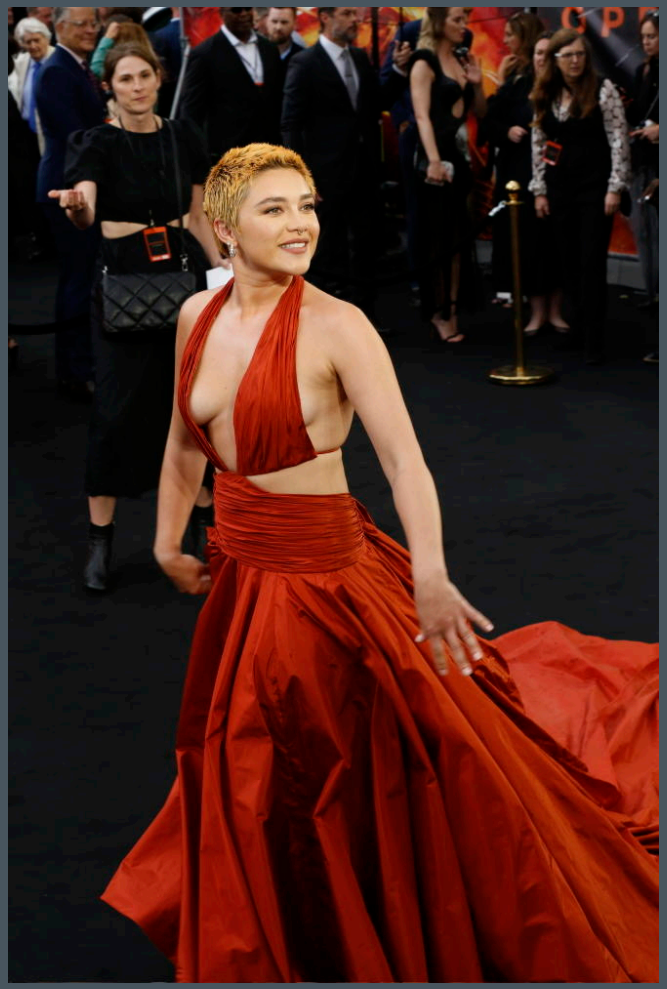

TOPFOTO

Pd3011818 - Florence Pugh UK premiere of OPPENHEIMER - Odeon Luxe Leicester Square , London - 13 July 2023 Credit: Rowena Chowdrey / TopFoto

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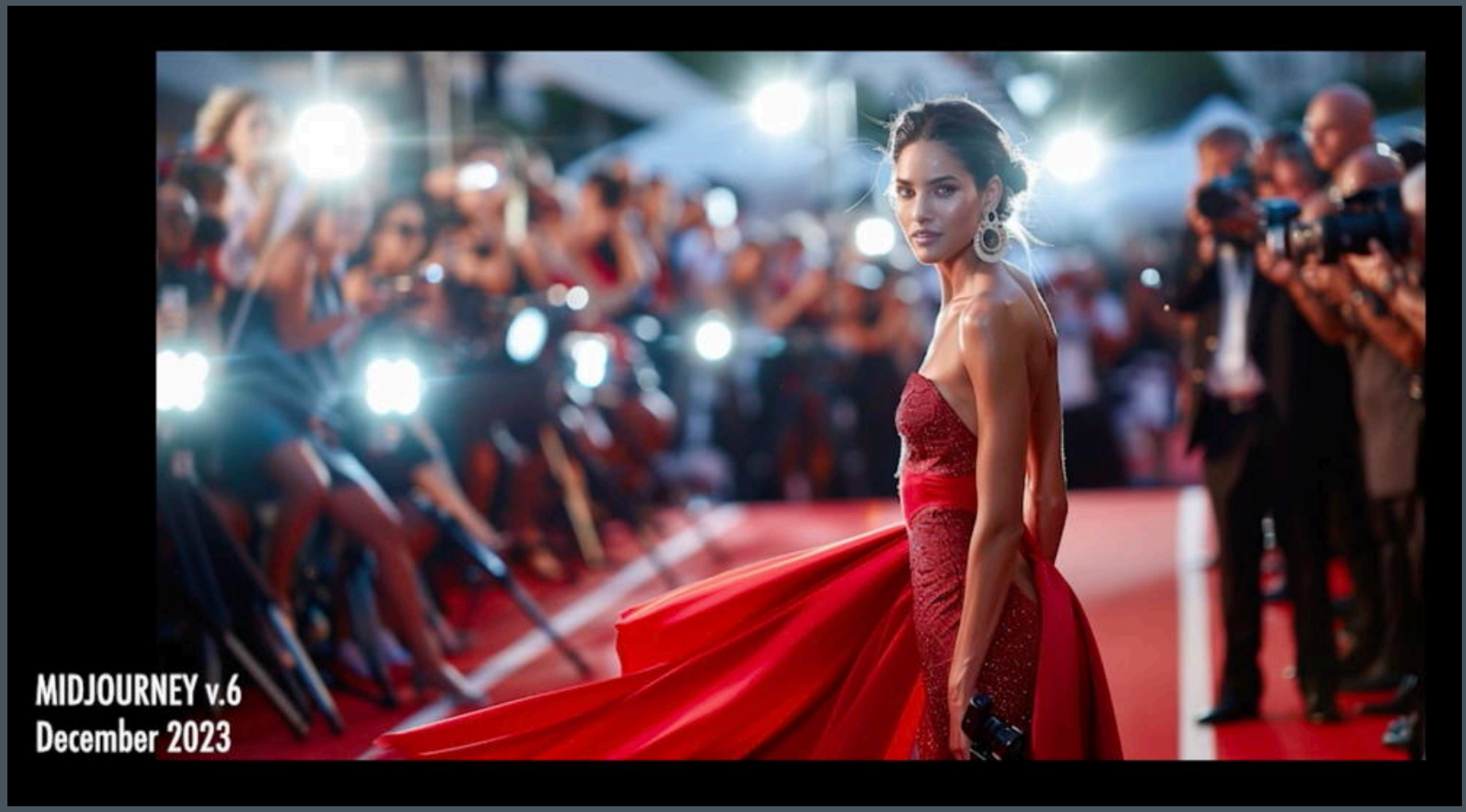
TOPFOTO

Still from The Moment of Truth

TopFoto



TOPFOTO

Still from The Moment of Truth

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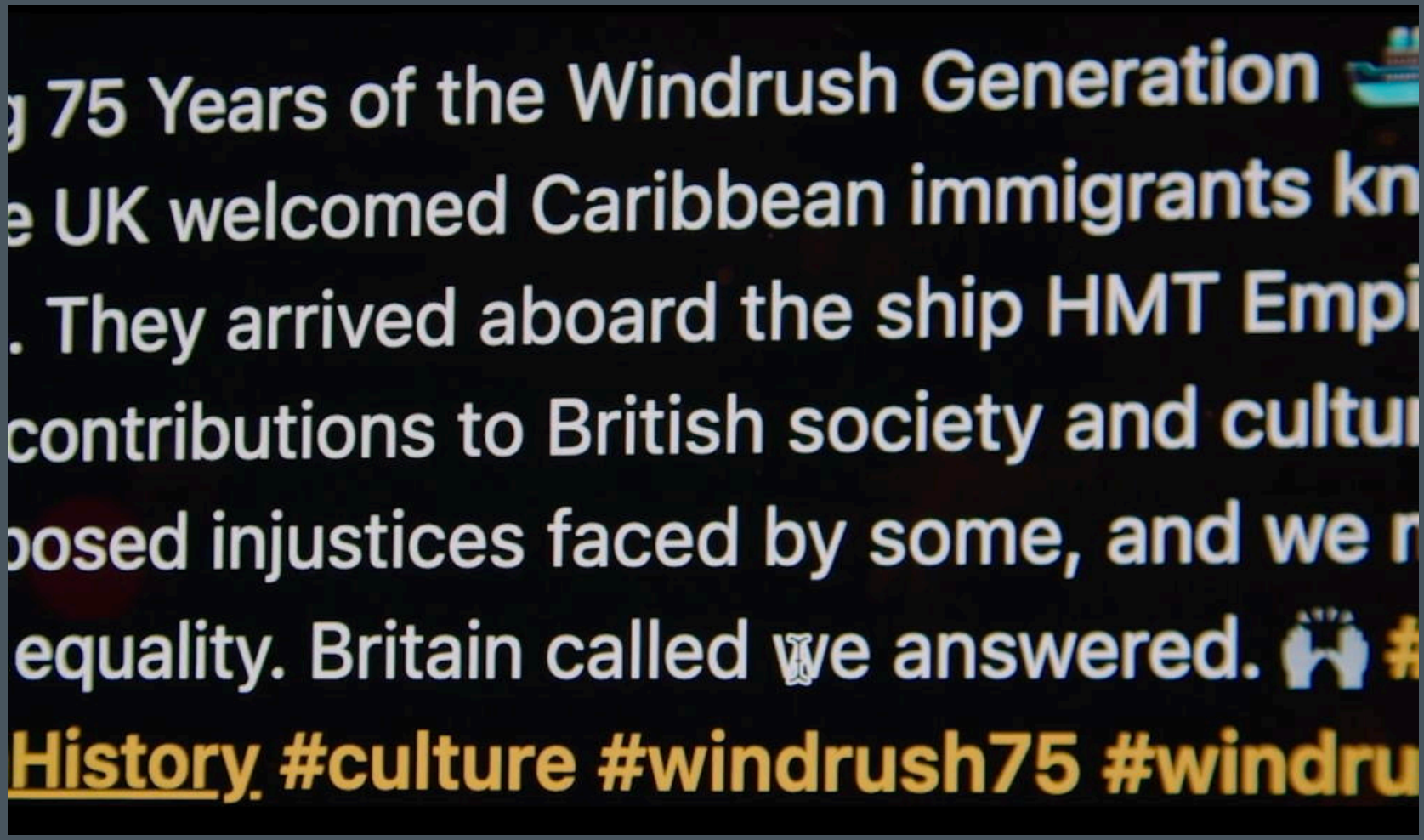

TOPFOTO

Still from The Moment of Truth

TopFoto

TOPFOTO

0020407 - The Empire Windrush berthed at Tilbury with 417 immigrants on board.
1460584 - The Zayne family on the Empire Windrush at Tilbury, 22 June 1948

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TOPFOTO

GenAI of the Windrush - Still from The Moment of Truth

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The actor Laurence Fox claimed that the appearance of the Sikh soldier in the film 1917 , was “forcing diversity”

TOPFOTO

Ketan Majmudar in the film 1917 by Sam Mendes – Dreamworks Pictures

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ALFIERI

What Fox failed to realise is that 1 in every 6 soldiers in the British Army during WWI were from the Indian sub-continent.

TOPFOTO

EU056860 – Injured Indian soldiers at a Camp at Brockenhurst. 1914-1918

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EU056773 - West Indian troops enlisted into the British Navy, July 1917

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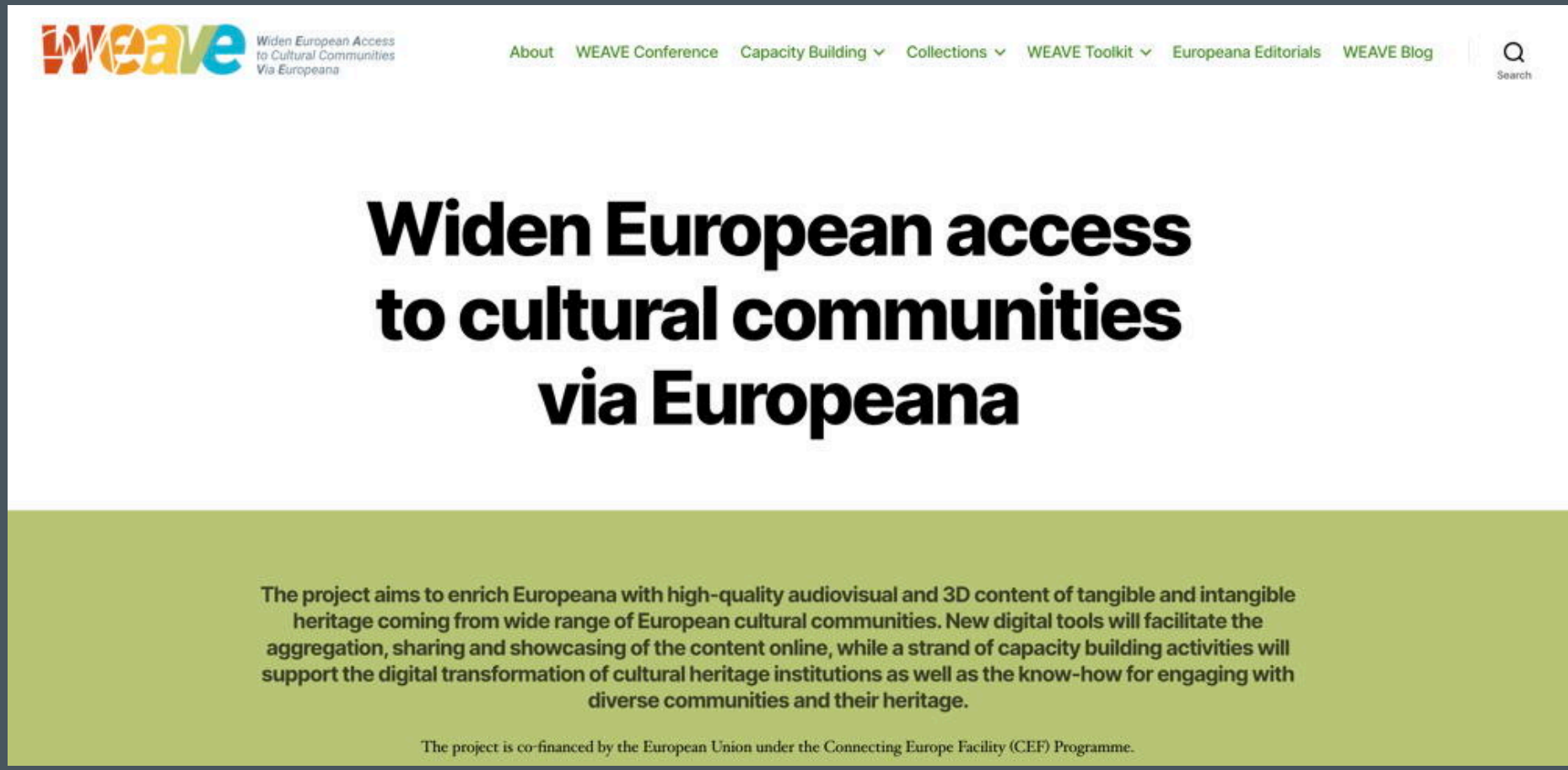

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Topfoto was a content partner in The WEAVE project 2021-2022

Topfoto

This image was widely viewed on social media with a caption saying Trump had stopped his motorcade to pose with these men

TOPFOTO

Donald Trump as the Pope and hanging out with the black community

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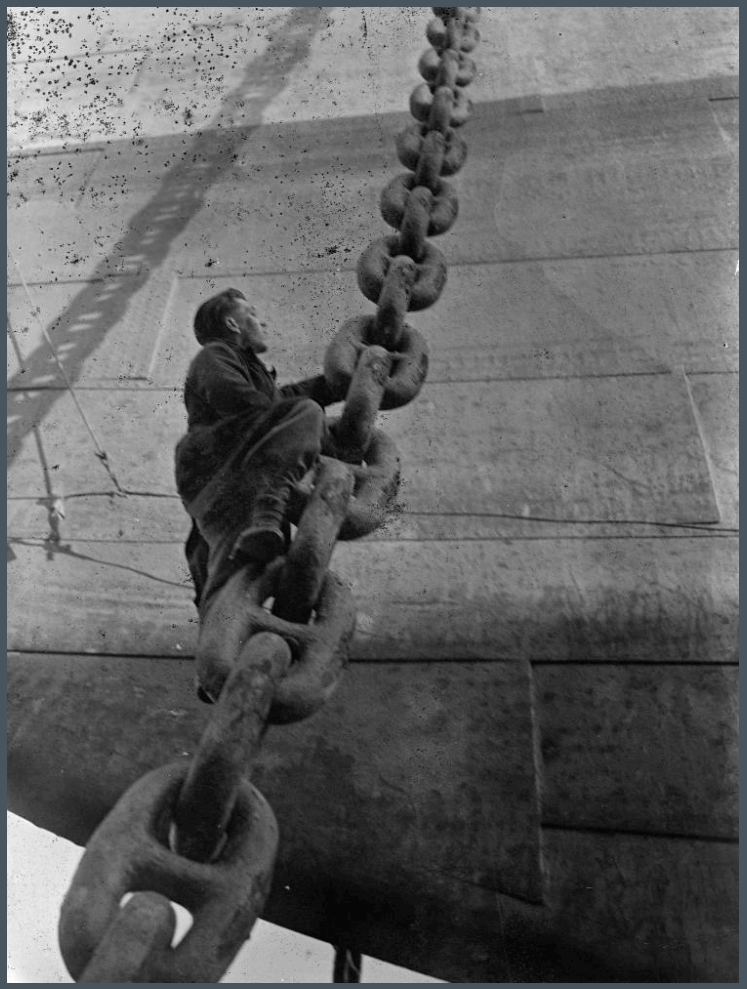

PLANET NEWS

ARCHIVE ANCHORING

TOPFOTO

1475755 - A workman climbing up the anchor chain of the "Queen Mary" as she lies in dry dock at Southampton. 17 January 1946

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TOPFOTO

0006759 – Decoding "The Enigma Machine" , Bletchley Park, WW2

TopFoto

ROGER BAMBER

TOPFOTO

pd3000671 - Susannah Hickling , Readers Digest Environment Editor spells out a simple " Clean Me " message out of rubbish collected in just 500 metres for the Beachwatch '98 Clean Beach campaign - Credit: Roger Bamber / TopFoto

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