# Tate Modern to display UK AIDS quilt for the first time in Turbine Hall



A monumental quilt dedicated to the memory of individuals who lost their lives during the AIDS epidemic will be exhibited at the Turbine Hall of Tate Modern in London from June 12 to June 16, 2025, the first time the UK AIDS Memorial Quilt is showcased at a prominent British cultural institution.

The quilt, which was created in the 1980s, emerged during a time of heightened awareness and activism around the AIDS crisis. Organised by Scottish activist Alistair Hume, the quilt was inspired by the 1987 US AIDS Quilt, which aimed to honour and remember those who had died from the disease. The UK version of the quilt comprises 42 large panels, each measuring 12 feet by 12 feet, and contains eight smaller panels within each larger one. The smaller panels, sized at six feet by three feet, reflect the typical dimensions of a grave plot. Collectively, these panels represent approximately 384 individuals who perished from AIDS in the UK.

After initial displays during the late 1980s and early 1990s, the quilt was placed into storage and most recently seen in London during the European AIDS conference at the ExCeL Centre in 2021. By the end of 2011, statistics revealed that approximately 20,335 individuals diagnosed with HIV had died in the UK.

Charlie Porter, a fashion critic involved in the organisation of the exhibition, commented on the significance of the quilt's placement in prominent locations to amplify awareness about HIV and AIDS. He stated, "There is a precedent of placing the quilt in iconic locations to really send the message home about HIV/AIDS, and in the UK it was laid out in Hyde Park and there’s nowhere more iconic in the UK than the Turbine Hall."

As anticipation builds for this unique exhibition, it promises to serve as a poignant reminder of the impact of the AIDS epidemic and the lives it affected. Visitors to the Tate Modern will have a rare opportunity to engage with this historical artefact and reflect on its significance in the ongoing dialogue about HIV and AIDS.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://gcn.ie/uk-aids-memorial-tate-modern/> - This article supports the claim that the UK AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed at the Tate Modern. It highlights the quilt's significance as a symbol of remembrance and protest.
* <https://www.instagram.com/gcnmag/p/DIMQ-V_Srux/> - This post corroborates the information about the UK AIDS Memorial Quilt going on display at Tate Modern's Turbine Hall. It emphasizes the quilt as a powerful symbol.
* <https://www.tate.org.uk/visit/tate-modern> - This webpage provides information about the Tate Modern, which will host the UK AIDS Memorial Quilt exhibition. It details the venue's cultural significance and ability to amplify messages through such exhibitions.
* <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/AIDS_Memorial_Quilt> - This Wikipedia page explains the origin and purpose of the AIDS Memorial Quilt in the US, which inspired similar initiatives like the UK AIDS Memorial Quilt.