

At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

The nation pauses to remember, to honour the courage of those who died in battle, and to pay tribute to their sacrifice. But beyond that? To borrow the Chinese phrase, they have for most people now become 'distant ancestors'. Only the very old can remember alive those who died in the Second World War, and we no longer ask them to play any part in our continuing communal life, neither sharing the joys nor shaping the decisions of the society they died defending. Other European countries remember with a clearer purpose: to reinforce or to change the behaviour of their citizens. In Russia, the triumphant celebrations of the dead of the Great Patriotic War 1941-5 play a key part in strengthening the national (many would say nationalist) fervour; and in France the regular reanimation of *La Flamme de la Nation* under the Arc de Triomphe (Chapter 2) is a calculated exercise in the renewal of patriotic spirit. Germany by contrast dwells on the crime and folly that led to war, and uses remembrance to urge the present not to repeat the terrible mistakes of the past. For both France and Germany, reconciliation between former enemies is paramount in the rhetoric of commemoration. *Zugrunde liegen*

giving shape = giving form

ergoss sich

to stänken - stopfen, anhalten

mahnen
of most importance

Gedenken
Gedenken
Gedenken -

Sweep Lands and Seas of Red (p. 80) was a magnificent and moving sight, as the iconic building itself appeared to shed its life-blood in an unstaunchable flow. Yet appeals to extend the display were rejected on the basis that its transience was an essential part of the artistic conception. It was essentially - supremely - an aesthetic event, designed to touch the emotions, but not to endure. Our national commemoration, unlike that of other countries, does not demand that the lives lost should determine and change our behaviour, or ^{XX}inform the decisions we make in the present. We remember our dead, but we no longer live with them.

to dwell = live there, bewohnen
to dwell on = "auf etwas" Thema

... erinnern
reicher damit anfrachten

XX to endure - to survive for long
(Chen)

XX inspire, affect