

Mary Prince - Her Story

Born into enslavement in Bermuda 1788. Mary went on to become a British autobiographer and abolitionist. Her book *The History of Mary Prince* (1831), was the first account of the life of a black woman to be published in the United Kingdom. This first-hand description of the brutalities of enslavement, released at a time when slavery was still legal in Bermuda and British Caribbean colonies, had a galvanising effect on the anti-slavery movement. It sold out three printings in its first year.

She was the first woman to present an anti-slavery petition to Parliament and testified at two libel cases after the book was published but isn't heard of again after 1833.

Kuumba Nia Arts

Exploring rituals of the past to give voice to parables of the present

Kuumba Nia Arts was founded in 2009 by Amantha Edmead, to bring African and Caribbean peoples' histories and contemporary stories to life through theatre and film. Our storytelling theatre form is a fusion of drama, song, dance and ritual linked to Caribbean and African roots. We celebrate and explore the Black experience in all its shades, sharing universal stories.

www.kuumbaniaarts.com

Unlock the Chains Collective

Making things happen

Unlock the Chains Collective was founded in 1986 by Euton Daley to explore performance poetry as a theatrical form and to develop a dialogue with various social struggles at the time. Dormant for over 20 years, we reformed in 2013 to continue the journey and give Black artists a performance platform and to present black experiences and cultural forms.

www.eutondaley.com

The North Wall & Propeller Scheme

SOLD is presented as part of the PROPELLER programme, a new initiative from The North Wall and Oxfordshire Theatre Makers showcasing the most exciting Oxfordshire companies.

Oxford Playhouse & The Evolve Scheme

Kuumba Nia Arts are Artists-in-Residence as part of the Oxford Playhouse EVOLVE scheme - offering emerging artists artistic, organisational and financial support, allowing them to take the next step up in their careers.

For the Edinburgh festival run, SOLD was presented in co-production with Oxford Playhouse.

Best Ensemble Musical Theatre Awards, Edinburgh Festival 2019
Theatre show of the week, Vault Festival 2020

 KUUMBA NIA ARTS

 EVOLVE
with Oxfordshire Theatre Makers

 UNLOCK THE CHAINS COLLECTIVE

SUPPORTED BY
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD
COMMUNITY GRANT

 THE NORTH WALL
ARTS CENTRE

 OLD FIRE STATION

 OXFORD WINDRUSH

 OTM
OXFORDSHIRE
THEATRE MAKERS

SOLD

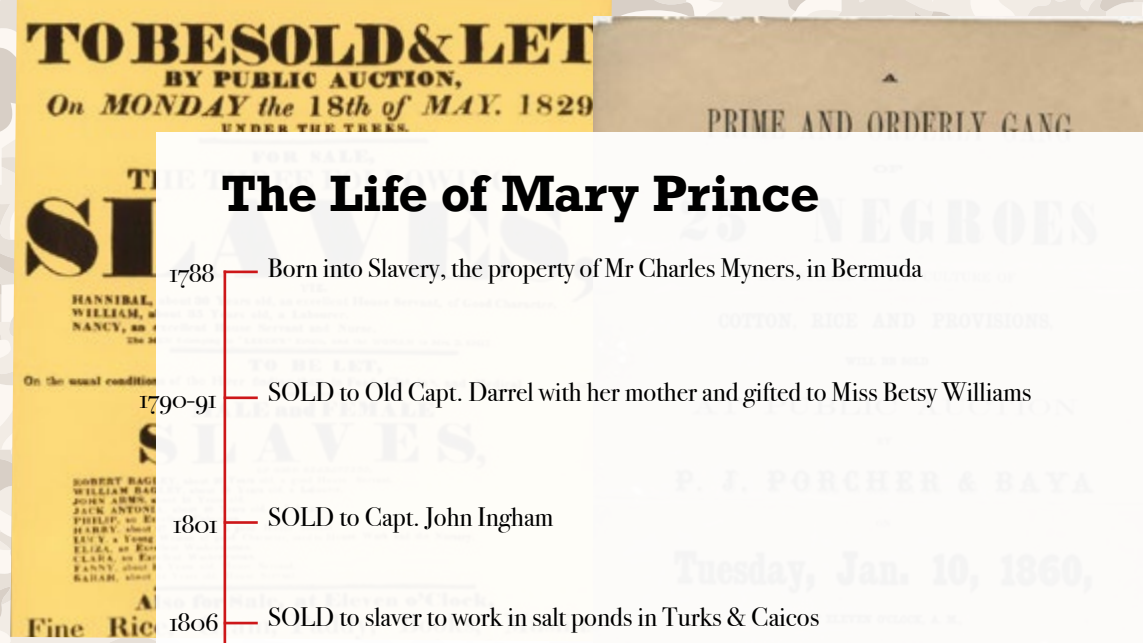
TO BE FREE IS VERY SWEET

The Story of Mary Prince

THE WOMAN WHO HELPED END SLAVERY

Contributing to Windrush Legacy & # BlackLivesMatter

KUUMBA NIA ARTS & UNLOCK the CHAINS COLLECTIVE



The Life of Mary Prince

- 1788 Born into Slavery, the property of Mr Charles Myners, in Bermuda
- 1790-91 SOLD to Old Capt. Darrel with her mother and gifted to Miss Betsy Williams
- 1801 SOLD to Capt. John Ingham
- 1806 SOLD to slaver to work in salt ponds in Turks & Caicos
- 1810-14? Owner retires and takes Mary back to Bermuda
- 1815 SOLD to John Adams Wood of Antigua
- 1817 Joined church and was baptised
- 1826 Married former slave Daniel James
- 1828 Wood takes Mary to London without her husband
- 1829 Mary leaves Wood, meets abolitionist Thomas Pringle & goes to work for him
- 1831 Wrote 'History of Mary Prince'
- 1833 Mary testifies in libel cases arising from book: Abolition of Slavery Act passed; Death of Mary Prince (?)
- 1838 Colonies completed abolition

The Abolition of Slavery Act brings into effect the gradual abolition of slavery. The legislation went into effect in August 1834 whereby all slaves in the British Empire were considered free under British law.

However, most of the British West Indies newly freed enslaved peoples had to do an apprenticeship, continuing to work for free or little to no wages to prepare for their freedom. Antigua and Bermuda colonial governments rejected apprenticeship and fully emancipated slaves in 1834. Due to revolts and rebellion apprenticeship ended in 1838.

Plantation owners in the West Indies receive £20 million in compensation – the interest on the loan of this was only paid off by the British Government in 2015.

Abolition of Slavery

- 1444 1st public sale of African slaves in Lagos, Portugal
- 1482 Portuguese start building first permanent slave trading post at Elmina, Gold Coast, now Ghana
- 1510 1st slaves arrive in the Spanish colonies of South America, having travelled via Spain
- 1562 1st English slaving expedition by Sir John Hawkins
- 1672 Royal Africa Company granted charter to carry Africans to the Americas
- 1698 British Parliament opens slave trade to all creating the "Triangle Trade"
- 1772 Granville Sharp won an historic ruling in the Somerset case which held that no slave could be forcibly removed from Britain. (Slavery itself was still permitted).
- 1778 Scotland bans the owning of personal slaves
Slavery made illegal in Scotland
- 1780s As the slave trade reaches its peak the Privy Council estimate that half of the slaves are dying in transit or in the period after arrival
- 1786 Thomas Clarkson publishes *A Summary View of the Slave Trade and of the Probable Consequences of its Abolition*
- 1787 John Newton publishes *Thoughts upon the African Slave Trade*
- 1789 Olaudah Equiano publishes *The Interesting Narrative of the Life of Olaudah Equiano, or Gustavus Vassa, the African*
- 1790 1st bill for the Abolition of the Slave Trade fails
- 1791 Slave rebellion on the island of St Domingue (later Haiti)
- 1792 House of Lords reject an Abolition Bill passed by the House of Commons
- 1794 France abolishes slavery in all its territories
- 1804 Slave rebellion on the island of St Domingue successful and the first independent black state outside Africa - Haiti - is established
- 1807 25 March, transatlantic slave trade abolished by the British Parliament
- 1833 The Abolition of Slavery Act passed by the British Parliament, abolishing the practice of slavery in all British territories



Amantha Edmead

WRITER, PERFORMER & CO-PRODUCER

Heritage:

Born in the UK and linked to the Windrush generation with my parents coming from St Kitts in 1960 and 1961. I'm connected to Mary Prince's story through my maternal grandfather who was born and raised in Antigua, the island where Mary met and married her husband and wanted to return as a free woman.

Interested in creating theatre that:

Speaks directly with the audience, uses dance, song, drama, ritual and storytelling. I'm still moved by the proverbs, stories of my youth and the echoes of the Caribbean and Africa that they hold they still influence me.

Training:

Guildford School of Acting, and Dramatherapy at Rochampton.

Credits include work with:

Talawa; London Bubble; Little Angel; Story Museum; Chipping Norton Theatre; Red Dog; Corby Cube; Theatre Blah Blah Blah; Cheltenham Everyman.

Proverb/saying:

Pig asked his mother why he mouth so long, he mother said time will tell.



Angie Amra Anderson

DRUMMER & PERFORMER

Heritage:

Philosophically I am connected to the motherland and I am an African of Jamaican parentage born in the UK.

Interested in creating theatre that:

Stimulates the audience to feel the passion of the story and performance. Non-compartmentalise ritualistic theatre - dance, drama, song blended with a large helping of culture and nuff riddim.

Training:

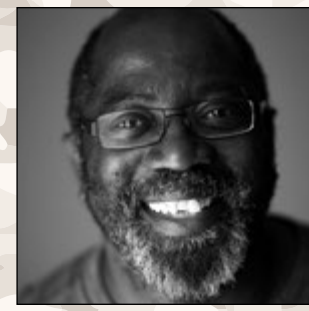
School of Oriental & African Studies (SOAS) and renowned institutions in Ghana, Nigeria, Cuba, Jamaica and Haiti.

Credits include work with:

Fela Kuti; Peter Gabriel; Ekome; Creative Origins; Adinkra Dance Co; Sakoba Dance Theatre; Act Theatre Co; Ritual Theatre.

Proverb/saying:

If your vision is one year, plant yams. If your vision is ten years, plant trees. If your vision is one hundred years, train people.



Euton Daley

DIRECTOR, DRAMATURG & CO-PRODUCER

Heritage:

One of the Windrush Generation in that I arrived in England in 1966 from Westmoreland, Jamaica to join my parents who had arrived in 1961.

Interested in creating theatre that:

Entertains whilst inform, educate and/or spurs its audience to look or see things from other perspectives.

Training:

Rose Bruford College of Speech & Drama & Greenwich Young Peoples Theatre.

Credits include work with:

Pegasus Theatre (Artistic Director & CEO); Mandala Theatre Co; Greenwich YPT; Royal Court YPT; Northampton TIE; Tara Arts; Corby Cube; Sakoba Dance Theatre; Black Theatre Co-op.

Proverb/saying:

If you want to go quickly, go alone. If you want to go far, go together (African Proverb).



Ayo-Dele Edwards

VOCAL COACH & SONG ARRANGEMENT

British born Nigerian

Creating theatre that empowers, inspires and furthers the conversations about our narrative.

Though weeping may endure for a night, joy comes in the morning (Psalms:30 vs5)



Lati Saka

CHOREOGRAPHER

Born in Lagos, Nigeria and liked to the great Yoruba Tribe.

Creating theatre that discusses and illuminates the cultural transformations of people of the African Diaspora.

You can lead the horse to the water but you can't make it drink.



John Sailsman

PRODUCER FOR KUUMBA NIA ARTS

UK born from Jamaican parents who arrived in England in the 1960's.

Creates theatre recognising that Traditional Black African Theatre derives from our ancestry and therefore involves or should involve cultural nuances that are specific to us.

Love the life you live and live the life you love.

Other Team Members

Nomi Everall
David Fisher
Gill Jagers
Derek James
Reuel James
Dr Jonathan Lewis

Lighting design & set construction
Photography www.fisherstudios.co.uk
Marketing, print, programme design
Filming
Rehearsal photography
R&D, evaluation & fundraising

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