

SYNOPSIS

A 15-year-old Afro-Caribbean abandons her day-old baby girl in a London telephone box. Adopted by a white family, ZOE and ARON, they name the child after them. ZA is raised in Devon, gets a First in Law at Oxford, falls in reciprocal love with the son of a billionaire, but her picture-perfect life begins to unravel when she realises that she's marrying into a dynasty whose vast wealth stems from the enslavement of her ancestor.

As recent as 2015, tax payers in the United Kingdom finally paid off a £20,000,000 loan administered by the Bank of England on behalf of the British Government to compensate UK enslavers for the loss of their chattel due to the abolishment of slavery. This money paid was 40% of the Treasury's annual income, or £17 billion in today's money. Not one penny was given to the enslaved and brutalised.

Being of Nigerian heritage and aware of a legacy of slavery linked to my family, I am very interested in the topical subject of reparations which at a recent summit attended by British Prime Minister, Sir Keir Starmer, Commonwealth leaders asked him to address it.

Reparations is the act of making financial amends for historical wrongs. Due to the repercussions which still resonate today on the descendants of slaves, economically, politically, psychologically and culturally, I felt it important to tackle the matter in a bid to seek the truth by exploring the facts. In order to make the story even more compelling, I have contextualised the subject within a romantic drama.

Wanting to get the best cinematic shots with a limited budget, the Black Magic Pocket 6, was our camera of choice for a portion of the shoot, moving on to a Sony FX6. Shooting hand held and using a tripod, we captured footage digitally on an SSD card. Using an auto white balance ensured that our colours were accurate. We shot in 6k to get the extra pixels to then be able to crop into our image in post. We framed shots to be cropped without any loss of resolution. We shot in raw and managed flawless, smooth images. Sound was captured with a boom mic, not plugging into the camera as that level is too low. We worked with Davinci Resolve for colour grades and Premier for other effects, resulting in an effective enhancement of the story's tone, mood and atmosphere, evoking emotions due to the seamless integration of colour, whilst maintaining a natural look



SHORT CHARACTER PROFILES AND CAST BIOS •



FUNSO FOLUSO-HENRY made her screen debut in THE MEANING of DAISEY (BFI Flare), earning praise for her emotional intelligence and authenticity. Like all brilliant leading actors, Funso possesses a unique combination of immense talent, charisma and commitment and is fast establishing herself as a versatile distinctive talent in drama and comedy. It wasn't a hard decision to cast Funso in her first lead role in a feature. Through her audition she lit up the screen and deeply connected with me bringing depth and nuance to the character ZA DAVIES, (17 – 30), a compelling beauty who tackles hardships from birth, which evokes signs of self-loathing that she cleverly masked with a confident resolve and determined outer shell.

JON BETTI studied musical theatre at Bath Academy, trained at Goldsmiths University and has a BA (Hons) in Drama and Theatre Arts. Starting at 5, he has worked across commercials, film, TV, theatre and musical theatre, treading the boards in FORGETTEN ODYSSEY and THE TRUTH STOPS HERE. Loving to play flawed characters, he is perfect for the lead male role, PHIL CULVE (17 – 30), who is to females what bees are to flowers. Phil's the seemingly perfect child, brother and fiancé, intelligent, thoughtful, kind, but his love of money, drummed into him by his overbearing father, has no bounds

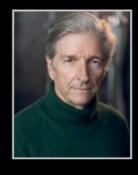




MICAH TSEKIRI's work spans 25 credits across Film, TV, web series, theatre, commercials, music videos and so much more. His films include BAD APPLES and FOUR WINGS, selected by the BFI and AIN'T HIDIN NUTTIN'. So brilliant was his audition to play EKON IGWE (40s), I gave him a round of applause. Ekon is conscientious, knowledgeable and honest. It's taken years for him to arrive at a place in his life where he believes these traits of himself. Ekon regrets leaving the love of his life in London when he was 15 when he was forced to return to Nigeria from London.

ANNA RAY - screen credits include GREYHAWK, 100 BALFOUR ROAD, and LAB RATS. Trained in ballet and tap, Anna returned to performing after a two-decade hiatus. She's appeared on stage at The Hen and Chickens Theatre, Etcetera Theatre and Stockwell Playhouse. Currently learning British Sign Language, Anna brings a unique perspective to her performances with lived experience of mobility disability. She plays, ZOE DAVIES (35 – 50s), caring, kind and patient, the epitome of the average working-class Brit, unaware that she suffers from an unconscious racial bias.





PHILIP BUBB is an award-winning actor/musician who trained at the Met Film School and has played over 300 supporting/actor roles over the last 9 years, including in ENDEAVOUR, BRIGHTER THINGS, THE BIG NARSTIE SHOW. Philip plays ARON DAVIES, a quiet-spoken, former 400 metre Olympic gold medallist. Aron's never complains about the loss of the use of his legs after a fall from a horse, never allowing his disability to dampen his mood, even though his movement is defunct, forever dependent on the wheelchair he's confined to.

TARYN KAY trained at Bush Davies School and Laine Theatre Arts. Her TV, film, commercial and theatre credits include THE CORONATION STREET EXPERIENCE, ROYAL MAIL REDIRECT, COLGATE, VERISURE, REVITIVE with Sir Ian Botham, CALL THE MIDWIFE, A TOUCH OF FROST, THAT'S ENGLISH, PARTING SHOTS, playing Bob Hoskins' wife directed by Michael Winner, ALICE in WONDERLAND, CINDERELLA and THE WIZARD Of OZ. Her voice artist clients include NHS, Microsoft and Time Warner. Taryn brings vast experience playing EMILY CULVE (55). The British stiff upper lip totally defines this character who is as rigid in her warped ideology of white superiority and as inflexible as a steel rod





MATT JOHNSON's acting career has spanned five decades. He's performed at the Edinburgh Fringe, Kings Theatre in Portsmouth, Barons Court, New London Theatre, the Royal Albert Hall, toured Macbeth and Richard III in UK schools. Matt's real passion is for immersive theatre being part of the shows including WAR of the WORLDS, DINOSAURS in the WILD and PADDINGTON. His short films include CONSCIENCE and the award winning BETWEEN LOSING and FINDING. His commercials include O2, McDonald's and Paddy Power. Playing JACOB CULVE (60), the CEO of billion pound company, Culve Estates, he's steely, hard-working... and a racist. Jacob inherited his ideologies from his parents and is a member of a society which promotes Britain for the British.

CREW BIOS

Writer, Producer, Director



CHRYSTAL ROSE put pen to paper from as early as 5, creating epic poems which were published in her local newspaper. In 1984 she won 3rd place in a Channel 4 screenplay writing competition with her original psychological thriller, "The Fine Edge of Friendship". Chrystal's first novel, "What a Bitch", was published in 1996 by Fourth Estate. Her background is in television: she financed and produced her own pilots becoming the first woman of any nationality, to host an eponymous talk show, presenting 103 on Carlton TV. In March 2024, Chrystal wrote, produced and directed a short film, 'Too Young For Love', which has been selected for 30 film festivals worldwide and won in 13 categories, including Best Director and Best Screenplay.

FRANCESCO CARLUCCI is the Director of Photography. Initially assisting a family member on wedding shoots, Francesco worked for Blu Video Productions as a Camera Operator and Audio/Visual Technical Manager. He has covered several roles within Film, commercials and TV collaborating on a wide range of projects from music videos distributed by Universal, Warner and Sony, to features such as NO TIME TO DIE 007. Francesco founded waWwa Productions and trained in Cinematography at NYFA. His passion is combining technical precision with light composition to capture compelling, beautiful visuals.





Oscar nominated **KANT PAN's** formative experience was in the vibrant film industry of Hong Kong where he was born. Starting as an Assistant Film Editor, Kant worked his way up the ladder to Supervising Sound Editor and Editor. He has worked with such great Directors as Stephen Frears, Mike Newell and Dominique Derruderre. Kant was Oscar nominated for the Crying Game, Cymru BAFTA nominated on Paul Morrison's SOLOMAN and GAENOR, plus Best Editor in the London Independent Film Festival on Alex Holt's FORGET ME NOT.

FILMOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

RUNNING TIME: 1 x 2hr 25m Feature

or

2 x 100m Feature Pt 1 and Pt 2

o

4 Pt TV Series

GENRE:

Romantic Drama

FORMAT:

Digital

TRAILER:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1Pu4R-SrQy8aNc6fLI165gByKwQe-eQxZ/view? usp=drivesdk

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From Award Winning Director CHRYSTAL ROSE & Oscar Nominated Editor KANT P



Starring - FUNSO FOLUSO-HENRY & JON BETTI with - MICAH TSEKIRI, PHILIP BUBB & ANNA RAY

Director of Photography-Francesco Carlucci/Faisal Alam, Editor-Kant Pan, Producer-Chrystal Rose,

Music by-Analia Lentini, writer-Chrystal Rose, Sound by-Enrico Emughetti, Abdul Khan, Gabriel Garcia-Marca, Gea Eman

Executive Producers: Comfort Nivoke, Philip Bubb, Mark Cornwell, Ian Frances, Naudja Threadwell, Shirley Fantie, Sarah Ebanja

LOGOS, PICTURES, BEHIND THE SCENES

