

PRESS RELEASE

Fuel presents Inua Ellams



THE 14th TALE

WRITTEN AND PERFORMED BY INUA ELLAMS

WINNER: SCOTSMAN FRINGE FIRST AWARD, 2009

BAC, MON 19TH – SAT 31ST AUGUST (exc. 25TH), 8.30PM

PRESS NIGHT: TUES 20TH OCTOBER, 8.30PM

In the London premiere of his critically acclaimed, *Scotsman* Fringe First award winning show, celebrated spoken word and graphic artist Inua Ellams performs a comic and moving self portrait of life growing up in Nigeria, Dublin and London.

The 14th Tale, which was developed at BAC and the Arcola, references Inua's collection of poems *13 Fairy Negro Tales*, published when he was only 22 years old. Still only 24, he has achieved considerable success as both a visual artist and poet. He has performed at a variety of venues and festivals, including the Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Tate Modern, Glastonbury and Latitude.

In his one man show, Inua shares stories of his upbringing: his schools, friends and family and of his move to Europe following childhood in Nigeria as he awaits news in a hospital waiting room. Combining comic dialogue with poetry and prose, this autobiographical account encapsulates the trials of adolescence and depicts Inua's life as a young, black male in London today.

The 14th Tale is part of the *Not For Me, Not For You, Not For Us* festival at BAC, a season of work exploring creativity, interactivity and play. Other highlights include Coney's *A Small Town Anywhere*, a show with no performers, only audience members; Subject to_change's *Home Sweet Home* in which participants build a cardboard home and become part of a new, miniature community and Wendy Houstoun's *Keep Dancing* as part of Dance Umbrella.

The 14th Tale tours nationally during October and November 2009. It is produced by Fuel. Led by Kate McGrath and Louise Blackwell, Fuel produces fresh work for adventurous people by inspiring artists. *The 14th Tale* was part of Fuel's programme of work at the Edinburgh Fringe for which they were awarded a Herald Angel.

'*The 14th Tale* comes as a sharp reminder of the power of language and rhythm in theatre, and of how dramatic poetry can create whole worlds through the voice of a single performer.'

-*The Scotsman*

A BAC Scratch Commission with Apples & Snakes. A London Word Festival Commission. Funded by Arts Council England.

www.fueltheatre.com/ www.phaze05.com/ Running Time: 50 mins

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Company Information

Written and performed by Inua Ellams

Produced by Fuel

Listings Information

Venue:	BAC
Address:	Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TN
Dates:	19 October - 31 October (exc 25)
Times:	8.30pm
Price:	£10/ concs £6/ Tuesdays Pay What You Can
Box Office:	020 7223 2223 / www.bac.org.uk
Transport:	Victoria or Waterloo (BR) to Clapham Junction then 5 min walk or Northern Line to Clapham Common then 20 min walk. Bus: 345, 77, 77A, 156 & G1 stop right outside.

National Tour Dates

ARC

7.45pm | Thurs 1st Oct
Dovecot Street, Stockton on Tees, TS18 1LL
www.arconline.co.uk | 01642 525199

Contact

7.30pm | Fri 2nd & 3rd Oct
BSL interpreted performance on 3rd Oct
Oxford Road, Manchester, M15 6JA
www.contact-theatre.org | 0161 274 0600

Norden Farm Centre for the Arts

7.30pm | Thurs 15th Oct
Altwood Road, Maidenhead, SL6 4PF
www.nordenfarm.org | 01628 788997

Ustinov @ Theatre Royal Bath

8pm | Fri 16th & Sat 17th Oct
Monmouth Street, Bath, BA1 1ET
www.theatreroyal.org.uk/ustinov | 01225
448844

BAC

8.30pm | Mon 19th - Sat 31st Oct (exc 25th)
Lavender Hill, London, Sw11 5TN
www.bac.org.uk | 020 7223 2223

The Drum

7.30pm | Wed 4th Nov
144 Potters Lane, Aston, Birmingham, B6 4UU
www.the-drum.org.uk | 0121 333 2444

The Albany

7.30pm | Thurs 5th & Fri 6th Nov
Douglas Way, Deptford, London, SE8 4AG
www.thealbany.org.uk | 0208692 4446

Croydon Clocktower

7.30pm | Wed 25th Nov
Katharine Street, Croydon, CR9 1ET
www.croydonclocktower.org.uk | 020 8253
1030

Merlin Theatre

7.45pm | Fri 27th Nov
Bath Road, Frome, BA11 2HG
www.merlintheatre.co.uk | 01373 465949