

## Biographies

### Zakaria Zerouali (Taariq), actor

Zak trained at North East Wolverhampton Academy. Credits include: *Thad Hairspray* and *Grinch, Seussical the Musical* (Wolverhampton Youth Music Theatre); *Tamouras, Rubble* (Central Youth Theatre), *Mullins, Peter Pan the Musical* (Bilston Operatic Society); *Nacharyan, Ali & Nino* (National Youth Theatre); *Jack Lumber, Little Red Riding Hood*; *Buttons, Cinderella* (Panto Tours).

### Aimee Powell (Salma), actor

Aimee trained at The Birmingham Theatre School. Theatre credits include: *Macbeth* (Heartbreak Productions); *Feed The Beast* and *JUMP! We'll Catch You* (for Birmingham Repertory Theatre). Film work includes: *A Dream I Had* (independent short film, winner of best short drama at the Isle of Wight Film Festival). Recent TV: BBC *Doctors*.

### Oliver Davis (Tom), actor

A graduate in Theatre and Performance Studies from the University of Warwick, Oliver has performed with several Midlands companies, the National Student Drama Festival and at the Edinburgh Fringe. He is a member of Birmingham REP Foundry Actors' Group. Credits include *The Tempest* (Crescent Theatre); *King Lear* (RSC Open Stages); *Of Mice & Men* (All & Sundry Company); *Yakul* in *Princess Mononoke* (Whole Hog Theatre).

### Nadia Davids, writer

Nadia is an award-winning South African writer and theatre-maker. Her plays *At Her Feet*, *Cissie* and *What Remains* have been staged locally and internationally. She was a part of New York's WVP Theatre's Playwright's Lab for 2008-2010. Her debut novel *An Imperfect Blessing*, published by Umuzi Random House in 2014, was shortlisted for the UJ prize and the Pan-African Etisalat Prize for Literature.

### Yasmin Sidhwa, artistic director

Yasmin is an experienced actor and director, performing with The National Theatre, in repertory and TV. Her directing experience includes Tara Arts, the Edinburgh and International Women's Festivals, and Pegasus Theatre, Oxford, where she was creative learning director for 17 years. She was founder and director of Mesh, a bi-annual international Youth Arts festival hosted by Pegasus. In 2014, Yasmin received an Oxfordshire High Sheriff's Award for services to the arts and young people.

Premiere of a  
new play by  
Nadia Davids

Directed by  
Yasmin Sidhwa



# Night Light

programme

MANDALA THEATRE COMPANY CIC Number: 09242464



# Night Light

**Somewhere in England** two teenagers seeking asylum hide out in an abandoned factory, fearing deportation. As the long cold night unfolds, they imagine their future and tell each other about their past. In the midst of sharing food and stories, they hear someone else arrive. Terrified, they creep towards the door where they find a familiar figure. He joins the teenagers and the three of them talk through the night about home, belonging and the system...but the children remain wary. At any point he can reveal their hiding place, turn them over to the authorities and send them back to their countries— and to danger.

**What happens to unaccompanied children in the UK when they become 18? Join the post-show debate.**

## Mandala Theatre Company

Mandala is an Oxford based Community Interest Company (CIC) that uses the power of theatre to change lives, build community, and foster social justice. We aim to connect people, enabling them to become global citizens through the arts. Central to Mandala as a diversity-led company is:

- Visceral theatre that uses social justice as a catalyst for creating art that is relevant, giving a voice to those whose stories are not heard and making them visible.
- The employment and training of young performers, from ethnically and socio-economically diverse backgrounds, in the pedagogy of theatre for social justice. We invest in nurturing young people to train, perform and tour in a professional company.
- Theatre that exposes mainstream audiences to situations and stories they are unlikely to have heard, taking this also into the heart of the communities whose experience this is, then connecting these audiences through the facilitation of dialogue, debate and workshops.
- Working with communities to create their own artistic response to dialogue and debate.

■ **JOIN MANDALA TRAINING** for 16/25 year-olds. Weekly creative workshops exploring techniques used by the company when making its shows. November, December 2016; April, June 2017.

## The Cast

Salma  
Taariq  
Tom

Aimee Powell  
Zakaria Zerouali  
Oliver Davis

## Artistic Team

Writer  
Director  
Producer  
Set/AV designer  
Lighting Designer/Technical /  
Company Stage Manager  
Marketing  
Admin/Social media

Nadia Davids  
Yasmin Sidhwa  
Euton Daley  
Nomi Overall  
James Ball  
Cath Nightingale  
Martha Baker

## Advisory Board

Nuzhat Abbas  
Elleke Boehmer  
Hannah Chandler  
Elaine Chase  
Jo Elliott  
Velda Elliott

Simon Fisher  
Nikki van der Gaag

PEEP Practitioner and Singer; Confluence Collective  
Professor of World Literature, University of Oxford  
Official Papers Librarian, Bodleian Libraries  
Senior Lecturer, University College, London  
Film maker, Moving Target Films  
Associate Professor of English and Literacy  
Education, University of Oxford  
Conflict Transformation Specialist  
Director of Gender Justice and Women's Rights,  
Oxfam GB

## Thanks

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■ **MANDALA YOUNG COMPANY:** two-week residency Easter and Summer in Oxford, working towards a production to take to international festivals in France and Greece in Summer 2017.

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