

RIDING LIGHTS THEATRE COMPANY  
with YORK THEATRE ROYAL  
the world premiere of

# African Snow

by Murray Watts  
directed by Paul Burbridge  
music by Ben Okafor  
designed by Sean Cavanagh  
lighting design by Ben Cracknell

**IN 1807 THERE WERE 4 MILLION PEOPLE IN SLAVERY WORLDWIDE  
IN 2007 THERE ARE OVER 20 MILLION...**

**African Snow** is the meeting of two men, cast from opposite sides into the hell of the slave trade – Olaudah Equiano, stolen from his home in West Africa, and John Newton, the converted slave-trader who later gave the world its most famous hymn, **Amazing Grace**.

Bringing them face to face, however, is perhaps beyond the scope of human reason. **African Snow** takes us to the heart of the human condition to the place where two men are compelled to confront each other. Can victim and abuser ever be reconciled?

**African Snow** is an epic and passionate piece of contemporary theatre, marking the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Abolition of the Slave Trade Act, and lending a voice to the campaign for the abolition of modern slaveries worldwide.

*“Here’s a play that turns history into a pulsating human story. It could be yours. It could be mine. We begin to understand the past when we recognise that it is about real human beings like us. That way we better understand not only where we have come from but what we are doing now and where we are heading.”*

Dr John Sentamu  
Archbishop of York

National Tour 2007  
Fri 30 March – Sat 14 July

for tour dates check  
[www.africansnow.com](http://www.africansnow.com)  
or call 01904 613000

