



RISE UP

A NEW PLAY BY LISA EVANS



Tour Dates – Monday 17 September to Friday 4 December 2015

The tide was turning – though local governments disagreed, it would soon be illegal to segregate black Americans from white Americans on public buses, in waiting rooms or in restaurants.

And yet – in the early 1960s, many states across the south of America kept discriminating against African-Americans...

In modern day Britain, four actor-storytellers tell the stories of the Freedom Riders – principled citizens riding buses across Alabama and Mississippi, drawing attention to this illegal discrimination, and facing up to terrifying violence with peaceful resistance.

The story of the Freedom Riders is one of ordinary people becoming a civil rights movement, taking on the establishment and changing the world. In a time of Michael Brown, Trayvon Martin, and Mark Duggan, what does it mean for people to come together and rise up?

Reasons to Book

- A live theatre experience to inspire and develop students' storytelling, performance and critical analysis skills.
- Strong [curriculum links](#) – Drama, English, History, Citizenship Studies,
- A compelling, relevant and accessible introduction to the Freedom Riders, written specifically for a teenage audience.
- Lisa Evans is an accomplished playwright with specific experiences of engaging with work addressing civil rights: *Stamping Shouting and Singing Home* and Theatre Centre's production *The Day The Waters Came*
- High quality performance and production values – [see previous audience responses](#)
- Easily accessible and inclusive learning resources, created by Theatre Centre in partnership with the playwright Lisa Evans.
- Each performance includes a post-show discussion around the issues that audiences face in their school and local community.
- Each performance includes a copy of the script to enable further study.
- Performance workshops are also available for up to 30 students, led by the actors from the show.
- Theatre Centre has over 60 years' experience touring exceptional new plays for young audiences.
Teacher feedback on our last touring production – *The Muddy Choir*.

- *“Theatre Centre provides a consistently high quality theatre experience to young people which extends their understanding of drama but also makes them think”* Clapton Girls, Julian Bergin, Head of Expressive Arts
- *“Captivated students and engaged them with the curriculum: brought history to life!”* Burnt Mill Academy, Robyn McDonald, Humanities and History
- *“Enthuses, stimulates and provides students with insight and appreciation of what makes outstanding drama”* Bucklers Mead School, Joanne Brownley, Head of Drama

And what young people had to say:

- *“The acting was exceptional and the emotions were conveyed very well. The best performance I have ever seen”* Student, Concord College
- *“The Muddy Choir was amazing! Funny, tense, emotional and beautiful”* Persephone, Twitter
- *“It was entertaining throughout, it felt as if I was actually there. The mixture between humour and pure emotion kept me engaged. A great story with excellent acting.”* Student, School 21

Lisa Evans

Lisa is a playwright, TV and radio writer, and previously wrote *The Day the Waters Came* for Theatre Centre, winning the Writers Guild award for best new play for young people in 2011.

- *“Powerful. Chilling. Uplifting.”* – The Stage
- *“The best touring piece for young audiences I have ever seen.”* – Head of Drama, Epsom College
- *“It was wicked, outstanding, it really gave me ideas.”* – Audience member

Lisa was Resident Writer at Theatre Centre in 1983/4 and at Temba Theatre Company in 1986/7. From 2009-11 she was Associate Writer at Theatre by the Lake Keswick. She is currently Royal Literary Fund Fellow at Brunel University.

Theatre Centre

Theatre Centre specialises in the creating and producing of new work with and for children and young people, empowering young leadership through the arts.

Working principally with writers and new writing, we explore historical and contemporary experiences of young people, discovering resonances that engage young people in worlds beyond their own.

Technical requirements

Rise Up will tour to secondary schools, theatres, museums and arts centres. The production specifications are as follows:

- Space required: 5x5m playing space, plus room for the audience.
- Running time: 60 minutes, no interval.
- Cast: 4 actors.
- Get in/get out time required: 90 minute get in and prep. 45 minute get out.
- Audience size: Up to 120 students. (Negotiable if your performance space has raked seating.)
- Other requirements: access to mains power.

Performance Package

Each package includes:

- Performance
- Access to online learning resources
- Post-show discussion
- Copy of the script

Workshop (for up to 30 students)

The accompanying workshop for *Rise Up* will focus on a specific acting technique or skill that has been key to the rehearsal process of the production.

Performance Package	Cost*
One performance	£650
One performance and one workshop	£850
Two performances (50% off second show)	£975
Two performances (50% off second show) and one workshop	£1,100

Booking

For more details or to book the show into your school please contact **John May**. Dates can become unavailable quickly, so do get in touch as soon as possible to ensure that we can visit your school on your preferred date.

Telephone: 020 7729 3066

Email: john@theatre-centre.co.uk

