



I am going to Red Dust Road at HOME, 2 Tony Wilson Place, Manchester, M15 4FN.

For full access information, please visit homemcr.org/venue-access



The show will start at 2.00pm. I should arrive a little earlier than this.

The show will be approximately 2 hours and 10 minutes long, with an interval after 1 hour and 5 minutes.

The interval will be around 20 minutes long.



The theatre is approximately 320 metres from Deansgate Train Station in a square called Tony Wilson Place.

The front of HOME looks like this.



I will enter through automatic sliding doors at the front of the building, towards the right hand side.



When I walk inside I will see this area called the foyer. I will see the box office straight ahead of me.

If I need any help I can always ask a member of HOME staff. They wear badges or orange t shirts so I can easily recognise them.



I should pick up my tickets from Box Office and I can also ask any questions there.

My ticket will have the start time printed on it.

Sometimes the Box Office area can get busy, especially when people are waiting to go and see a film or something in the theatre.



There is a café bar, which can also get busy too and plays music.

I can buy a drink or an ice cream at the bar before the show or during the interval.

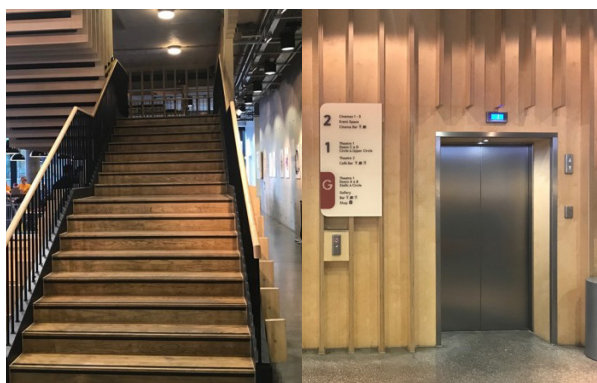


The performance of Red Dust Road will be happening in **Theatre 1** which I can access from the ground and the first floor.

There are four entrances to Theatre 1.

Two are on the ground floor and are either side of a concrete wall, these are Door A and Door B.

There will be signs with directions around the building.



The entrances for Door C and Door D are on Level 1. I should make my way to the first floor.

I can take the stairs or the lift to get there.



I might need to wait in an area like this before I am able to go into the space.

It might be a little noisy and quite busy while everyone is waiting to go into the theatre.



When the show is ready to start, I might hear a 'bing-bong' noise and an announcement.

A person will say 'Customers for Red Dust Road, please take your seats'.

I should make my way to the theatre if I am not already there.



The HOME staff will show me into the theatre and explain where my seats are.

It might be a little bit darker in the theatre and I might hear some music playing.

The stage will look like this.



Toilet: If I need to go to the toilet there are toilets on the ground floor behind the Box Office or on the first floor to the right of the theatre space.

I should look out for signs with these symbols, to help me find the toilets.



There will be a relaxed atmosphere during the show. Some of the louder noises will be turned down to make it easier to enjoy for people who don't like lots of noise.

Some of the lights will also be left on in the theatre to allow people to move around if they want to. If I want to get up and move around during the show then that is fine. I can also go in and out of the theatre throughout the show.

Throughout the show there will be different lights and sounds, including some noisy moments. On the next few pages I can read what will happen during the play.



There will be a quiet breakout space in the **Weston Room** next to **Theatre 2** if I need some quiet time out.

One of the HOME staff or HOME volunteers will be able to show me where to go if I ask them.



When everyone is ready, the actors will come out onto the stage and the play will start.

At the end of the show the audience will clap to show the actors that they enjoyed the show.

When the clapping has ended, the lights will get brighter. This means the show is over.

I can now leave the theatre and exit through the foyer.

VISUAL STORY SYNOPSIS

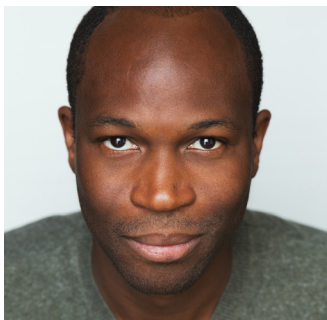
RED DUST ROAD

Red Dust Road is a new play based on an autobiographical book by Jackie Kay about growing up as an adopted mixed race child of a Communist couple in Scotland, becoming a poet and searching for her birth parents.

Things to know about the show:

- There are loud musical sections and loud sound effects
- There is haze used in the show
- There are multiple characters played by each actor, especially the ones in the ensemble. There will be lots of changes of costumes and wigs when they play different characters.
- The play jumps about in time, and uses flashbacks, with characters playing themselves at different points in time.

ACTORS AND CHARACTERS



STEFAN ADEGBOLA
Jonathan/Sidney



IRENE ALLEN
Elizabeth



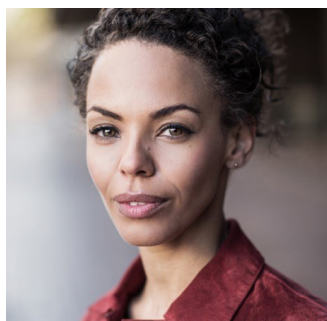
SIMONE CORNELIUS
Ensemble



ELICIA DALY
Ensemble



SEROQA DAVIS
Ensemble



SASHA FROST
Jackie



LEWIS HOWDEN
John



ELAINE C SMITH
Helen



DECLAN SPAINE
Maxwell/Kachi

ACT ONE



SCENE 1

Jackie is in her 40s.

She reads a letter that that she has written to her birth father, Jonathan. The scene then changes as Jackie meets Jonathan for the first time, in a hotel room

SCENE 2

Jackie is 40 years old.

Jackie's adoptive parents, Helen and John, tell Jackie about their life growing up and when they decided to adopt Jackie and her adoptive brother, Maxwell.



SCENE 3

Jackie is 7 years old.

Jackie and Maxwell are talking about the colour of their skin and noticing they're different from other children, Helen talks about how she was adopted and how much they love her. They talk about Jackie's birth parents and show her where they're from.

SCENE 4

Helen speaks an extract of a poem. The poem is about her meeting Jackie's birth mother, Elizabeth, to decide if Helen and John could adopt Jackie.



SCENE 5

Jackie is 10 years old.

She is being bullied about the colour of her skin, the bullies push her to the ground but her brother protects her.



SCENE 6

Jackie is 14 years old.

A meeting of the local branch of the Communist party. John sings a song and Jackie meets a woman, Margaret, who is from Nigeria, where Jackie's birth father is from, and tells her about the country. The scene ends in a ceilidh dance.

SCENE 7

Jackie is 16 years old.

She is in a Scottish country dancing class at school and partnered with her friend, Rhona.

The scene changes to being somewhere else as they hang out together, smoking, listening to music and talking about the world.

They kiss at the end, and this is the first time it is mentioned that Jackie is gay, something the rest of her family does not know about at this point.



SCENE 8

Jackie is 19 years old.

Jackie is packing to leave for university as Helen and John worry about her. They send her on her way and the scene changes as she arrives at college, which is a busier and more diverse place than she is used to.

Jackie meets with Rhona and they talking about joining a group for women of African and Asian descent, but worries that because she is mixed race she might not fit in or be accepted by the people in the group.

The scene changes again as Jackie meets up with the group and they talk about oppression of black women and share their personal experiences of racism.





SCENE 9

Jackie is in her late twenties.

She is in a hotel lobby, meeting her birth mother, Elizabeth, for the first time. They get to know each other and Elizabeth tells Jackie more about the circumstances around her adoption, and more about her birth father, Jonathan.

SCENE 10

Jackie is 29 and it is Burns' Night.

Jackie and Helen talk about Jackie's meeting with Elizabeth and the things Jackie found out about herself and Elizabeth.

They talk about her birth father and what it might be like in Nigeria where he's from, as well as some of the racial stereotypes about Africa.

John and Jackie perform perform the "Address to a Haggis" together, a traditional poem performed on Burns' Night.



SCENE 11

Jackie and Maxwell are in their teens.

Jackie, Maxwell, Helen and John are on holiday in Mull. They talk about the first time visiting Mull and reminisce about previous trips they'd taken together. They sing from time to time.

Jackie asks Helen how she would react if she were to come out as gay and Helen says she would not react positively, not realising that Jackie is a lesbian.

SCENE 12

Jackie is 16 years old.

She performs a poem about Angela Davis, an American political activist she admires.





SCENE 13

Jackie is in her late twenties.

Jackie's friend, AJ has had a baby. Jackie and her other friends are visiting AJ and the newborn baby and talk about having children themselves one day.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO



SCENE 1

Jackie is 40 years old.

She is in a restaurant outside with her birth father, Jonathan. They tell each other about their lives and get to know each other. She is upset when he speaks in an ignorant and insensitive way about certain issues. She phones her adoptive father, John who makes her feel better.

SCENE 2

Jackie is in her 40s.



Jackie meets her aunts on her birth mother Elizabeth's side. They take her to the place that Elizabeth grew up and tell Jackie about her and their family.

SCENE 3

Jackie is in her 40s.

She is meeting with a Nigerian student, Kachi. Jackie wonders where her birth father's ancestral village is and Kachi very quickly asks his family and finds out. Some of his family are from the same village and invite her to come and stay there.



SCENE 4

Jackie is in her 40s.

Jackie visits Elizabeth at her house. Elizabeth is acting strange and her memory isn't as good as it used to be, which worries Jackie.

SCENE 5

Elizabeth and Helen speak a poem about how they felt when Helen adopted Jackie and Elizabeth had to give her up. They both read different parts as they act out the adoption.

SCENE 6

Jackie is in her 40s.

Jackie is with her friends, packing to visit her birth father in Nigeria. They talk about the trip, why she's going and what it might be like.

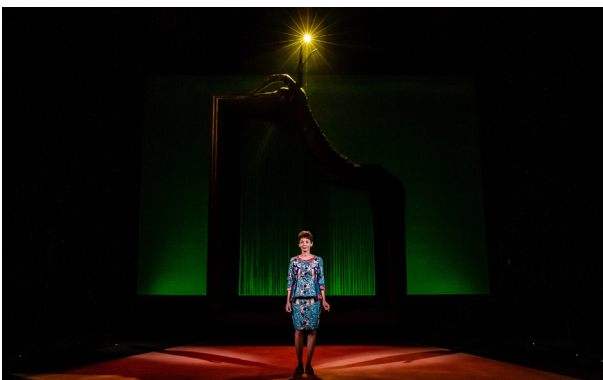
SCENE 7

Jackie is in a beauty parlour in Lagos, in Nigeria, having a pedicure. She talks to the other women in the parlour, Tope and Chimamnda, about her plan to visit Jonathan who has not responded to her emails to him. They then call him and he says he is too busy to see her, but Tope and Chimamnda encourage her to go anyway and meet her siblings.

SCENE 8

This scene represents Jackie travelling with Kachi across Nigeria to her birth father's ancestral village, Ukpok.

The ensemble carry road signs and advertising boards that change very quickly and create the noise of a busy village. The people think Jackie is white because her skin is not as dark as theirs. At the end of the scene they arrive at Ukpok.





SCENE 9

Jackie is with a very old woman from Ukpör, Nwaynyiafor, who blesses her and specially welcomes her to Nigeria. They talk about her way of life, her family, her customs and she reassures Jackie that the way Jonathan has rejected her is unacceptable to them.

SCENE 10

Jackie is getting ready to leave Nigeria when Chimamnda tells her that her half-brother she has never met is coming to see her at the airport.



SCENE 11

At the airport, Jackie meets Sidney, her half-brother and the son of Jonathan. He is very excited to meet her and welcomes her. He does not see her as someone to be hidden like their father and celebrates the fact they are family, accepting her. He tells her all about his family and she tells him about her growing up before catching her flight back to the UK.

SCENE 12



Back home, Jackie shows John, Maxwell and Helen a picture of Sidney. They discuss the possibility of spending Christmas in Nigeria with them and then reminisce about Jackie when she was younger. John starts to sing and the rest of the family start to dance together.

END OF SHOW