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**An Almost Tangible & National Theatre of Scotland production for BBC Radio 4**

***FINDING SEAGLASS***

Written by **Hannah Lavery**

Directed by **Niloo-Far Khan**

Music and sound design by **Pippa Murphy**

Read by **Hannah Lavery** with ensemble voices by **Tam Dean Burn**, **Irene MacDougall**, **Beth Marshall**, **Jim Monaghan**, **Clare Perkins**, and **Tom Vanson**.

**Poet Hannah Lavery offers a searingly honest portrayal of growing up, and raising children, mixed-race in Scotland. A beautiful story of love, loss, bereavement and hope, Hannah’s story challenges audiences to see Scottish history and our public memory in a different light. FINDING SEAGLASS will air on BBC Radio 4 on 03 July 2023 at 2.15pm and will be available on BBC Sounds until 02 August.**

[**PR images**](https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/79o4avwayhgipav75g4oy/h?dl=0&rlkey=lrrlci81oeyjgznko00v4li93)

*Finding Seaglass*, co-produced by Almost Tangible and National Theatre of Scotland, is an autobiographical, poetic spoken word production from writer and performer Hannah Lavery, adapted from the 2018 stage production *The Drift*.

Hannah Lavery offers a deeply moving, poetic exploration of loving and losing her father, and an unvarnished insight into how it feels to grow up, and raise children, 'mixed-race' in Scotland - belonging yet not belonging.

With powerful resonance in the continued struggle for justice, equality and harmony, *Finding Seaglass* challenges radio audiences to see Scottish history and our public memory in a different light through Hannah’s personal journey and almost-daily experience of casual racism.

Writer and performer Hannah Lavery said

"*I didn’t do the play to make a political point, It’s about my family history, and it’s about how racism plays out, and how painful it is when you’re told you don’t belong. It’s also a Scottish play about a daughter who’s lost her father, who just happens to be of colour. When you lose a parent, your world shifts. The play is about sharing that.”*

“*How do you find your authenticity in a moment which is asking you to find your "tribe", demanding that you constantly choose your side. How do you find your humanity, your own voice, when you're being pushed to find safety in numbers? Finding Seaglass explores my intergenerational trauma - in particular, the legacy of colonialism and racism, the reality of living through last years of political and cultural shifts and shocks, and how I have found a way to healing and hope*.”

BBC Radio 4’s Commissioning Editor for Drama and Fiction, Alison Hindell, said:

*‘I’m delighted to share this timely and moving poetic drama with Radio 4 listeners as part of a series of dramas from new production talents. The language and story of the play are personal to Hannah but her experiences will be recognisable to a wide audience who I hope will appreciate the sincerity and beauty of her voice.’*

A captivating spoken-word sound journey that interweaves poems with drama, ***Finding Seaglass*** pulses with Hannah’s lived experience, underscored by haunting music and the sounds of Scotland’s shores.

Acclaim for the original theatrical production:

*"Hannah Lavery's wonderful performance-poetry monologue* The Drift.*.. asks the most challenging questions of the western world - and in this case of Scotland - about our real views on race and belonging.”* **The Scotsman**

*“Few works of Scottish theatre confront the hypocrisies of Scottish nationalism and identity so bluntly, and so well.”* **The List**

Hannah Lavery is one of National Theatre of Scotland’s associate artists, and is a poet, playwright, performer and director. As well as the 2018 production of *The Drift* that Finding Seaglass is adapted from, Hannah wrote the highly acclaimed *Lament for Sheku Bayoh,* a co-production with National Theatre of Scotland, The Royal Lyceum Theatre and Edinburgh International Festival. In 2021 she wrote Blood Salt Spring, a visual poetry collection, and in 2023 Hannah premiered her new play *Protest,* a co-production between Fuel, Imaginate, Northern Stage, and supported by National Theatre of Scotland. In 2020, she was awarded a New Playwrights' Award by the Playwrights Studio Scotland and selected by Owen Sheers’ as one of his Ten Writers Asking Questions That Will Shape Our Future for the International Literature Showcase, a project from the National Writing Centre and the British Council.

Niloo-Far Khan is a female Scottish director born in Edinburgh with Italian and Pakistani roots. In 2019 she graduated from Napier University’s MFA in Directing, under the tutelage of former Lyceum Artistic Director Mark Thomson and National Theatre of Scotland playwright May Sumbwanyambe. She has since developed two new plays: James Harker’s *Land’s End*, which was shortlisted for the 2018 Theatre503 Playwriting Prize; and Traverse-Fifty winner Mikey Burnett’s *In Her Corner*, which she directed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2019, receiving four-star reviews from both The Scotsman and All Edinburgh Theatre.

Almost Tangible is an award-winning boutique audio company whose creative and technological approach to audio content delivers innovative, hyper-real, immersive audio experiences. Founded in 2018 by actress and technologist Charlotte Melén, Almost Tangible is a community of actors, producers, directors and writers who want to collaborate, experiment and do things differently. We create *Audio You Feel.*

Join the conversation: **#FindingSeaglass**

[***Finding Seaglass* will air on BBC Radio 4 on 03 July 2023**](https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/m001nghn)

**[Full information on cast and creatives here](https://www.nationaltheatrescotland.com/events/finding-seaglass%22%20%5Cl%20%22%3A~%3Atext%3DFINDING%20SEAGLASS%2C%20an%20Almost%20Tangible%2Cchildren%20mixed-race%20in%20Scotland.)**

**Press enquiries can be sent to** radio4publicity@bbc.co.uk

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**Notes to Editors**

**The National Theatre of Scotland** is dedicated to playing the great stages, arts centres, village halls, schools and site-specific locations of Scotland, the UK and internationally. As well as creating ground-breaking productions and working with the most talented theatre-makers, the National Theatre of Scotland produces significant community engagement projects, innovates digitally, and works constantly to develop new talent. Central to this is finding pioneering ways to reach current and new audiences and to encourage people’s full participation in the Company’s work. With no performance building of its own, the Company works with existing and new venues and companies to create and tour theatre of the highest quality. Founded in 2006, the Company, in its short life, has become a globally significant theatrical player, with an extensive repertoire of award-winning work. The National Theatre of Scotland is supported by the Scottish Government. [www.nationaltheatrescotland.com](http://www.nationaltheatrescotland.com/)

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