THE EXONERATED

By Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen
In the US, for every nine executed, one is exonerated.
SCHEDULE

6:30pm  INTRODUCTION
6:45pm  PLAY
8:15pm  BREAK
8:30pm  SPEECHES
9:00pm  CLOSE

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The Exonerated tells the story of six wrongfully convicted people. Based on true stories, it is a poignant and powerful window into their lives after being convicted, their legal proceedings and the realities of death row. From being performed in front of politicians, attorneys and exonerees to being adapted for film with a star cast, this award-winning play continues to provoke discussion.

The play focuses on innocence, perhaps the most compelling argument for the abolition of the death penalty. While there is any chance of executing an innocent, how can the death penalty ever be justified?

Amicus's remit is beyond those who have an innocence claim. Through coordinating internships, casework and training, we fight for fair trials for those on death row. As the play demonstrates, factors such as racial bias and the politicisation of the court system are instrumental in many convictions. We believe that for justice to truly be served, as poignantly put by Delbert, the system should be about "how one looks at other human beings".

We are very grateful to the writers for supporting this production, and we are indebted to our stellar cast and directors for this very special performance. We hope that you will leave the hall tonight with much food for thought and that you will continue to support our work by becoming members, giving donations and attending future events. Enjoy the play!

Claire Jenkins  Joanne Cross
Jonathan Pockson  Mark George QC
David Perkins  Hannah Gorman
WRITERS
Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen

CAST
Kerry Jamie Parker
Sunny Sonia “Sunny” Jacobs
Delbert Chris Jarman
David Leslie Thomas QC
Gary Peter Pringle
Robert Tunde Okewale MBE
Georgia Danielle Walters
Female Ensemble 1 Angela Wynter
Female Ensemble 2 Lisa Eichhorn
Male Ensemble 1 Ian Porter
Male Ensemble 2 Anthony Cozens

DIRECTORS
Peter and Ellen Gould
Leslie Thomas QC, LLB (Hons); LLD (honoris causa), human rights/civil liberties barrister of Garden Court Chambers. He has been described as a 'voice for the dead'. For 28 years Leslie has represented the victims and families of those who have suffered or died in state custody. Leslie is featured in the cinema documentary Injustice (2001) and Who Polices the Police (2012) by Ken Fero and was legal advisor on the BBC drama Undercover (2016).

“...I mean, I might as well be wearin' a sign that says ARREST ME. I'M BLACK...”

Robert

Tunde Okewale was awarded an MBE in the 2016 Queen’s Birthday Honours list for services to the community and disadvantaged young people. He is a barrister from Doughty St Chambers and the founder of Urban Lawyers, an award-winning organisation that has supported over 6,000 young people. In 2015, he received the Chambers & Partners inaugural award for an ‘Outstanding Contribution to Diversity’. Tunde is a patron of Hackney Law Centre and provides legal training to Youth Offending Teams nationally.
Sunny had served 17 years before she managed to get her conviction overturned. Sunny and her first husband, Jesse Tafero, were both implicated in the shooting of two police officers in Florida in 1976. Jesse was executed in 1990, despite significant ongoing doubt about his guilt. Sunny’s death row ordeal later became one of six stories told through *The Exonerated*.

Peter’s story also started with the death of two policemen - this time during a bank raid in Ballaghdereen, Ireland. His conviction was finally quashed after 15 years of incarceration on death row in Ireland, when evidence of his innocence was brought to light, including evidence that his ‘confession’ had been written before he’d even been interviewed.
"And my lawyer didn't even argue with that. My court-appointed attorney was the former DA who jailed me twice before. He was paid five hundred dollars, and in Texas you get what you pay for."  

Kerry
Watford born. L.A.M.D.A. trained. Chris has built an illustrious career in theatre, not only moving seamlessly through differing genres and forms of storytelling with a consistent level of excellence but to date he has been original cast in some of the most successful productions that the West End has ever produced. His theatre credits include *The Book of Mormon* (Prince of Wales Theatre), *The Comedy of Errors* (National Theatre), *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* and *The Merchant of Venice* (Royal Shakespeare Company), *Sister Act* (London Palladium) and *The Lion King* (Lyceum Theatre). He is currently in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*.

"So when you get out, you've gotta practice. I had to practice a bunch to be human again."

Delbert

Danielle has appeared in a range of television, film and theatre productions. Television work includes Candice in *Chewing Gum*, Cherice in the award-winning series *Gavin and Stacey* and Jade in *The Bill*. Selected theatre work includes Juliet in *Romeo and Juliet*, and Grace in *Be Frank*. 

CAST

Chris Jarman as Delbert

Danielle Walters as Georgia
Originally from Los Angeles, Ian has lived and worked in the UK for over 20 years. Selected theatre work includes Boolie in the UK tour of the Broadway production of *Driving Miss Daisy*, Slim in *Of Mice and Men* (The Watermill), *August: Osage County* (National Theatre/Steppenwolf), and Kerry in *The Exonerated* (New Players Theatre). Selected television and film work includes *The Crown*, *Saving Private Ryan*, *Utopia*, *Gullivers Travels*, *Nixon’s The One* and *Doctor Who*.

Lisa is a writer, producer and actor who graduated from RADA, London. She has divided her time between stage and film roles in the UK and US. Her work in film includes Jean in *About Time*, Emily in *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, and Jean in *Yanks*, for which she received a Golden Globe Nomination for Television. Her theatre work includes Sunny in *The Exonerated*, Dr Leonard in *Law and Order: Criminal Intent*, and Lorna in *Golden Boy* (National Theatre).
Anthony graduated from The Oxford School of Drama in 2002. Film credits include *Legend*, *AmStarDam*, *Dementamania*, *Identicals*, and *Van Wilder 2 - The Rise of Taj*. Television credits include *The Last Kingdom*, *Dr Who*, *Sherlock*, *Casualty*, *Holby*, *Cider With Rosie*, *Houdini* and *Waking The Dead*. Theatre credits include *Square* (Tristan Bates), *Buster Keaton at the Hollywood Canteen* (The Space), *Hanging Out* (Oldham Coliseum), *Art* (Edinburgh Festival), *The Exonerated* (Charing Cross Theatre).

"Now, we must look upon it as putting a sick animal to sleep. Kerry Max Cook has forfeited his right to walk among us. He no longer has rights." Kerry’s Prosecutor

Angela is known for *EastEnders*, *Wondrous Oblivion* and * Burning an Illusion*. She has also appeared in *Death in Paradise*, *The Lion King* and many BBC radio plays, including *Minty Alley*, *Blood Brothers*, *The Dressmaker* and *Hurricane Dub*. She performs in a predominantly female roots reggae band, Abakush.
Amicus is a fair trials charity that fights for justice on death row in the United States. We believe we can make the greatest difference on the frontline, by helping to provide legal assistance to those facing execution.

Amicus places legal interns in pre-trial, appellate and research offices of capital defence attorneys throughout the US - we currently have 18 affiliate offices across 11 different states. Many US defender offices operate within severe funding constraints. Amicus interns provide vital support and carry out work that would simply not be done without them.

Amicus runs a comprehensive bi-annual training programme in US capital defence law and procedure, legal research, evidence and professional conduct. It is attended by approximately 300-400 participants each year. The training equips Amicus interns and caseworkers to be of maximum use to capital defenders in the US and exposes all attendees to the human rights violations surrounding the use of the death penalty.

Amicus holds numerous awareness-raising events throughout the year, including talks, film nights, yoga sessions and university presentations across the country.

Alistair Carmichael MP, Baroness Stern CBE, Benjamin Zephaniah, Claire van Kampen, David Rownttree, Dr. Jan Arriens (Founder, Lifelines), Jane Officer (Founder, Amicus), Sir Mark Rylance, Nick Trenticosta, Peter Carter QC, Peter Pringle, Professor Julian Killingley, Richard Dieter (Former Senior Programme Director, DPIC), Robin Maher, Sister Helen Prejean, Sophie Garner, Sunny Jacobs, Susan Sarandon, Wilbert Rideau.
The Amicus casework programme provides remote support for capital defenders in the US faced with tight timescales and limited resources. We have up to 200 volunteer caseworkers in law firms and barristers chambers working on up to eight different cases, including Supreme Court, federal and state level cases, at any given time. Caseworkers and interns have been recently been involved in the Missouri Project, an investigation into the potentially arbitrary application of the death penalty in Missouri, funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office.

MEMBERSHIP

Amicus needs members to survive. By joining Amicus, you will enable us to continue our work. As a member, you will receive regular Amicus updates through our newsletter, discounts to Amicus Training and events, and also a copy of the Amicus Journal on publication.

To sign up, please visit www.amicus-alj.org/how-help/membership.

To support this event with a donation, please visit mydonate.bt.com/events/amicusexonerated.

THANK YOU
AMICUS THANKS ALL OUR SUPPORTERS FOR THIS EVENT

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The Arch Climbing Centre
Urban Axe Throwing
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Positive impact.

Our award-winning pro bono practice has a leading reputation for delivering positive social impact. Human rights and access to justice are key themes of our global practice and we are proud to provide ongoing support to Amicus. The contribution of our cross-border teams to the recent U.S. Supreme Court victory for Texas inmate Bobby Moore remains a highlight of the past year.

We wish Amicus every success in its mission.
Baker McKenzie is delighted to support the event this evening.
Doughty Street Chambers is home to leading specialist barristers who advise and appear as advocates for clients before all the courts of England and Wales and the rest of the UK, as well as in Europe and other jurisdictions worldwide. We practise in crime, civil law, public and administrative law, international law, mediation, and arbitration, frequently in cases invoking issues of human rights and civil liberties. Striving for access to justice, professionalism and excellence is the driving force behind everything we do.
In the US, since 1973, 158 have been exonerated and freed from death row.
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