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# PRESS RELEASE

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## ADE SOLANKE'S AWARD-WINNING PANDORA'S BOX RETURNS FOR NATIONAL TOUR

### Presented by Spora Stories

**Pandora's Box** by Ade Solanke opens at **The Black-E, Liverpool** (12 Sept), and then goes on tour: **The Lowry, Salford** (13 Sept); **Newcastle Arts Centre** (16 Sept); **Bradford Theatres** (17 Sept); **Seven Arts, Leeds** (18 Sept); **Sheffield Theatres** (19-20 Sept); **The Drum, Birmingham** (1 Oct); **The Hub Theatre, Southampton** (2-4 Oct); **Millfield Arts Centre, London** (8 Oct); **Carnival Arts Centre, Luton** (9 Oct); **Broadway Theatre, Catford, London** (10 Oct); **Broadway Theatre, Barking** (23 Oct); **Bernie Grant Arts Centre, Tottenham, London** (24-25 Oct); **CLF Arts Café, Bussey Building, Peckham, London** (27 Oct – 1 Nov) **Hackney Downs Studios, London** – for half term family participation only (27 Oct-1 Nov).

Following sell-out shows at Arcola Theatre, the acclaimed, award-winning British-African family drama, **Pandora's Box**, embarks on its long-awaited UK tour. Nominated for this year's \$100,000 Nigeria Prize for Literature, Africa's biggest literary award, and nominated for Best New Play, Off West End Theatre Awards, this moving tragicomedy about families, betrayal, choices and love is a must-see. This autumn offers the chance to catch this 'touching, hilarious' (*The Stage*) play that has been dazzling audiences with its 'enthraling, brilliant' (*Public Reviews*) story and performances.

Pandora's Box is generously funded by Arts Council England with additional funding from the Unity Theatre Trust.

- Winner of Best Playwright 2012 Nigerian Entertainment Awards
- Winner of Best Playwright, 2012 African Film Awards

*"You think England is hard? Compared to Nigeria? My dear, you haven't seen anything yet!"*

Summer break is ending. On holiday with her streetwise son in Nigeria, a British-Nigerian mother is in turmoil. Should she leave her only child in a strict Lagos boarding school, or return him to the battlefields of inner London?

*"What do you see out of that window? People right? Just people. Because there are no 'Black' people in Africa. Let him experience that for a change."*

A family spanning three generations and two continents meets in Lagos for the first time in over thirty years. But the joy of reunion also unleashes long-suppressed truths. An exuberant and thought-provoking mix of comedy, tragedy and family drama, **Pandora's Box** reveals the heartbreak behind the difficult choices some parents must make – and the price their children pay.

*"A funny, poignant play. All parents agonise about education. For black and diaspora parents, race and culture make the decision-making even more complex."* - **Diane Abbott MP**

Directed by Shade Oladiti, co-produced by Jon Harris. The cast will be announced shortly.

Website: [www.sporastories.com](http://www.sporastories.com) | Twitter: @sporastories / #PBox2014 | Facebook: [www.facebook.com/SporaStories](http://www.facebook.com/SporaStories)

**Further press information:** to arrange an interview with Ade Solanke or other cast/creatives involved in Pandora's Box, press ticket requests and images, please contact **Sophia A Jackson** [sophia@afridziak.com](mailto:sophia@afridziak.com) / 07855 86 77 78.

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## LISTINGS INFORMATION: PANDORA'S BOX NATIONAL TOUR

### **The Black-E, Liverpool**

Fri 12 Sept, 7.30pm

[www.theblack-e.co.uk](http://www.theblack-e.co.uk) | 0151 709 5109

### **The Lowry, Salford | studio**

Sat 13 Sept, 8pm

[www.thelowry.com](http://www.thelowry.com) | 0843 208 6000

### **Newcastle Arts Centre | Black Swan**

Tues 16 Sept, 7.30pm

[www.newcastle-arts-centre.co.uk](http://www.newcastle-arts-centre.co.uk)

### **Bradford Theatres**

Wed 17 Sept, 7.30pm

[www.bradford-theatres.co.uk](http://www.bradford-theatres.co.uk) | 01274 432000

### **Seven Arts, Leeds**

Thurs 18 Sept, 7.30pm

[www.sevenleeds.co.uk](http://www.sevenleeds.co.uk) | 0113 26 26 777

### **Sheffield Theatres | studio**

Fri/Sat 19 Sept, 7.45pm / 20th Sept, 2.15pm and 7.45pm

[www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk](http://www.sheffieldtheatres.co.uk) | 0114 249 6000

### **The Drum, Birmingham**

Wed 1 Oct, 7.30pm

[www.the-drum.org.uk](http://www.the-drum.org.uk) | 0121 333 2400/2444

### **Southampton Hub Theatre**

Thu/Fri/ Sat 2/3/4 Oct, 7.30pm

[www.southampton-city.ac.uk/hubtheatre](http://www.southampton-city.ac.uk/hubtheatre) | 023 8071 1818

### **Carnival Arts Centre, Luton**

Thurs 9 Oct, 7.30pm

[www.carnivalarts.org.uk](http://www.carnivalarts.org.uk) | 01582 437 100

## **LONDON VENUES**

### **Millfields Arts Centre**

Wed 8 Oct, 7.45pm

[www.millfieldtheatre.co.uk](http://www.millfieldtheatre.co.uk) | 020 8807 6680

### **Broadway Theatre, Catford**

Fri 10 Oct, 8pm

[www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk](http://www.broadwaytheatre.org.uk) | 020 8690 0002

### **Broadway Theatre, Barking**

Thurs 23 Oct, 7.30pm

[www.thebroadwaybarking.com](http://www.thebroadwaybarking.com) | 020 8507 5610

### **Bernie Grant Arts Centre**

Fri/Sat 24/25 Oct, 7.30pm

[www.berniegrantcentre.co.uk](http://www.berniegrantcentre.co.uk) | 020 8365 5450

### **CLF Art Café, Bussey Building (with half-term family participation activities)**

27 Oct – 1 Nov, 3pm

[www.clfartcafe.org](http://www.clfartcafe.org) | 020 7732 5275

### **Hackney Downs Studios (no performances; half-term family participation activities only)**

27 Oct – 1 Nov

<http://hackneydownsstudios.wordpress.com/> | 020 3095 9742