

A HOME FOR GRIEF

PERFORMANCE PACK



Images: Darren Andrews. Lancaster, 2019

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Flowers used by audiences and Fabiola on cloth body in *A Home for Grief*

A HOME FOR GRIEF

A ONE-TO-ONE PERFORMANCE ARTWORK ABOUT GRIEF AND EXPRESSION



'Deep immersion in personal & shared grieving with Fabiola & diverse life & death experiences of women make A Home for Grief a profound moment...Social arts practice beyond the superficial opening up some bigger questions...' – Clive Parkinson (Director of Arts for Health at Manchester Metropolitan University) on twitter.

ABOUT THE PIECE

A Home for Grief is an experience for one person at a time that begins with a sound-walk through the cityscape. On your journey you will listen on headphones to the voices of local people from different backgrounds, sharing how they take care of their dead and themselves. The trail will lead you to a home. In this private space you will be guided through an intimate experience exploring care, memory, ritual and grief. Entering alone, your presence will contribute to a tender conversation on how we say goodbye.

This performance is the first step to creating a communal action that serves people of different backgrounds, searching for ways to share grief across boundaries and histories. Fabiola welcomes anyone who wishes to attend with compassion and a loving heart. *A Home for Grief* is a subtle rebellion, with the hope of affecting change in the ways we relate to each other and giving weight to the knowledge that we all share an ultimate journey... from birth to death.

A HOME FOR GRIEF

IMAGES, VIDEO, LINKS

WEBSITE

www.fabiolasantana.co.uk

TWITTER:

[@fbs_santana](https://twitter.com/fbs_santana)

VIDEO TRAILER:

<https://vimeo.com/344654944>

SOUND-WALK EXCERPT:

<https://www.fabiolasantana.co.uk/a-home-for-grief-soundwalk-track>

PERFORMANCE IMAGES

Darren Andrews



A HOME FOR GRIEF

CREDITS

Created and Performed: Fabiola Santana

Directed and devised: Will Dickie | www.willdickie.co.uk

Voice Collaborator: Lisa Lapidge

Sound-walk interviews: Christine, Nicky, Shaheda, Elham

Sound edit: Will Dickie, Fabiola Santana

Lancaster Arts Producer: Alice Booth

A Home for Grief was funded and produced by Lancaster Arts through a Diverse Actions and Live Art UK Commission for BAME artists (2018-19).

It took place (May, 2019) on the streets of Lancaster and inside a 17th century cottage, weaving public and private spaces together.

Earlier development included:

- DIY14 workshop commissioned by Live Art UK and Diverse Actions — supported by LAB;
- Mentoring by Johnathan Grieve, supported by MAS Productions;
- DRIFT residency with ZU-UK;
- Residency Academy of Contemporary Dance of Setúbal



***'A beautiful and deeply moving experience – reminds me how poorly we learn about to process grief. And the power of gentleness, love and touch. I will remember this – thank you for a precious gift.'* – Audience member**



AUDIENCE RESPONSES

'Fabiola is simply wonderful — she provided peacefulness, warmth, comfort and love throughout the whole, unique experience...unexpected, affecting and exceptionally thoughtful. Memorable!'

'So very moving and beautiful. Many complex layers weaving and flowing. Gentle and lovingly played — not quite the right word. This will live with me. Thank you. I step out of this house changed.'

'What a beautiful experience — the walk, the sunshine, the flowers, the supportive people along the way — and the ladybirds on the railings! And then in the cottage, such a powerful ritual'

'A rare and precious experience. As a young person making theatre 35 years ago this is what I hoped theatre could become. Essential, personal, meaningful, vital, joyous, and a gift between people'

'An incredible experience, stirring, touching, lots to process. Thank you'



'A beautiful experience, brought back painful memories, but felt safe.'

'Thank you, so much to think about. The light flickering across the cloth was beautiful, fleeting and bright. That was enough to express everything'

'I feel so moved. To have the chance to quietly feel in such an intimate setting is a precious gift. The whole experience was perfect. So gentle, thought provoking and kind.'

'This is a beautiful experience, and very emotional. The grief I carry is for two miscarriages, so it is for life not lived, and a lost future. There is little ritual around these losses, so thank you for creating a space to hold it'

'Big and important ideas beautifully, gently and challengingly explored.'

TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

A Home for Grief is a 70 minute sound-walk performance installation for one person at a time.

Sound-walk: approx. 30minutes.

Requires a starting point — preferably inside. Where the audience is introduced to the work and technology.

Performance: approx. 40minutes.
Requires a get-in prior to performance day.

Installation: by-product of performance — curated from the accumulated contributions made by the audience, the objects, and recordings from sound-walk.

Requires it's own get-in time. Capacity, same as venue. Duration is agreed with programmer.

Alongside a solo performer who stays inside of the house for the duration of



the performance; there is a supporting role as a facilitator or a trained front of house person who:

- meets the audience at the start of the walk, and introduces them to the technology;
- is at end of a phone where the audience can call in if they feel they need emotional support during the sound-walk.

Technology for the sound-walk: hand-written map, personal headphones; smartphone with QR code reader.

This performance work has been designed as a bespoke walk for the streets, and an interior space with natural light. The interior space is ideally a house, or a space that has separate rooms. Or it can also be adapted to a gallery space — dividing it into sections.

TOURING FORMATS

1. SOUND-WALK + PERFORMANCE + INSTALLATION

Readily available for tour. Sound-walk requires preparation time on location to adapt the work to the location. Minimum of 2 days.

2. SOUND-WALK + PERFORMANCE

Same as number 1.

3. SOUND-WALK

Currently looking for partners and collaborators to further develop it as a stand alone.

4. INSTALLATION

Currently looking for partners and collaborators to further develop it as a stand alone.



For expressions of interest or bookings, get in touch.

If you are interested in booking numbers 3 or 4 — it will be available to you once it is ready. Or you can support us in the developing process.

'I'm struck by the combination of the warmth of the sun and the performer's body, and the cold of the stone floor and my remembrance of my parent's dead bodies... very special' – Audience member

DEVELOPMENT

A HOME FOR GRIEF - DEVELOPMENT WITH FUTURE PARTNERS AND COLLABORATORS



***'A beautiful and deeply moving experience – reminds me how poorly we learn about to process grief. And the power of gentleness, love and touch. I will remember this – thank you for a precious gift.'* – Audience member**

LOOKING FOR NEW PARTNERS/ COLLABORATORS

After a successful run of *A Home for Grief* in Lancaster where I received very positive feedback from audiences, artists, producers and touring partners; I am looking to connect with new partners and collaborators to make the work sustainable, increase its audience reach, and prepare for a tour — to new partners across the UK.

To give partners a range of booking choices. I am looking to develop the sound-walk and the installation as artworks that can stand alone or in combination with each other.

To fund this development and make it ready for touring, I plan to write my first ACE application.

Your support might be in the form of: access to studio/gallery spaces, share development with test audiences, meet new collaborators, and receive producing advice — venues, strategies, marketing, contacts. My hope is that your support and advice will strengthen my application.

More information on how I plan to develop the work here:

<https://www.fabiolasantana.co.uk/development>

ABOUT FABIOLA

WWW.FABIOLASANTANA.CO.UK

I seek authentic human interactions, working with the body, home, memory and ritual. I explore communal actions in domestic and public settings.

Following my professional dance training, I have forged an interdisciplinary practice:

Contemporary dance, actor training, butoh, live art, voice work, and site-specific/responsive methodologies.

My background is in contemporary dance, I trained in Graham technique and ballet from the age of 8.

Completed a Masters in Contemporary Dance from London Contemporary Dance School (2014), and a BA Hons in Community Arts Practice from the University of East London (2011).

My performance experiences include working as an actor and divisor for ZU-UK, across their performance cannon of theatre, immersive experiences and digital arts. I toured as a dancer on *Remnants*, by Erratica



(2017-18), and was a dancer in *Passage for Par* by Rosemary Lee (2018).

I have also started a solo practice, receiving a commission from Lancaster Arts as part of their BAME call out for Diverse Actions (Live Art UK) — developing and creating my first solo artwork *A Home for Grief*.

As part of my solo practice I also facilitate workshops for professional theatre performers and dancers; and community groups.

I do this by sharing my performance practice.

CONTACT

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