

Oliver: Lagos to London, Episode 3

Oliver: Lagos to London

This is the story of a young Nigerian orphan's epic search for family and a place to call home, featuring an extraordinary cast of three generations of Black British acting talent. It is a radical and emotional reimagining of Charles Dickens' most political novel Oliver Twist - a scourging indictment of child exploitation, as resonant today as it was when it was written.

Together the creative team of writer Ayesha Menon, producer Gill Parry and theatre director Michael Buffong (Artistic Director of Talawa, Britain's pre-eminent Black theatre company) asked – if Charles Dickens were alive today, what would kindle the burning anger that compelled him to write Oliver Twist? Child Poverty? Modern Slavery? The plight of refugees? Using Dickens' novel as a springboard and his outrage as inspiration, they made an immersive drama that feels timely and truthful in its contemporary setting. From rural Ogoniland to the streets of Lagos and the treacherous crossing from Libya to Europe, Oli's story is a powerful and moving updating of Dickens' novel to modern day Nigeria and the refugee journey to Britain. The events in this drama are all, shockingly, based on real stories ... Oliver Twist should not still be relevant in 2020 ... but it is.

Submitting organisation:	feral inc
Contact:	Gill Parry – gill@feral-inc.com
Author:	Ayesha Menon
Adapted from:	the book Oliver Twist by Charles Dickens
Director:	Michael Buffong
Sound:	Steve Bond, David Thomas
Commissioning editor:	Alison Hindell
Producer:	Gill Parry
Production Company:	feral inc
Key staff:	Sarah Tombling (Production manager), John Dryden (Executive producer)
Title of Series:	Oliver: Lagos to London
Episode:	3 : 3
Length:	57 min
Original language:	English
First broadcast by:	BBC Radio 4
Date of first broadcast:	19 January 2020, 15:00
Competing for:	Best European Radio Fiction Series of the Year