

Kuumba Nia Arts On Their Own Ground by Amantha Edmead



Sisters are doing it for themselves: Kuumba Nia debut at the Edinburgh Fringe

To commemorate the seventieth anniversary of the arrival of the Windrush, bringing West Indian immigrants to Britain in June 1948, and the centenary of the Representation of the People Act 1918 which granted the first women the right to vote in Britain, **Kuumba Nia Arts**, Oxford's leading African and Caribbean theatre company, presents a bold new drama **On Their Own Ground**, written and performed by **Amantha Edmead**.

On Their Own Ground tells the stories of three female African-heritage pioneers who all dared to challenge the power structure in a post-slavery world. A child of slaves, Sarah Breedlove (1867 – 1917), known as Madam C J Walker, was the first self-made American female millionaire, selling beauty products for black women. An innovator, many of her key management staff were women. Amy Jacques Garvey (1895 – 1973) a pioneering black female journalist, editor, author, Pan-Africanist and social campaigner. Amy Ashwood Garvey (1897 – 1969), was a flamboyant, co founder of the UNIA, a Pan-Africanist campaigner and cultural feminist. All three black women had the vision to change the world of black women for ever.

Directed by **John Sailsman**, **Amantha Edmead's** multi-layered solo performance fuses spoken word, movement and song, bringing to the stage the stories of these three remarkable women. **Kuumba Nia Arts** is dedicated to perform black people's histories, and contemporary stories, using a style that speaks powerfully to British people with an African heritage as well as all audiences who love their theatre passionate, intelligent and political.

'Spellbinding theatre from a performer at the top of her game. I was captivated by and enthralled at Ms Edmead's apparently effortless, outstanding performance. "Not to be missed" doesn't go anywhere near this!' Akulah Agbani, programmer and director of *Black Artists On The Move*

'Amantha is a 21st century women, celebrating ancient Africa – and its wondrous female diaspora. She carries with obvious pride, the shoes of those who walked before her. She is their spiritual descendent: the daughter of legacy. Like the person on a Ghanaian street, wrapped in kente, that makes you turn you head and look, until they've gone out of sight, she kept us completely focused on the weaving' Natty Mark Samuels, *The Dub*

www.kuumbaniarts.com
[facebook.com/kuumbaniarts](https://www.facebook.com/kuumbaniarts)

Listings Information

Venue	C royale, Royal Society of Edinburgh, 22 George Street, EH2 2PQ, venue 6
Dates	12-18 Aug
Time	12:15 (Ohr50)
Ticket prices	£7.50-£9.50 / concessions £5.50-£7.50 / under 18s £3.50-£5.50
C venues box office	0131 581 5555 / www.CtheFestival.com/2018/on-their-own-ground
Fringe box office	0131 226 0000 / www.edfringe.com

C venues

vibrant vivacious variety

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Rosie Wake

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C venues London

5 Alexandra Mansions

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during the Fringe in August

C venues Edinburgh

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Ticket collection at any C venue

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