



A SHORT FILM BY INSPIRED FUTURES

WHEN TWO WORLDS COME TOGETHER

SAY NOTHING

DANIEL
ATTWELL

REECE
HARRIS

ELLEN
THOMAS

ADE
FEMZO



INSPIRED
MEDIA
COLLECTIVE



PRESS KIT

FILM SYNOPSIS

'Say Nothing' is a scripted drama set in inner city London, it's a cop buddy, body swap show. It centres on a white, bigoted, burnt out, police officer and a young black male, from da endz, with a distrust for the police who both become trapped in each other's bodies. After the senseless death of her teenage son, a Juju woman casts a hex on them. The dual protagonists are forbidden from disclosing their faux identities; they have to confront their unconscious biases, learn to adapt to their new environments and root out the culprits responsible for the surge in youth violence. 'Say Nothing' explores the massive disconnect between the black community and the police in Britain, it is different to any other UK police show, yet familiar (it's a cop buddy show that employs magical realism).

Say Nothing will discover and reveal a conspiracy that, if true, explains the real reason for the rise of youth crime. The stories told here will resonate with its viewers, they will laugh, cry, debate the themes, and subjects, and reflect on their own unconscious biases through the characters. This isn't just another violent 'black trauma porn' hood story; 'Say Nothing' tells a real story about a real place, with characters who are loved and humanised, and who do not understand why young people are dying, at alarming rates, of unnatural causes.



SAY NOTHING

SAY NOTHING TEASER



HOW THIS FILM CAME TO BE

In 2015, Donna-Marie walked away from her job as a drug counsellor and decided she was going to produce a short script she had written called *Switchin'*. Donna-Marie had barely been on a film set, and she did not have any access to any funds; still, she used the skills from her job to risk assess the locations and the knowledge she gained from a short film-producing course she had attended. Donna-Marie's script enabled her to attract an investor who funded the film for £10,000. She was also able to attract a talented DOP and Editor who were key to supporting her in making her first fully funded feature.

At the screening of the film an investor approached Donna-Marie and asked to adapt the short film and to make the dual protagonist a policeman instead of a teacher and this is how *SAY NOTHING* was born; it was only after making the film Donna-Marie recognised she had made an important social impact film which resonated strongly with the investor who had lost his baby brother to Youth Street Violence. By osmosis, these themes emerged.





WHY THIS STORY? WHY NOW?

*In 2023, 21 teenagers met violent deaths in London, up from 14 the previous year. Of those who died, 18 were stabbed, two were shot and one was killed in a collision with a car while riding a moped. Sadly, youth murder is no longer frontline news. And for far too many families the fear of their young person being threatened, robbed, attacked, or killed at the hands of another young person is an unwarranted reality regardless of class or ethnicity.

Media outlets sensationalise the violent deaths of young people, but seldom do they mention the toxic environment administered by social policy and societal norms that contribute to the violence perpetrated by violent youths. 'Say Nothing' provides context, and shows what can happen when disadvantaged communities are underserved.

Two sold-out screenings of, a 30-minute proof of concept, showing the 'Say Nothing', film resonated positively with older and younger generations alike. The feedback from the 600-strong audience was 'what happens next?', 'I didn't know this would make me cry', 'I laughed so hard', and 'thanks for telling this important story'. Stakeholders who attended the event were left pondering over the status quo.

CAST

PRESS KIT

SAY NOTHING





DANIEL ATTWELL

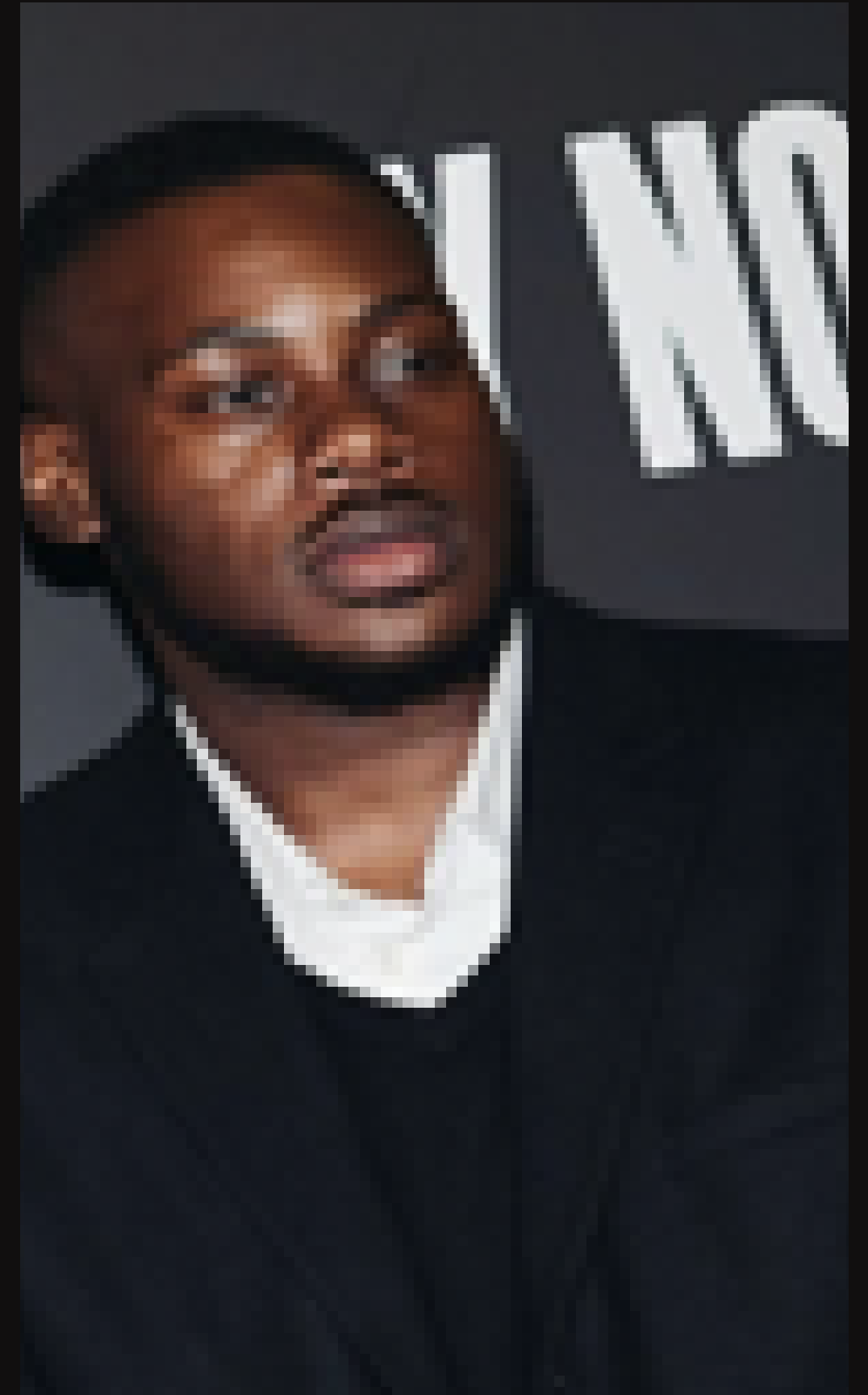
DAVID FIRTH, white, 33, working class, obsesses over small details, he's stringent, arrogant and assertive, borderline prejudice. He likes to have the last word. He annoys people with his persistence. Fundamentally a good man who has become jaded due to the strain and constraints of his job, and the influence of work colleague, Ollie. He wants to rid the streets of the gangs. Played by Daniel Attwell, 1917, Call the Midwife, Eastenders.

[@mr_danielattwell](#)

REECE HARRIS

JAYDEN black, 19, is loved by the streets, laidback, charismatic, sharp, anti-authority, and misguided. He bores easily and likes quick results, and is likely to find a short cut. He would love to feel safe in his neighbourhood. Played by Reece Harris, Newcomer.

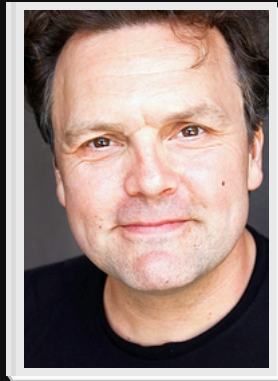
[@rwonder101](#)



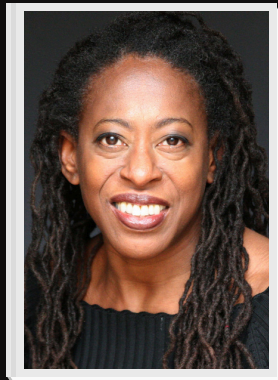
SUPPORTING CAST



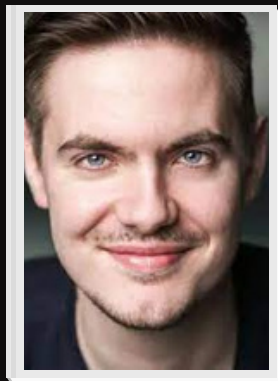
← JUJU WOMAN (AKA MRS ARIELLE) dark skinned black, 60, broken following the death of her only son. Spiritual, serious, mystical. Wants her son to be able to rest eternally, is fed up with the senseless youth killings. Played by Ellen Thomas, In the Long Run, Dark Money, EastEnders.



← SIMON GOLD, 55, one of the good guys, tries to treat everyone fairly, wants an easy time at work. Played by Che Walker, Riches, The Chelsea Detective, EastEnders.

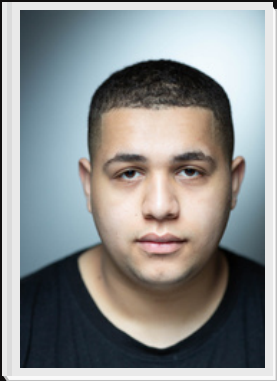


← PAULA MILLS (JAYDEN'S MUM) 48, dark skinned black, takes no shit, all about her business, and her kids. She is fearful something bad will happen to her son, she tends to wrap him in cotton wool. Played by Judith Jacob, Eastenders, PRU, The Real McCoy.



← RAY, 18, white, lives on the blocks, streetwise, aggressive if confronted, a hype man, protective of his boyz, will always back his boyz, is into knives. Ray will use a knife without a second thought. Played by Ollie Reyhart, Newcomer.

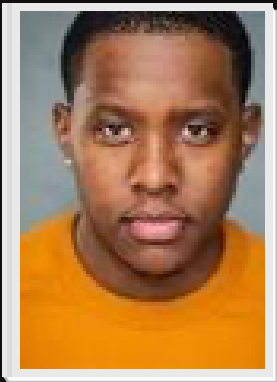
SUPPORTING CAST



KAI, 18, mixed race, uni student from the blocks, a bit docile at times, girl -crazy, an instigator who is scared of fighting, likely to run from a fight. Carries a knife for prevention, but would never use it.
NEWCOMER



MARCUS THE MAD MAN 47, black, unkempt, good heart, tries to be helpful but is mocked and a bit of an outcast. Hyperactive, usually on his toes. He sees and knows everything. He speaks in reverse. Marcus needs to be heard. Played by Chris Streeks, Pirates, Redemption.



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DONNA-MARIE DOWE **BRIEF BIO**

Donna-Marie Dowe is a filmmaker of Jamaican heritage who was born in Hackney. She started her filmmaking career by completing an MA in screenwriting at LCC. Donna-Marie studied Criminology and Social Science and worked in the social care field working with children, young people, and families from different ethnicities and social classes; her writing has something to say about societal failures. Most of her work lends itself to social satire, and fits neatly across Drama and Comedy; however, she occasionally flirts with crime dramas and the horror genre.

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

SAY NOTHING uses magical realism, to explore the inner world of our protagonists. In a reality where Black boys and the poor working class are often viewed through the narrow lens of criminality, the magic in our story offers an alternative view.

The relationship between our dual protagonists is symbolic of a broader societal tension. The officer, **DAVID**, is not simply a man in uniform; he represents the systemic nature of prejudice, the kind of racism that goes unseen, unnoticed, yet is constantly felt. In contrast, the boy, **JAYDEN**, embodies the dreams and the potential of so many Black youth, who are too often misjudged and misunderstood.

SAY NOTHING film is a reflection of our times, of the urgency with which we must address the deep-rooted racism and biases that continue to permeate our societies. Yet, it is also a reminder that within these difficult stories, there is beauty, there is resistance, and there is magic. I hope that **SAY NOTHING** encourages viewers to question their perceptions, open their hearts, and recognise the humanity—and magic—in every young Black boy/girl who has ever felt unseen or unsafe. And to examine the difficulties police face when policing innercity areas.

In making this film, I wanted to create a space where the complex realities of race, power, and justice could be explored through a lens that is both intimate and fantastical. **SAY NOTHING** is asking us to remember our humanity.

PRODUCTION TEAM



DONNA-MARIE DOWE

WRITER//DIRECTOR//PRODUCER

Donna-Marie Dowe is a talented filmmaker who has been writing and producing scripted projects for over ten years. She has a strong body of work. Her breakout TV script DADS received high praises from many of the established indies. She has three TV projects in development with broadcast producers and she is currently working on her slate of independent feature films @dmariedowe



NATHAN LEVY

FILM PRODUCER

Nathan has a long history of project management which he gained from his years of running an educational charity for young people. Nathan produced After Effects alongside an award-winning director, Mark One, he also went on to produce a poetry-based short film, and is now the co-producer of Say Nothing via his production company Inspired Media Collective. @inspiredmedia



BANI MENDY

DOP

Bani is an incredible DOP with hundreds of hours of film and TV broadcast credits. You have probably watched at least one of the shows he has worked on. Death in Paradise, and The Pru to name a few. @banivision_dop



BEN PETERS

EDITOR

Ben has over 20 years of experience editing films and commercial projects. Bet cut his teeth directing and editing music videos and he has worked with a ton of famous artists. He spends most of his time working on commercial projects but is keen to work on more creative, scripted projects - some of which he has written himself. @N22FILMS

***SAD STATS**

- In 2022/23, 99 young people aged 16–24 were victims of homicide, compared to 87 in 2012/13.
- In the same year, 467 children were treated in hospital for knife or sharp object injuries, a 47% increase from 2012/13's 318 instances.
- Homicides and knife assaults both showed notable increases in the mid-2010s, peaking in 2017/18 and 2018/19, respectively.
- Numbers have since declined, especially during the pandemic, but remain above levels seen a decade ago.

D'Marie Productions are open to partnering with organisations that would like to screen this important film and host QandA's.

For more information please visit <https://www.dmarieproductions.com/contact>

***<https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk/reports/beyond-the-headlines-2024/summary/#:~:text=In%202022%2F23%2C%2099%20young,from%202012%2F13's%20318%20instances.>**



Filmed on location in Hackney, London.

FESTIVALS



DELIVERABLES

LENGTH	30 mins
ORIGINAL LANGUAGE	English
PRODUCTION YEAR	2022
EXHIBITION FORMATS	Digital Projection (DCP)
LANGUAGES	English,
SUBTITLES	English

CONTACTS

WEBSITE	WWW.DMARIEPRODUCTIONS.COM
EMAIL	missdmdowe@gmail.com
PRODUCTION COMPANY	D'MARIE PRODUCTIONS
PRODUCTION LOCATION	London
ASPECT RATIO	16:9
AUDIO FORMAT	Advanced Audio Technology