

PRESS RELEASE

Wednesday 11 December 2019

DIANA NNEKA ATUONA ANNOUNCED AS RECIPIENT OF THE 50TH GEORGE DEVINE AWARD FOR MOST PROMISING PLAYWRIGHT



Diana Nneka Atuona has received the 50th George Devine Award for Most Promising Playwright. She was awarded the £15,000 prize at an event at the Royal Court Theatre.

Richard Bean, Charlene James, Hanif Kureishi, Mike Leigh, Lucy Prebble and Laura Wade are past winners of the award, which was set up in 1966 in memory of George Devine, the Royal Court's first Artistic Director.

Diana Nneka Atuona most recently collaborated with the Royal Court Theatre with her play *Liberian Girl* which was produced in 2013.

Commenting on receiving the award playwright Diana Nneka Atuona said;

"Writing plays is a difficult journey; I've had knock backs and at times felt I couldn't complete drafts but I didn't give up. Winning the George Devine Award has been the validation I needed to persevere with writing plays that I truly believe in. A big thank you to the judges on the panel."

Ends:-



For more information, please contact Anoushka Warden
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Notes to Editors:

Diana Nneka Atuona Biography

Diana Nneka Atuona is a British born, Nigerian writer from Peckham, South London. Her first play, *Liberian Girl* debuted at the Royal Court Theatre (Jerwood Theatre Upstairs). In 2013, it won the Alfred Fagon Award and was nominated for an Evening Standard Theatre Award in 2015.

