

**MAY DAY DOUBLE BILL  
ROBESON & LAWYER**

**Call Mr. Robeson. A Life, With Songs**

**Just An Ordinary Lawyer. A Play, With Songs**

**Written and Performed by  
Tayo Aluko**

**With Horacio Lopez Redondo, Piano.**

**Theatro Technis,  
Crowndale Road, London**

**Opening event in celebration of  
60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Theatro Technis**

**And in recognition of**

**International Workers' Day**

**Monday May 1, 2017**

## CALL MR. ROBESON: A life, with songs.

**Greetings.** Jeremy Corbyn is a threat to national security. Since none other than the esteemed foreign secretary declared him thus, it must be true. After all, anybody who is not brave enough to state categorically that he would not hesitate to press the red button that would nuke some city somewhere far away clearly is not fit to be the leader of this country. Even Hillary Clinton has more b\*\*ls than him, because she talked of nuking Iran when she ran against that famous pussyfooter Obama all those years ago. Which makes one think of his successor. Now, there's a REAL MAN – one who can boast about grabbing assorted parts of female anatomy one day, become president the next, drop the mother of all bombs the day after, and then send a nuclear armada to the Korean Peninsula before ending the week on a golf course. *That* is the kind of “strong, stable leadership” that we need, which Mr. Corbyn is clearly incapable of providing, and which the prime minister quite demonstrates in spades. All that flowery, sensitive, effeminate talk of providing health care for all, and free at the point of use; of increasing minimum wages; of building council homes; of re-nationalising the railways and utilities; of creating a people's bank, and worst of all, of talking and negotiating with groups who have grievances – all that is a clear and present danger to not just national, but international security, and should therefore be laughed out of all consideration at every given opportunity. People didn't so much laugh at Paul Robeson in his time – he was seen as an even more dangerous threat to national security, for daring to suggest, for example, that *“the absence of peace in the world today is due precisely to the efforts of the British, American and other imperialist powers to retain their control over the peoples of Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Africa.”* This was way back in 1946, as the world was emerging from another devastating war that claimed millions of lives. The difference between then and now is that most of the lives being lost in today's conflicts are foreign, so we here don't need to worry so much, as long as we continue to enjoy the kind of “strong, stable leadership” that we clearly need now, as we prepare to do battle against those who would allow all those foreigners to come into our country to take advantage of our housing, social services and the NHS. So, be patriotic, be strong, be wise. Vote on June 8, but for anybody but Jeremy Corbyn. Your country's security depends on you. I hope you enjoy the show.

**Tayo Aluko. Writer, Performer.** Tayo was born in Nigeria, and now lives in Liverpool. He worked previously as an architect and property developer, with a special but as yet frustrated interest in eco-friendly construction. He has fronted orchestras as baritone soloist in concert halls, and has also performed lead roles in such operas and musicals as *Nabucco*, *Kiss Me Kate* and *Anything Goes*. *CALL MR ROBESON* has won numerous awards at festivals in the UK and Canada, as well as highly favourable reviews in the press – most notably in *the Guardian* and on BBC Radio 4. He has toured the play around the UK, the USA, Canada, Jamaica and Nigeria, including New York's Carnegie Hall in 2012. He delivers a lecture/concert called *PAUL ROBESON – THE GIANT, IN A NUTSHELL*. Another one titled *FROM BLACK AFRICA TO THE WHITE HOUSE*: a talk about Black Political Resistance, illustrated with spirituals has been performed in three continents. He researched, wrote and narrated to camera a piece on West African History before the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade, which forms part of the permanent exhibit at Liverpool's International Slavery Museum. His 15-minute play, *HALF MOON*, which also deals with ancient Africa has been performed several times in the UK. He has developed a piece titled *WHAT HAPPENS?* featuring the writings of African American Langston Hughes, for performance with live jazz accompaniment. He has been published in *The Guardian*, *The Morning Star*, *NERVE Magazine*, *Modern Ghana* and *Searchlight Magazine*.

Direction and Dramaturgy: **Olusola Oyeleye** Design: **Phil Newman**; Sound Design: David Darlington & Liam McDermott. Sound Engineering: Derek Murray. Lighting Design: Gareth Starkey. Recorded Percussion: Oludele Olaseinde Voices: Shamus Maxwell, Paul O'Neill. Felix Pring, Kat Bishop, Suzanne Goldberg, Harry Arkwright, and from the original HUAC hearing of June 12 1956, “Honorable” Senators Walter, Arens and Scherer. Male Voice Choir: Liverpool Male Voice Choir.

**Future Performances Include: May 13: Crich** Glebe Field Centre; **June 10: Leominster** Festival; **July 6 – 8:** Tara Theatre, **London;** **July 13,15,16:** **Buxton** Fringe Festival; **August 21 – 26:** **Edinburgh** Fringe.

**CALL MR. ROBESON** was performed at **Theatro Technis** in January 2011, earning a 4 – star review from **The Guardian**

**www.callmrrobeson.com**

**facebook:** Call Mr. Robeson **Twitter:** @CallMrRobeson

**HAPPY 60<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY GREETINGS**

**To Theatro Technis**

**With Love and Gratitude**

**From**

**Tayo Aluko & Friends**

# JUST AN ORDINARY LAWYER. A play, with songs.

**Greetings, welcome.** *“Any trust placed in the representatives of His Majesty’s Government, be they Tory or Labour, is trust gravely and carelessly misplaced.”* This is a line I have given to “a minor character” in this play, and one that has considerable relevance in the run up to the general election. True, the record of even Labour governments is dire, when considering modern African history. Some would argue that one of the reasons for that is that few Labour administrations have been led by true socialists. It is interesting to note that independence struggles in Africa and other parts of the world were supported by socialist states elsewhere, and that the Cold War was fought on African soil with devastating consequences. The anti-apartheid struggle was joined all around the world, and in few places more forcefully than on the streets and squares of London, by people of all colours. Many of those got arrested for their trouble, and one such is the man proposing to lead the next Labour government. The same man has also endured great criticism and ridicule for standing and speaking up for Palestinians and for Catholics in Northern Ireland, and for calling on the government to stop arming despotic and tyrannical regimes in the Middle East and in Africa. Who to trust as we see the rise of racist regimes around the world? Someone like Jeremy Corbyn, or the person who, while Home Secretary authorised vans to go around London carrying billboards urging illegal immigrants to go home or face arrest; who promised repeatedly that there would be no election until 2020, and who refuses to defend her policies and record in debate with her challenger. True, there are many in the Labour Party that I wouldn’t trust any further than I could throw them, but Mr. Corbyn is not one of them. As an African, I see him as one of the most likely politicians who would contribute to ending of those British and European policies that continue to devastate that great continent, and as such, I am happy to use this platform to state that I will be voting Labour on June 8, and urge others to do the same.

**Horacio López Redondo, Piano.** Horacio began his musical education in Spain at the age of 5. He was on the MA Piano Accompaniment program at the Royal Academy of Music with teachers Mr Malcolm Martineau and Mr James Baillieu, where he graduated in 2013 with Distinction, and was Highly Commended in the “Christian Carpentier Prize” for Piano Accompaniment Exam. In 2012 he won the Accompanist Competition at the “Canolfan Gerdd William Mathias” Festival in Caernarfon, Wales, and also won the Second Prize at the “Ludmilla Andrew Russian Song Prize” competition, at the Royal Academy of Music. Since his arrival in London in 2010, Horacio has performed as an accompanist at some of the most prestigious London venues, including the Wigmore Hall, Blackheath Halls, St. James’ Piccadilly, The Forge, King’s Head Theatre and Southwark Cathedral, and in other parts of the country such as Canterbury Cathedral, Bristol Cathedral or “The Venue” at Leeds College of Music.

Horacio plays a selection of piano pieces by composers from Africa and the Diaspora as pre-show music.

**Direction:** Amanda Huxtable; **Design:** Emma Williams; **Dramaturgy:** Esther Wilson; **Lighting Design:** Mark Loudon; **Sound Design:** Noel Inyang and Tayo Aluko

**Forthcoming Performances Include: May 14:** Doncaster United & Free Christian Church;  
**May 30, 31:** Manchester Central Library; **June 3, 4:** Marlborough Theatre, Brighton;  
**June 11:** The Place, Bedford; **July 12, 14, 16:** Buxton Fringe Festival  
**August 21 – 26:** Edinburgh Fringe

**facebook:** Just An Ordinary Lawyer. **Twitter:** @1OrdinaryLawyer  
[www.justanordinarylawyer.com](http://www.justanordinarylawyer.com)

**JUST AN ORDINARY LAWYER** was performed at Teatro Technis  
in January 2017, earning a 4-star review from **The Guardian**

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