

# Flood Part 3 To The Sea

By James Phillips

Performance Live  
BBC 2 10pm 12th August 2017

Presented by the BBC,  
Arts Council England  
Hull UK City of Culture 2017  
and  
Slung Low



# Flood Part 3 Interim Evaluation Report

August 2017

There was a specific tweet that came in just after broadcast of the show on BBC 2 that best represented simply all the opportunities that were available through the Performance Live scheme:

**Just watched Flood to the Sea  
amazing and moving can't wait to see  
more from this fantastic company  
@SlungLow**

Our work had been introduced to someone new; hundreds of someones new, in fact thousands of someones new. In one Saturday evening more people saw Slung Low's work than in the preceding 10 years of live performances. A new wave of people aware of our work and aesthetic, a national six figure audience for a company based in a storage container in Holbeck performing in a canal in the middle of a housing estate in Hull. This was the promise of the Performance Live strand and that promise was delivered on.

The power of that reach is not to be underestimated- the value that platform that gives in certain circles to our work and our processes is a great outcome of this part of the Flood project.

Never was that more clearly felt than in the press reception which was by some distance the single most successful press campaign for one of our pieces. Much more than width and breadth of column inches the manner in which the theatrical and political ambition of the whole year-long project was understood by television journalists is particularly satisfying.

The greatest challenge was to maintain our ways of working and principles in a new and substantially more aggressive industry. There were a number of false starts for sure, evidenced by the number of television teams we got through before finding our excellent television team of Janie Valentine and Ross MacGibbon. But a balance was found between pragmatism and principled defiance.

The support of the BAC and their producers was vital in all this.

Amongst the many lessons learnt is a new certainty that how we make something does really have a profound impact on the audience experience and these principles are to be protected even when that is uncomfortable.

Most clearly this was seen in the impact the show had on its community chorus, and the impact that those citizen performers had on the show and the audience. The central place those volunteers had in our process, the exposure they had to an ambitious artistic process and the impact they had on audiences are the part of this project I hope the company is most proud of.

We are much to be thankful to Part 3 for, the confidence it gives us will be of great help as we head to Part 4: New World.

Ever on!



# A MOVING MEDITATION ON THE PLIGHTS OF MIGRANTS EVERYWHERE

The Observer, New Review

# Audience feedback

A small selection of social media responses August 2017

Just watched Flood to the Sea amazing and moving can't wait to see more from this fantastic company @SlungLow

Julie Cullen

Glued to our screens watching @SlungLow on @BBC - beautiful & mesmerising "do you believe home is a place?" A triumph for @2017Hull

Leeds 2023

#floodtothesea it was brilliant that and very clever #PerformanceLive

John Brunton



TV play set floating on Hull's docks. An amazing feat but also wonderfully written. Watch it when you can #flood #bbc2 #hull2017

Emily Coupland

@SlungLow bit speechless after #Flood - To the Sea a disturbing timely drama brilliantly staged on the waters of Victoria Dock. #Hull2017

Michelle Dee

Just bloody exceptional work from @SlungLow - loved the #flood #performancelive #hullcityculture2017

Sheep Prod

Absolutely loved #FloodToTheSea by @SlungLow on @BBCiPlayer Beautiful storytelling #Boom #theatre #Hull2017

Nicola Miles-Wildin

Wow, watched @SlungLow s #FLOOD on @BBCiPlayer last night. So good the story continued to roll on into my dreamspace. Beautiful, mythic work

Kate Alderton



# Critics' Coverage

The show was warmly previewed in the full range of national newspapers, made Pick of the Day in over 50 regional newspapers, appeared in packages on BBC Yorkshire, BBC Radio Leeds and Humberside and on the national BBC Breakfast news.

**A powerful and eloquent exploration of humanity in crisis, encouraging thought and debate around the current, ever-growing refugee crisis in Europe and across the world**

Yorkshire Post

## Critic's Choice

The Observer, The Sunday Times, Daily Mail, Total TV Guide, The Guardian, The Time and i



**An epic project; the scale of ambition shown here is something to be applauded**

The Daily Telegraph

**A thought-provoking parallel to the refugee crisis**

Total TV Guide

# Flood Part 3: To The Sea



# Get in touch

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