

# First look at new ITV drama **Stephen** starring **Sharlene Whyte, Steve Coogan and Hugh Quarshie** and produced by **HTM Television**

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[Drama](#)

## **First look at new ITV drama **Stephen** starring **Sharlene Whyte, Steve Coogan and Hugh Quarshie** and produced by **HTM Television****

Sharlene Whyte, Steve Coogan and Hugh Quarshie play leading roles in *Stephen*, the three-part sequel to the groundbreaking ITV drama, *The Murder of Stephen Lawrence*.

Sharlene Whyte (*Small Axe*, *We Hunt Together*) takes the role of Doreen Lawrence with Hugh Quarshie (*Breeders*, *Absentia*, *White Heat*, *Holby City*) reprising his performance of Neville Lawrence from the original award-winning drama. BAFTA award winning actor Steve Coogan (*Stan & Ollie*, *Philomena*) takes the role of DCI Clive Driscoll who led the investigation into the murder of the

Lawrences' beloved son, Stephen.

Stephen portrays events from 2006, thirteen years after Stephen's death on the evening of 22 April 1993 in a racially motivated attack whilst waiting for a bus in Well Hall Road, Eltham.

Even though Doreen and Neville Lawrence knew the identity of their son's killers, the original investigation had failed to convict those responsible, and their extraordinary campaign for justice led to a public inquiry which branded Metropolitan Police institutionally racist and brought about sweeping changes in the law and police practices and transformed thinking and understanding of racial inequality in the UK.

Yet six years on from the Inquiry no progress had been made into the case. The drama tells the story of the ongoing struggle by Doreen and Neville Lawrence to achieve justice and how a detective, DCI Clive Driscoll - working closely with the Lawrences - puts together an investigation that finally - more than 18 years after his death - secures the convictions of two of the gang who committed the murder of Stephen.

The drama has been produced by HTM (Hat Trick Mercurio) Television in association with Baby Cow Productions and executive produced by Mark Redhead (Bloody Sunday, God on Trial, The Secret), who produced the original drama in 1999. Paul Greengrass, award winning screenwriter and director, who wrote and directed the Murder of Stephen Lawrence will also serve as an Executive Producer. Jimmy Mulville and Jed Mercurio are also executive producers.

Stephen was directed by Alrick Riley (The Cops, NCIS and Hustle) and produced by Madonna Baptiste (The Stranger, Black Mirror, Silent Witness). The sequel is written by Frank Cottrell Boyce (Hilary and Jackie, Millions, 24-Hour Party People) and Joe Cottrell Boyce (Treasure). The production team are producing this sequel with the full support of the Lawrence family, most notably Baroness Doreen Lawrence and Dr Neville Lawrence, who have given the drama their blessing.

Stephen will air on ITV later this year.

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