

Believe Uk Launch New Podcast Series In Black History Month

Believe UK & Music Minds Matter Presents: Everyday Racism



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Believe UK, in collaboration with UK charity **Help Musicians**' dedicated mental health service, **Music Minds Matter**, have launched a new podcast series, titled **Believe and Music Minds Matter Presents: Everyday Racism.**

Hosted by **Believe UK**'s **Chris Ogori**, the series consists of 5 episodes featuring musicians: <u>Poppy</u> <u>Ajudha</u>, <u>Grove</u>, <u>TAAHLIAH</u>, <u>Joel Culpepper</u> and <u>Sway</u>. Alongside charities and equality campaigners: <u>Love Music Hate Racism</u>, <u>Black Minds Matter</u> and <u>Black Lives in Music</u>.

The podcast episodes are titled: **New School Artist**, **Influence of Music**, **Class Barriers**, **Institutional vs Individual Racism** and **Old School Artist**.

Episode #1 Everyday Racism: New School Artist has launched this week. Listen online here: <u>https://ffm.bio/antiracismpodcast</u> Watch online here: <u>https://tinyurl.com/Everyday-Racism</u>

Featuring **Poppy Ajudha**, episode #1 discusses how the music industry's relationship with issues of race have changed over time, the obstacles being faced, and how these can be overcome.

Believe and Music Minds Matter Presents: Everyday Racism has been launched with the aim of highlighting music industry issues, with a focus on racism. Providing a platform for musicians and industry players to voice their personal experiences and discuss how these issues can be tackled in the future.

Chris Ogori, from **Believe UK**, said, "Since the events of last year it's become super necessary to have an open dialogue about racism and inequality within the music world – for both artists and executives. The main thing I've taken from conversations were that a lot of people were unaware of the environments people of Black and Asian descent had to work in. Conversations like these not only help with educating and informing the listeners but help us make the next grand step in order to create systematic change and equality. I'm highly appreciative for the support shown from Believe UK and Music Minds Matter to help create this platform but most importantly enabling me to have the chance to voice out and speak on previous experiences and traumas whilst unapologetically being myself – speaking boldly and proudly as a young Black executive within the music industry."

Joe Hastings, Head of Music Minds Matter at Help Musicians, said: "Open conversations about racism and inequality are vital to an evolving society and hearing from a range of lived experiences helps us all to consider our thoughts and actions more deeply. We know that racism can have a profound impact on mental health and self-worth, so we were privileged to be invited by Believe to support the Everyday Racism series through our dedicated mental health service for the whole music industry, Music Minds Matter. We hope the podcasts over the coming weeks spark important conversations and for anyone who feels they need support to manage their own experiences, please do remember that Music Minds Matter is available 24/7 by calling 0808 802 8008."

Believe UK want to form meaningful partnerships with all those involved in the podcast; it is viewed as an ongoing development project opposed to a one-off event. Hoping that this will in turn contribute to/generate a wider industry discussion, resulting in action points that can be addressed, contributing to **Believe UK**'s drive to promote inclusivity in our industry.



<u>Believe UK</u> <u>Music Minds Matter</u>