

## MOTHERLAND – PRESS COMMENTS

"I was astounded by the programme. It is one of the most remarkable programmes I have seen in recent years. It is revelatory, it is emotional, there are moments of complete surprise... I sat there with tears in my eyes in parts. I would say this to the producers.. you should be very proud of what you have produced. It is something special."

**Greg Dyke - former Director-General BBC**

**"engrossing"** Observer  
**"impressive and affecting"** Sunday Times  
**"gripping"** Time Out  
**"ground-breaking"** The Times

"At the core of this feature length documentary are three personal and affecting journeys that make gripping television... It's fascinating to watch the revelations and surprises from the DNA and how the three initially embrace some information but try to side-step other discoveries. In the end, they all have their expectations challenged and, it seems, learn to let go of some fantasies. It's a pity they didn't make a series: "Motherland" would have been a great ongoing format"

**Emma Perry - Time Out**

"Compelling television... this is a flagship programme - Roots II, the genetic remake"

**David Concar - New Scientist**

This is for me the television highlight of the year. I was moved to tears. I'm not exaggerating when I say it was one of the most fascinating documentaries I have seen in a long time."

**James O'Brien - LBC**

**"This film could change the lives of many people"** Michael Eboda - New Nation  
**"a genuinely amazing programme"** TV Times  
**"truly fascinating"** Evening Standard  
**"ambitious and memorable"** Sunday Telegraph

"Absolutely gripping - moving and discomfiting and an effective rebuke to all pieties about racial descent and bloodline, not just the openly racist ones"

**Thomas Sutcliffe - Independent**

"Epic... the film is Roots made real. What Alex Haley did for Kunta Kinte in fiction, 30 years ago, two documentary makers have done for 230 British African Caribbeans in real life. This is the first time any African Caribbean man or woman has been able to cut through the cultural massacre that was the slave trade, to trace her direct ancestral relatives in Africa."

**Amanda Blinkhorn - Ham & High**

**"unbearably poignant"** Daily Express  
**"moving and involving"** The Daily Mail  
**"remarkable and historic"** Evening Standard  
**"pioneering"** Independent on Sunday  
**"Don't miss"** Standard

"a remarkable survey...revealed startling secrets... the film's intriguing discovery, [was] revealed by a revolution in genetics that threatens to transform our understanding of our personal pasts - and uncover all kinds of familial surprises. This film will change the way black British people see themselves."

**Robin McKie - Observer**

"Like some terrible amputation, slavery deprived Africans of their history and culture as well as their freedom. Now DNA analysis for Motherland enables three black Britons to rediscover their long lost roots. There are surprises, shocks and tears."

**Paul Hoggart - The Times**

"Filmed across three continents, this ambitious documentary follows a group of descendants of African slaves as they use a pioneering genetic study to discover their long lost roots. The appliance of this new science is fascinating in itself. But the film is most memorable for the curious and contrasting expectations of the volunteers involved."

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