

George the Poet is a London-born spoken word performer of Ugandan heritage. His innovative brand of musical poetry has won him critical acclaim both as a recording artist and social commentator and seen his work broadcast to billions of people worldwide. In summer of 2018, he opened the **Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle** with his poem 'The Beauty of Union', and in 2019, his audio offering 'Have You Heard George's Podcast?' won a prestigious **Peabody Award and 5 Gold British Podcast Awards**, including the highly-coveted **Podcast of the Year**. The podcast was described by BBC R4 as "a story that could change the world".

George is a proud **ambassador to Sentebale** (the charity founded by Prince Harry which helps support young people affected by HIV & Aids in southern Africa), and is a **trustee of Arts Council England**.

Born to Ugandan parents on the St Raphael's Estate in Neasden, George attended Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School before taking his place at King's College, Cambridge where he studied Politics, Psychology and Sociology. Whilst at University, George **won a social enterprise**, using the £16,000 prize to fund a series of poetry workshops for **underprivileged children in London**. He quickly gained notoriety creating **three poems for Formula One**, becoming the face of **Radio 1's Hackney Weekend** music festival, performing on Jools Holland, appearing on **Channel 4 Random Acts**, and playing on **BBC Live Lounge**.

George released his **debut EP** 'The Chicken and the Egg' which Vice magazine hailed for "the tightest lyricism of the year". This led to a **sold-out tour** and a host of award nominations including the **Critics' Choice category at the 2015 BRIT Awards**, and a fifth place in the highly-coveted **BBC Sound of 2015 Poll**. George had now also begun working towards combining his words with music and education to push for his goal of real social change. This included work with the **RSA for Climate Change, the Human Rights Commission for Hate Crime, and the NHS for the human story of blood donation**. At a Business in The Community performance he was seen by Prince Harry. Moved by his performance, they started to work together with George playing a prominent role as an ambassador for Prince Harry's charity Sentebale.

In 2015 saw George release a **collection of written work**, 'Introducing George The Poet: Search Party: A Collection of Poems', exploring the trials and triumphs of an inner-city upbringing. The multi-book deal with Penguin led The Telegraph to call him "England's most influential poet". Later in the year, George performed at the **Rugby World Cup** opening ceremony. Over the years, there has been many **high-profile campaigns including adverts for Nike, iPhone and o2**, as well as multiple appearances on the country's foremost Politics show **Question Time**, and George opening the Rugby World Cup. In the summer of 2018, George wrote and performed the official poem for the Royal Wedding of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle which was seen by more than 1.6 billion people worldwide.

Have You Heard George's Podcast? is a mind-bending experiment with musical storytelling, expertly weaving poetry and conversation with intricate sound design, and a powerful original score by **multi-platinum selling producer and composer Benbrick**. The Guardian called it "a unique mix of drama, news, poetry, observations, lived experience, experimental ideas and music." The podcast conveys a new approach in which artistry and advocacy are combined to empower audiences.

In an effort to **offer young listeners a global perspective**, George explored the migrant crisis in Episode 7 ("The Journey Part II"). This was picked up by policy influencers, and the transcript of this episode has since been published in a **Foreign Affairs Committee inquiry into the UK's response to irregular migration**.

'Have You Heard George's Podcast?' Is now the **first series outside of the US to be nominated for and to win a Peabody Award**, after having won Audioboom's **Podcast of the Year**, Best Arts & Culture, Best Fiction, Best New Podcast, and Smartest Podcast. It also picked up Silver Awards for Acast Moment of the Year, and Best Current Affairs at British Podcast Awards 2019.

George has recently **launched chapter 3 of his podcast**, a brand new platform '**Common Ground**' and is now **embarking on a PhD** in Black Economics.