



**Information release**

***The Overwhelming***

**Date:** Showing from Wednesday, 15th May 2006 through August 2006  
**Time:** 7.30pm (unless otherwise cited on The National Theatre website)  
**Place:** The National Theatre  
**Box office:** 020 7452 3000

Survivors Fund has been working with the production team and cast of *The Overwhelming*, a gripping story about a country on the brink of genocide. *The Overwhelming* is a play by J T Rogers.

*You are seeking answers in a country you do not know, without a language to understand it. And yet you wish me to send my soldiers. You would like us to run through the city, flashing guns, asking, 'What has happened?'*

Seizing the opportunity to research a book, Jack Exley uproots his family from Illinois to Rwanda in early 1994. Alarminglly out of depth, Jack begins a fervent search for his dear and missing friend while his wife and teenage son find trouble of their own. As Jack involves himself in the local politics, he discovers a pattern of brutality and beliefs that jeopardizes the lives of everyone around him.

**Director:** Max Stafford-Clark  
**Designer:** Tim Shortall  
**Lighting Designer:** Johanna Town  
**Sound Designer:** Gareth Fry

**Cast:**

**Jack Exley:** Matthew Marsh  
**Geoffrey Exley:** Andrew Garfield  
**Linda White-Keeler:** Tanya Moodie  
**Charles Woseley / British Doctor:** William Armstrong  
**Jean-Claude / Clark:** Nick Fletcher  
**Joseph Gasana / Hospital Orderly / Waiter:** Jude Akuwudike  
**Elise Kayitesi / Waitress / Rwandan Doctor:** Chipu Chung  
**Samual Mizinga:** Danny Sapani  
**Gerard / Waiter:** Babou Ceesay  
**Woman in Club / Market Woman/ Waitress:** Adura Onashile

**UN Lieutenant / Man in Night Club / Man at Embassy Party /  
Market Man/ Policeman:** Lucian Msamati

**All other parts played by members of the company**

**Notes to Editors:**

**What is the Survivors Fund?**

SURF works to improve the lives of the Rwandan Survivors of Genocide. While the genocide destroyed victims by inflicting excruciating physical pain and terrifying mental abuse, the goal of SURF is to rebuild a sense of self and trust in humanity. To find out more, please visit:

**<http://www.survivors-fund.org.uk>.**