

# Absorbing, Moving, Thought Provoking - Somewhere in England



## 8th in the East

Exploring the legacy of the USAAF

---

***I always thought I wanted to be with someone who was the same as me. Then you came along. Make my world bigger...please?"***

Somewhere in England was an exciting new play commissioned by us to share the story of the 8th USAAF and their time in England. The play toured right across the region and included two site specific performances at the historic airfields of Thorpe Abbots & Debach.

Over six thousand people came to see the show during its sixty- seven night run at forty-eight different venues. Including sell-out shows all the way from Luton to Woodbridge.

Many of the audience shared with us just how much they enjoyed the show- some so much so that they came and saw it twice!





Here's a small selection of some of the fantastic feedback.

Just been to see this terrific play at the Hat Factory. This is why we need the Arts!

...thoughtful, tender, funny – thanks

A brilliant and very realistic piece of work which brought home an aspect of the Friendly Invasion which is rarely talked about.

Thoroughly enjoyed the excellent & very powerful 'Somewhere in England'. Do see it if you can.

Nylons, Hershey bars and jitterbugging to Swing Bands in the local village hall all featured, but there was another side to this shared history – a tale of segregation and of rural communities turned upside down. Kids being forced to grow up before their time, friendships forged and then blown apart and outsiders learning to live amongst the locals.

All of which shared the story, based upon oral history accounts, of one never to be forgotten time in our shared history.



And the critics loved it too.

*“One of their best shows for a long time”*

An excellent take on how love doesn't always conquer all

*"An economical, eloquent historical drama which speaks directly to Britain today, where prejudice and mistrust persist alongside liberal multiculturalism."*

*"Nathanael Campbell is already a name to watch."*

We'd like to say a big thank you to all who came and saw the show. We'd also like to share our gratitude and thanks with the organisers and volunteers at the 100th BG Museum, Thorpe Abbots and the 493rd BG Museum at Debach, without who's support our heritage site shows could not have been such roaring successes. Thank you.

The region's leading touring theatre group [Eastern Angles](#) presented this fascinating and moving new theatre production, in partnership with The Eighth in the East. The play was written by Polly Wiseman, directed by Gari Jones and designed by Ryan Laight.