

**TRANSCRIPT**

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Interviewee:	Rudolph 'Rudi' Patterson (b. Sep 1933. Duckenfield Jamaica)
Interviewer:	Kelly Foster
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KF: So, if we think back to when you first went to drama school. What drama school did you go to?

RP: To RADA, yeah

KF: Why did you choose RADA [inaudible]

RP: Well it's the one that would um that everybody knows and you know, the one that you had to do an audition to get in. And then I was told about the lady. One of the teachers called Helen, Helen Pollock. She died not ago, She was an actress as well and she sort of take a likening to me because I'm not quite sure now, I was the first Black person or the second Black person but there weren't any when I was there. Let's put it that way, so um, you know. And Helen Pollock was very good to me. Because I remember when I auditioned for Taste of Honey, she said you know, you shouldn't really be auditioning while you're in the school, but if you get it it's okay and if you don't get it they won't be very happy that you did audition. But I didn't audition and I got it. That was um... one of my claim to fame.

KF: How long had you been at RADA when you auditioned for Taste of Honey?

RP: Oh, I'd been there for a couple of years, a year or half maybe... not very long.

KF: And how long was the course?

RP: I think it was two years, yeah, two years.

KF: What was it like being one of the only Black people...

RP: Well it was fun because the audition, you had to do was quite fun. You had to play an old man and all that, you know and... these is things that was new to you anyway, so it was, it was okay. And the people were all fun, you know. I mean this is what you call your student days isn't it. Lots of drinking and well... mostly cheap wine anyway in those days.