

# Pan Intercultural Arts Amies Freedom Choir Hire Pack 2025



## **Bio:**

The Amies Freedom Choir was established in 2014 and is one of Pan Intercultural Arts' many strands of work which uses the arts for social change. This ensemble is for female survivors of human trafficking and modern-day slavery using the therapeutic power of group singing to help our singers make friends, build confidence and explore different musical and cultural genres. The choir is directed by Adwoa Dickson.

Although our work is more about process rather than product, the Amies Freedom Choir has been fortunate to perform at many high profile and prestigious events, including City Hall, The Turner Prize, the National Portrait Gallery, The Old Bailey, Amos Trust at St James Piccadilly, Southwark Cathedral, Hull Freedom Festival and Shameless Festival by The WOW Foundation. The Amies Freedom Choir has also been featured on ITV (Lorraine), BBC, 2 (Inside Out, London), BBC World Service (The Conversation), the Guardian online and were the winners of the Women of the Year award 2020 for Community Spirit.

The Freedom Choir won the Youth Music Social Action Award 2023, and you can watch a video about the choir [here](#)

## **Fee:**

**£2,000**

The fee covers performer expenses, staffing costs, food, equipment hire and childcare.

## **Hire Conditions:**

The Amies Freedom Choir is a choir specifically for female survivors of human trafficking and modern-day slavery. They are considered vulnerable adults and therefore every care must be taken to safeguard them and their experience when asked to perform outside their usual place of meeting.

### Green Room

The Amies Freedom Choir participants must be given a safe space to warm up/rehearse/warm down, get changed, prepare for their performance and where it is safe to leave personal belongings whilst they are performing. **No unauthorised person** should have access to this space whilst the Amies Freedom Choir are occupying this space.

### Creche

Many of the choir participants have young children and in order to allow them to perform without the worry of childcare, we provide childminders to look after the children. It is important that there is a safe space separate from the green room for the children and childminders. This creche area must also be private with no unauthorised access.

### Refreshments

As an organisation Pan is aware that many of our participants do not have access to regular meals so we ensure that we provide refreshments for every session or performance. If you can provide this, that is our strong preference (and we will reduce our fee accordingly). However, if we are to provide the catering we ask that there is a space where Pan can provide refreshments. This can be the green room. Access to water is needed, access also to hot water/ tea and coffee is appreciated.

### Photography and Filming

Anonymity is of **utmost importance** to the choir. The choir **does not consent** to being filmed or photographed with faces visible by audience members. The audience should be made aware that there should be no photos or videos taken (even for personal use) and informed that they must refrain from taking any during the performance, and that devices are best in bags and pockets, unseen by choir members. There are options to film and photograph for professional purposes, which can be arranged.

### Introducing the Amies Freedom Choir

The choir name is pronounced 'Ah-Mee', as 'Amies' is the French word for female friend (like the common phrase 'Mes Amies')

The Project Director must be consulted if the organisation hiring the choir wishes to introduce them. As mentioned above, members of the choir do not need to be reminded of their past. Whilst Pan recognises that it is important to let audiences know their background and understand the journey participants have taken to be able to perform, it can be detrimental and triggering to mention the words associated with their trauma. Our suggestion is to direct audience members to the Pan Intercultural Arts website, or include some information in your event programme. We can supply a QR code for this purpose also. Any print copy should be signed off by Pan Intercultural Arts.

### Safeguarding and Risk Assessment

Prior to any performance we will need to see Safeguarding Policy, Code of Conduct and Risk Assessment. We will arrange a site visit in order to correctly prepare for the event. We will need to know the on-duty first aider to inform them of any participant personal safety plans/ specific medical issues.

### **Tech spec:**

1 x keyboard/recently tuned piano with stool, 1 x extension lead, 1 x music stand, 1 x microphone for MD to introduce the songs

The choir performs mic free where appropriate.

There are up to 18 performers in the choir, the Musical Director (Adwoa), Accompanist and 2 Facilitators.

A minimum of 30 minutes sound check in the space is required for a performance. During this time the space should be free of all event staff and with a minimum number of technical crew. Preferred arrival time is 5:30pm, performance time around 7pm, performance set of 20-25 minutes and end time of 8pm

### **Contact:**

Adwoa Dickson, Project Director: [a.dickson@pan-arts.net](mailto:a.dickson@pan-arts.net)

*Thank you for your interest in working with the Amies Freedom Choir*

