

Tayo Aluko and Friends

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WHAT HAPPENS? RIDER

What Happens? is a performance by Liverpool, UK-based actor and singer Tayo Aluko. It involves songs, as well as poetry and prose, which are often underscored by improvised jazz music. The songs include jazz standards from the Harlem Renaissance era through the 1950s/60s and two classical-style baritone vocal solos accompanied by a pianist.

When touring the piece, he links up with local jazz bands. He prefers to take recommendations from the presenters as to which local bands to work with, rather than to research and audition bands himself. Where available, he prefers bands led by, comprising, or at least including African-American musicians. The instrumentation is flexible, but must include a pianist capable of reading and playing classical-style music, in addition to jazz. Mr. Aluko would meet and rehearse with the band minimum four hours on the day before the performance at a suitable location (not necessarily the performance space itself), and minimum four hours on the performance day itself.

Band Size: Maximum ensemble size, sextet; minimum size: trio.

LAYOUT

Piano @ Stage Left

Armchair, low table, rug and standing lamp, Upstage Centre;

Singer position Downstage Centre

Recitation position Downstage Left.

Band to be arranged to suit this arrangement.

Grand Piano tuned to A 442.

The piano must be tuned before the soundcheck.

Piano bench must have adjustable height.

MICROPHONES:

Piano, min. 2 mics.

Actor/Singer, 3 mics, preferably 1930s and 40s American Jazz style.: 1 at chair/table position; 1 DSL for presentation, prose and poetry recitation; 1 DSC for singing.

Other mics: as required by the band

MONITORS:

1 each (4) monitors for above positions (piano and vocal) and others to suit band.

EXTRAS: 1 music stand (total 3) for each of the vocal positions. Other music stands to suit band.

LIGHTING: Music stands to be well lit in focused white light, preferably from directly above. General mood lighting to stage and band. Each of the singing/speaking positions to be individually floodlit in open white light.

HOSPITALITY

Mineral and plain water, hot green tea and coffee, fruit juice, fresh and dried fruits, biscuits, bread, cheese, etc., in addition to sugar, and dietetic sugar, etc, upon arrival of artists. At least one (1) clean dressing room equipped with a mirror, chairs, tables, a clean bathroom with running water and tissue, iron + ironing board if possible, and properly lit. Non-carbonated water in the dressing room, and on stage. Pitcher and glass on table by armchair.