

Press Release Journey

In support of the Helen Bamber Foundation

Mayor Bloomberg, Oscar winning actor and human rights campaigner Emma Thompson, guest artists and curators are launching a provocative installation depicting the "**Journey**" of trafficked women across the globe into the sex industry.

Journey will be located on Washington Place, off Washington Square Park from Monday, November 9th to Sunday, November 15th between 12 and 8pm. The installation will be hosted by Emma Thompson, Sam Roddick, Helen Bamber OBE, and other members of the **Journey** team. Private tours will take place on Monday, November 9th by invitation of Emma Thompson.



Journey's arrival in Manhattan is a major stop on its world tour against human trafficking. **Journey** brings together creativity and the art of survival to show what it means to be bought and sold. It demonstrates how one woman's story can help us understand a subject that is as painful as it is incomprehensible. Trafficking is a crime without borders. Trafficked people become illegal, stigmatized and invisible. The state of

New York is a major entry and transit hub, but authorities and agencies are pouring huge resources into supporting victims and prosecuting traffickers.

Visitors to **Journey** will walk through seven shipping containers that tell the story of Elena who was trafficked into sexual slavery. It evokes the seven stages of a trafficked woman's experience - Hope, Journey, Uniform, Bedroom, Customer, Stigma and Resurrection. The containers have been designed by seven international artists, and give New Yorkers the opportunity to hear, see and feel the squalid drudgery of sexual slavery.

The installation

1. **Hope** - Oscar winning film designer **Michael Howells**
2. **Journey** - sound engineer and music producer **Mick Martin**
3. **Uniform** - Oscar winning costume designer **Sandy Powell**
4. **Bedroom** - Coco de Mer founder **Sam Roddick**
5. **Customer** - playwright **Ewan Spencer** and
photographer **Simon Stephens**
6. **Stigma** - Turner Prize winning sculptor **Anish Kapoor**
7. **Resurrection** – Oscar winning actor **Emma Thompson**,
Royal Designer **Mike Dempsey** and
V&A prize winning illustrator **Laura Carlin**

Exterior photographs by **James Ostrer**. Drawings by **Antony Micallef**

Journey is just one face of the Helen Bamber Foundation. We are an international human rights charity founded by Helen Bamber OBE and Dr. Michael Korzinski based in the UK, who have over 80 years combined experience working with three generations of survivors. We provide medical consultation, therapeutic care, advocacy and practical support to survivors of gross human rights violations, torture, political oppression, trafficking for sexual exploitation, and other forms of extreme cruelty. Our experience of listening and responding has helped us build an organization that understands the diverse needs of the new generation of survivors.

Journey is supported by the Mayor's Office and other New York based organizations advocating on behalf of survivors of trafficking and other forms of violence against women and children. The Helen Bamber Foundation has a wealth of knowledge around human trafficking through working with judiciary and police, health and social services authorities, other NGOs and of course the women themselves. We are keen to share with and learn from New York agencies, and establish long-term partnerships.

Helen Bamber 
Foundation
working with survivors of cruelty



"If people could experience for just five minutes what it's like, then maybe they would not be so cruel."

Elena Varga

"People just don't want to know about this issue - it's hidden, it's criminal, it's perverse and yes, it's happening on our own doorstep. Journey is a remarkable piece of collaborative, creative and confrontational art that profoundly challenges people's perspective.

Come and see for yourself and tell us if you agree."

Emma Thompson

"I find the invisibility of certain kinds of people in our society terrifying. There are several groups who keep our economy going, and there is a sense that we are all part of this world - that somehow we participate in this."

Anish Kapoor

**For further information
please contact
Christina Stejskal - PMK/HBH
Public Relations 212.582.1111
email is christina.stejskal@pmkhbh.com**