

OPERA DELLA LUNA 1044260

1st May 2022 to 30th April 2023

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Principal activities report May 2022-April 2023

In May 2022 the company was in rehearsal for one of the most notable moments in its 28 year history: the staging of the UK premiere (and possibly European professional premiere) of what we believe will become a classic chamber opera – Three Decembers by the American opera composer Jake Heggie. Mr Heggie's most successful opera, Dead Man Walking was staged recently at Glyndebourne and in 2024 was presented for the first time at The Metropolitan Opera in New York. To have had the chance to perform the UK Premiere of one of his other successful operas was a privilege and a source of pride for the company.

During the run of Three Decembers we also gave a semi-staged performance of Oskar Straus's operetta The Chocolate Soldier. Die Tapfere Soldat to give it its original German title is based on George Bernard Shaw's play Arms and The Man. Shaw was disapproving of his plays being turned into operettas and forbade the use of his lines and his characters' names to be used in the piece. The plot however could not be copyrighted and the operetta follows very closely the plot of the play. Shaw's works passed out of copyright in 2021, and so this was the first time the operetta could be performed with Shaw's dialogue replacing the inferior original spoken lines, and with his original names for the characters restored. It was thus another important "first" for the company and for musical theatre history which we are proud to have achieved.

In the summer months our attention turned once more to the works of Gilbert and Sullivan as we were invited to perform HMS Pinafore at the International Festival of Gilbert and Sullivan in Buxton and Harrogate. Our production of Pinafore also appeared at the Festival Theatre in Malvern in September. At the same time, many of our singers and our director were employed in creating a new production of Gilbert & Sullivan's lesser known and penultimate work: Utopia Limited. Though not an Opera della Luna production it had much of our style about it and played in tandem with HMS Pinafore.

After such a busy summer our autumn was quiet, until our annual major fund-raising galas during the Christmas season.

In the Spring of 2023 work began in earnest on a new production of the Victorian melodrama Sweeney Todd. This was a re-creation of the original 1847 script, not the

musical by Stephen Sondheim. Much research went into re-creating the melodrama style. The original music is now lost, but using the template of other comparable scores of melodramas now housed in the British Library, a new score was created using the extant music of three British opera composers of the 1840s and 1850s.

The production opened on April 18 at Wilton's Music Hall, London and was performed for a week. It was extremely well received and is planned to be revived at a future date.

Review of business

The effects of the pandemic continue to be felt. Even allowing for the fact that Three Decembers was a new piece by a largely unknown composer, audiences were still down on previous pre-pandemic levels. The production was only possible through the generous support of philanthropists and long-standing company supporters. Box office income from such venues as Wilton's remain far from substantial enough to cover the cost of producing the show.

Our summer activities were covered by guaranteed fees from the festival venues, and we made a small profit from those performances. Our Christmas fund-raising performances once again made a significant contribution to our running costs.

We continue to hold our position as one of the UK's most respected and admired opera companies, and we continue to strive towards greater national recognition and financial support from the Arts Council of England, and trusts and foundations; and to be able to fund increased administrative support for the company.

Directors

As described in the Memorandum of Association, the members of the board are the members of the company and there is no share capital as the company is limited by guarantee. Accordingly no Director has a financial interest in the company at the accounting reference date. In accordance with the Articles of Association, one third of the Directors must retire at the Annual General Meeting of the company and may then be re-elected.

Report of the Directors and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 30 April 2023
for
Opera Della Luna

DIRECTORS:

Mrs C Galloway
P B Marshall
Mrs S Ross
P Gilchrist

SECRETARY:

D J Owen

REGISTERED OFFICE:

Flat 7
Cotmore House
Fringford
Bicester
Oxfordshire
OX6 9RQ

REGISTERED NUMBER:

02994835 (England and Wales)

ACCOUNTANTS:

Facts and Figures
P O Box 583
Maids Moreton
Buckingham
Buckinghamshire
MK18 1TQ

The directors present their report with the financial statements of the company for the year ended 30 April 2023.

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY

The principal activity of the company in the year under review was that of a light operatic company.

DIRECTORS

The directors shown below have held office during the whole of the period from 1 May 2022 to the date of this report.

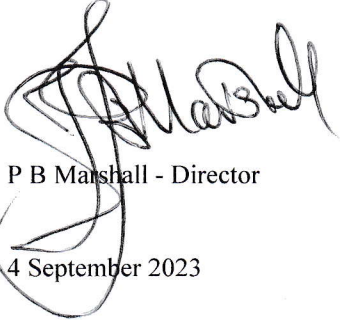
Mrs C Galloway
P B Marshall
Mrs S Ross

Other changes in directors holding office are as follows:

Professor A Alcock - resigned 25 November 2022
P Gilchrist - appointed 25 November 2022

This report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions of Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P B Marshall', is written over the printed name and date.

P B Marshall - Director

4 September 2023

Opera Della Luna

Statement of Income and Retained Earnings
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

	Notes	30.4.23 £	30.4.22 £
TURNOVER		119,204	54,659
Cost of sales		(116,964)	(42,551)
GROSS PROFIT		2,240	12,108
Administrative expenses		(12,532)	(9,177)
		(10,292)	2,931
Other operating income		500	21,155
OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT	4	(9,792)	24,086
Interest receivable and similar income		5	1
		(9,787)	24,087
Interest payable and similar expenses		(21)	(18)
(LOSS)/PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION		(9,808)	24,069
Tax on (loss)/profit		-	-
(LOSS)/PROFIT FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR		(9,808)	24,069
Retained earnings at beginning of year		(90,046)	(114,115)
RETAINED EARNINGS AT END OF YEAR		(99,854)	(90,046)

The notes form part of these financial statements

Balance Sheet
30 April 2023

	Notes	30.4.23 £	30.4.22 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	5	197	386
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks		2,095	2,095
Debtors	6	20,677	578
Prepayments and accrued income		1,426	943
Cash at bank		7,095	16,478
		<u>31,293</u>	<u>20,094</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(131,344)	(110,526)
NET CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(100,051)</u>	<u>(90,432)</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>(99,854)</u>	<u>(90,046)</u>
RESERVES			
Retained earnings		<u>(99,854)</u>	<u>(90,046)</u>
		<u>(99,854)</u>	<u>(90,046)</u>

The company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 30 April 2023.

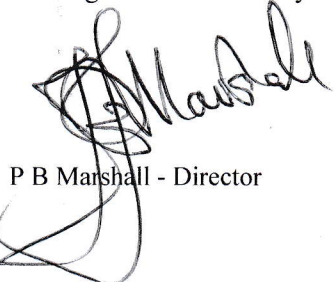
The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 30 April 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for:

- ensuring that the company keeps accounting records which comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the company as at the end of each financial year and of its profit or loss for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the company.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Directors and authorised for issue on 4 September 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:


P B Marshall - Director

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

1. **STATUTORY INFORMATION**

Opera Della Luna is a private company, limited by shares, registered in England and Wales. The company's registered number and registered office address can be found on the Company Information page.

2. **ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Basis of preparing the financial statements

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" including the provisions of Section 1A "Small Entities" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Turnover

Turnover is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable, excluding discounts, rebates, value added tax and other sales taxes.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Stocks

Stocks and work in progress are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Cost is calculated using the first-in, first-out method and includes all purchase, transport, and handling costs in bringing stocks to their present location and condition.

Taxation

Taxation for the year comprises current and deferred tax. Tax is recognised in the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings, except to the extent that it relates to items recognised in other comprehensive income or directly in equity.

Current or deferred taxation assets and liabilities are not discounted.

Current tax is recognised at the amount of tax payable using the tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the balance sheet date.

Deferred tax

Deferred tax is recognised in respect of all timing differences that have originated but not reversed at the balance sheet date.

Timing differences arise from the inclusion of income and expenses in tax assessments in periods different from those in which they are recognised in financial statements. Deferred tax is measured using tax rates and laws that have been enacted or substantively enacted by the year end and that are expected to apply to the reversal of the timing difference.

Unrelieved tax losses and other deferred tax assets are recognised only to the extent that it is probable that they will be recovered against the reversal of deferred tax liabilities or other future taxable profits.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to profit or loss on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

3. **EMPLOYEES AND DIRECTORS**

The average number of employees during the year was NIL (2022 - NIL).

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 30 April 2023

4. **OPERATING (LOSS)/PROFIT -**

The operating loss (2022 - operating profit) is stated after charging:

	30.4.23	30.4.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	189	135
	<u>189</u>	<u>135</u>

5. **TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Plant and machinery etc £
COST	
At 1 May 2022	
and 30 April 2023	10,055
DEPRECIATION	
At 1 May 2022	9,669
Charge for year	189
At 30 April 2023	9,858
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 30 April 2023	197
At 30 April 2022	386

6. **DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	30.4.23	30.4.22
	£	£
Trade debtors	427	578
Other debtors	20,250	-
	<u>20,677</u>	<u>578</u>

7. **CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	30.4.23	30.4.22
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	2,720
Trade creditors	22,731	1,349
Taxation and social security	1,811	2,387
Other creditors	106,802	104,070
	<u>131,344</u>	<u>110,526</u>

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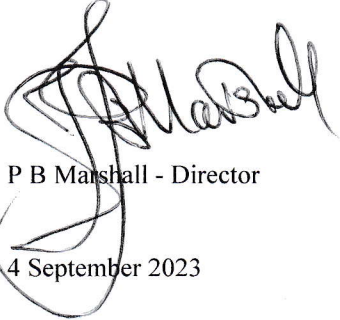
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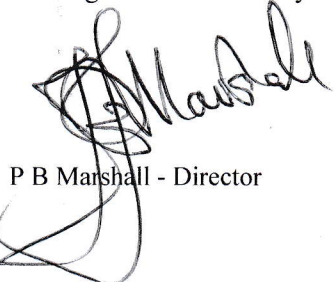
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