

Registered Number: 3002661
Charity Number: 1044532

The Actors of Dionysus
(A Company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
For the year ending 31st December 2021

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS (A Company limited by guarantee)

**THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS
(A Company limited by guarantee)**

Contents

Legal and administrative information
Trustees' Report
Accountant's Report
Statement of financial activities
Balance Sheet
Notes forming part of the financial statements

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION
For the year ending 31st December 2021

Directors

Maria Athini
David G. G. Bullen
Steve Cowton
Michael Edwin Dixon
Olga Gekht
Catherine B. Livesey
Katherine Harloe
Andy Powell (Chairman)

Secretary

Mark Richard Katz

Company Registered Number 3002661

Charity Registered Number 1044532

Registered Office 25 St Luke's Road
Brighton
BN2 9ZD

Accountants R Kennedy
t/a Comptology Limited
Lower Icknield Way
Marsworth,
Hertfordshire
HP23 4LN

Bankers Lloyds Bank
North Street
Brighton
BN1 1GL

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS

TRUSTEES REPORT

For the year ending 31st December 2021

The Trustees, who are directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act, submit their annual report and the financial statements of Actors of Dionysus (aod) Limited (the charitable company) for the year ended 31st December 2021. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the charitable company comply with current statutory requirements, the requirements of the charitable company's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by charities' revised 2019.

Method of appointment or election of trustees

The management of the charitable company is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

Charitable Objectives

The continuation of the performance of new adaptations of ancient Greek drama and new writings inspired by myth. The company intends to maintain its strong outreach programme with workshops and talks, published education materials including; resources, adaptations, and books of essays, DVDs, audio-CDs, digital material, as well as its highly physical, visual and poetic performance style. The company intends to maintain its strong events programme, working on a variety of high-end events to attract funding and increase the profile of the company.

Review of activities and future development

1. Plans for 2021

At the start of 2021 the COVID-19 pandemic meant that much of aod's work continued to be largely online. However, as the year progressed, and restrictions were lifted we were able to return to in person activities. As a result aod now has a flexible approach to delivering projects and are able to move more fluidly between working online and in person. This is a method of working the company was forced to adopt in 2020 under the conditions of the pandemic, but is now one we intend to incorporate deliberately into our strategy for the future of the company. We have found operating in this hybrid way has enabled us to reach new audiences and increased our resilience as a company.

The #DailyDose online social media project has remained active throughout this year, though now more on a twice weekly than daily basis (owing to reduced staff hours) and has continued to be a fantastic way for aod to expand our network and boost our number of followers on various social media platforms and subsequently the number of donors who contributed to our Big Give Christmas Challenge.

We were able to mount three productions in the 2021 Brighton Fringe, returning to Lionhouse as a venue. Our children's show 'Stories in the Garden: Ariadne', produced in collaboration with Bee in my Beanie, represented the first stage in the development of our ongoing project 'Wonder Women of the Ancient World'. a series of interactive performances exploring female heroes of mythology, which aims to redress the gender imbalance of the stories covered in the Key Stage 2 unit Myths and Legends. Our second show, 'The Three Graces', was a collaboration between aod's Artistic Director, Tamsin Shasha, and singer, composer and musical director, Juliet Russell, and traditional storyteller, Fleur Shorthouse. It featured a mixture of mythic storytelling, music and aerial performance. Finally, 'Lionhouse Cabaret' was a showcase of local performers across a variety of disciplines and styles, including music and comedy, primarily showcasing the talents of comedic duo Dyball and Kerr.

We applied to present Savage Beauty at COP26, but unfortunately were not selected. We have continued to develop the project, pivoting to an interactive digital format. We also applied for funding to make a digital interactive version of Savage Beauty (via a YouTube initiative) but this was unsuccessful. We are passionate about extending the life of this project and will continue to explore viable options going forward.

In September 2021, we held a two-week research and development period (funded by the Arts Council's NLPG – National Lottery Project Grants programme) for the Black Voices in Myth Project. This was conducted in collaboration with Chickenshed, who specialise in inclusive theatre practices, and was held on their premises in Enfield, London. This is Stage 1 of an exciting project, and the relationship with Chickenshed will be nurtured going forward.

Our education continued to provide online workshops, with a gradual return to in person workshops as restrictions began to ease. Both the online and in-person workshops continue to receive overwhelming positive feedback from teachers and pupils.

2. New Appointments

Lucy Ruddiman joined aod in a part-time capacity as Administrator, having previously completed a university work placement with aod, undertaking a research role on Savage Beauty.

Lucy took over some of Katherine Sturt-Scobie's responsibilities after Katherine moved on to work at Little Angel Theatre. We are very grateful to Katherine for all the fantastic work she did during her time with aod. Lucy has also taken on Tess Agus's responsibility for the #DailyDose, after Tess moved on to work with Frantic Assembly. We are likewise grateful to Tess for all her excellent work.

Professor Katherine Harloe joined as a member of the board of Trustees at the beginning of the year. Katherine is Professor of Classics at the University of Reading. She is an expert on the history of classical scholarship and the reception of Greek and Roman antiquity. She has acted as academic consultant on the Black Voices in Myth Project.

3. Training, Awards and Conferences

Tamsin led a team as part of the u.lab 2x programme. This programme made use of the change management system Theory U, a framework and method for leading and supporting systems change based on the work of Otto Scharmer and colleagues at MIT. This method places emphasis on leading from the emerging future and provided new ways of approaching the development of Savage Beauty.

Staff and Trustees undertook Diversity and Inclusivity training with Chickenshed, which was held as part of our board away day. This training took place online and enabled those present to confront unconscious bias and gain a better understanding of how to approach diversity and inclusivity within our organisation.

4. Education

"I really enjoyed the workshop and so did our students, it was engaging and Mark really knew his stuff. It was great to have a real actor in front of them that knew Antigone inside and out. 10/10"

Live workshop, Langley Academy

The Education team adapted resiliently to delivering online workshops during the pandemic and to the return to live, in person workshops. Education Officer Mark Katz regularly receives 10/10 feedback along with positive comments from teachers and pupils. The provision of paid workshops continues to be an effective method of generating revenue for the company.

"My students were politely getting on with written work for most of our lessons, and even debate was feeling a bit tired. This morning was completely different! My students were alive – laughing and taking a break from the Groundhog Day which is this lockdown! They made a comment that they felt better after the workshop – I feel like Mark saved the day!"

I'd highly recommend Actors of Dionysus and especially Heracles, Omphales, Lion game – I am still laughing about that!"

Digital workshop, Silverdale School

We received funding from the Fonthill Foundation to deliver a series of workshops for local primary schools in Brighton and Hove as part of our ongoing Wonder Women of the Ancient World project. By year's end we had found that primary schools were more cautious than secondary schools about inviting external companies to deliver workshops. This project has been carried over to 2022 as we were unable to fulfil the brief for live performance workshops due to ongoing Covid concerns. We are confident, however, that we shall find alternative ways of delivering these workshops.

5. #DailyDose

The #DailyDose, an online social media project that sees and share bitesize videos across our social media platforms, continued into 2021. We have continued to invite academics, actors and more to share readings of ancient Greek/ Roman text or work inspired by myth. After the departure of Tess, we have no longer had a team member solely dedicated

to running our social media, with the result that the #DailyDose is now updated roughly twice a week. Regardless, it continues to be a great way to expand our community and reach a wider audience.

6. Savage Beauty

Despite being unsuccessful with our COP26 application to the climate change conference in Glasgow in November 2021 we are continuing with the development of Savage Beauty. We have put together a proposal for an interactive digital version and are in conversation with various game development companies and potential funders.

7. Black Voices in Myth

The project's aims are to champion marginalised voices, increase representation and accessibility within ancient Greek theatre and to inspire younger generations to explore ancient history.

We held a 2-week research and development process in collaboration with Chickenshed in September. This was lead by a team of Black creatives and included assistant director work placement opportunities for two students in Chickenshed's education programme. The R&D period concluded with a sharing for invited audiences and students at Chickenshed. Using the material generated in the R&D process the commissioned writer, Kaleya Baxe, produced three drafts of the script. This third draft will form the basis of the second stage of development for the project (supported we hope by ACE's NLPG funding pot). During the R&D period we identified another key collaborator, Jessica Kaliisa, who will act as director for the project going forward.

8. The Big Give Christmas Challenge & the Big Night In

We again held The Big Night In as part of our fundraising efforts for the Big Give Christmas Challenge. This year we were raising funds to support the development of Wonder Women of the Ancient World. We had to set our target lower than in previous years as we were not selected for Champion Funding. However, we surpassed our fundraising target before the event took place, which meant that the Big Night In was a celebration of a target met as well as a fundraising event. Next year we will endeavour to secure Champion Funding so that we can apply the lessons we have learned towards meeting a bigger target.

9. Funding

aod received the following pots of funding in 2021:

- Arts Council England Black Voices in Myth: £15,000
- Classics for All: £1,500
- Big Give Christmas Challenge: £4,427.07
- Arts Council England Cultural Recovery Fund: £5,013 (final of three payments made on 28th June 2021)
- Fonthill Foundation: £2988.90

Risk Management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Company is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Company, and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate the Company's exposure to the major risks.

Trustees' responsibilities

Company and charity law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statement for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the surplus or deficit of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements the Trustees have:

1. Selected suitable accounting policies and applied them consistently;
2. Made judgments and estimates that are fair and reasonable;
3. Stated whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
4. Prepared the financial statements on a going concern basis (unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Trust will continue in operation)

The Trustees have overall responsibility for ensuring that the charitable company has an appropriate system of controls, financial and otherwise. They are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act, 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the detection and prevention of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the board on 19th August 2022 and signed on its behalf by

A Powell

A Powell - Director

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS

INCOME & EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS
for the year ended 31 December 2021

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
INCOME					
From Generated Funds					
Voluntary Income	2	4861	31625	36486	83586
Activities for generating funds	3	<u>2302</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2302</u>	<u>625</u>
		7163	31625	38788	84211
From Charitable Activity					
Workshops		2000	0	2000	8780
Other Income					
Sundry Income		2500	0	2500	956
Theatre Tax Relief		4564	0	4564	6109
TOTAL INCOME		<u>16227</u>	<u>31625</u>	<u>47852</u>	<u>100056</u>
EXPENDITURE					
Costs of generating Voluntary Income		0	0	0	0
Cost of Goods Sold and other costs	4	12282	55185	67467	53698
From Charitable Activity					
Workshops		0	0	0	0
Governance costs	5	<u>1211</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1211</u>	<u>441</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		<u>13493</u>	<u>55185</u>	<u>68678</u>	<u>54139</u>
NET INCOME/(DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		2734	(23,560)	(20,826)	45,917
FUND BALANCES B/FWDS		32549	31610	64159	18242
FUND BALANCES C/FWDS		<u>35283</u>	<u>8050</u>	<u>43333</u>	<u>64159</u>

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS

BALANCE SHEET At December 31st 2021

	Note	£ <u>2021</u>	£ <u>2020</u>
TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	1	115	154
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stock	1	0	1350
Debtors	7	9958	8013
Cash at Bank and in Hand		33644	54992
subtotal		<u>43602</u>	<u>64355</u>
CREDITORS			
falling due within 1 year	8	(384)	(350)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>43218</u>	<u>64005</u>
NET ASSETS		<u><u>43333</u></u>	<u><u>64159</u></u>
Represented By:			
Restricted Funds		8050	0
Unrestricted Funds		35283	64159
		<u><u>43333</u></u>	<u><u>64159</u></u>

In preparing these accounts:

- (a) For the year ended 31 December 2021 the company is entitled to the exemption from audit under Section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006;
- (b) Members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006, and;
- (c) The directors acknowledge their responsibility for complying with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.
- (d) These accounts 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 on

19th August 2022

A Powell

A Powell
Director

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 December 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Company Status

The Charitable Company is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page I. In the event of the charitable company being wound up the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the charitable company.

Fund Accounting

General funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the Charitable Company and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used accordance with specific instructions imposed by the donors which have been raised by the Trustees for particular purposes.

Income

All incoming resources are included in the Income & Expenditure Account when the Charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been included under expense categories that aggregate all costs for allocation to activities. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular activities, they have been allocated on a basis consistent With the use of the resources. Overheads have been allocated on the basis of charity expenditure

Cash Flow

The company has taken advantage of the exemption from the requirement to produce a cash flow statement on the grounds that it is a small charitable company.

Turnover

Turnover comprises the invoiced value of the goods and services supplied by the company. The company is not registered for Value Added Tax.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and market value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow - moving items.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Office Equipment is written off on a 25% reducing balance basis.

	<u>Cost</u>	<u>Depreciation</u>	<u>2021 Net Book Value</u>	<u>2020 Net Book Value</u>
Balance at 1 January 2021	912	758	154	205
Additions during the year	0		0	0
Charge during the year		39	-39	-51
Balance at 31 December 2021	912	797	115	154

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 31 December 2021

INCOME	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2021 Total £	2020 Total £
2 - Voluntary Income				
Membership Fees	2962	0	2962	4945
Donations	0	10123	10123	18611
Grants	1500	21502	23002	59419
Gift Aid Tax Repayment	399	0	399	611
	<u>4861</u>	<u>31625</u>	<u>36486</u>	<u>83586</u>
3 - Activities for Generating Funds				
Publications	0	0	0	0
Venue Income	2302	0	2302	625
	<u>2302</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>2302</u>	<u>625</u>
EXPENDITURE				
4 - Cost of Goods Sold and other costs				
Production costs and purchases	3016	0	3016	3647
Staff costs	59137	0	59137	44950
Miscellaneous	2483	0	2483	1787
Postage	116	0	116	66
Staff Expenses & Travel	807	0	807	1385
Stationery	31	0	31	0
Computer Costs	0	0	0	0
Phone/Internet	472	0	472	579
Depreciation	39	0	39	51
Publicity	0	0	0	0
Repairs & Renewals	0	0	0	0
Hire of Space	600	0	600	600
Insurance	766	0	766	633
Expenditure Allocated to restricted funds	-55185	55185	0	0
Training	0	0	0	0
	<u>12282</u>	<u>55185</u>	<u>67467</u>	<u>53698</u>
5 - Governance				
Accountancy	384	0	384	350
Consultancy	720	0	720	0
Claiming Theatre Tax Relief	0	0	0	0
Bank Charges	107	0	107	91
	<u>1211</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>1211</u>	<u>441</u>
6 - Trustees Remuneration & Expenses				
No Trustee received any remuneration or reimbursement of expenses during the year. (2020 £nil)				
7 - Debtors				
Trading Debtors			0	0
Gift Aid Repayment			480	821
Theatre Tax Relief			9498	7191
			<u>9958</u>	<u>8012</u>
8 - Creditors				
Trade			0	0
Loan			0	0
Accruals			384	350
			<u>384</u>	<u>350</u>

Restricted Funds Analysis

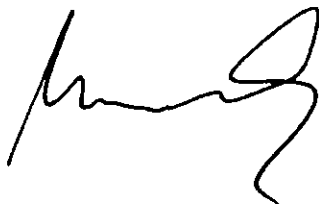
	2021	2020
Opening Balance		4389
Received During Year		
Sussex Community Foundation	0	6559
The Big Give	10123	9052
Arts Council England (ACE)	18513	14303
Fonthill Foundation	2989	0
Cultural Recovery Fund	0	45116
Chalk Cliff funding	0	3000
subtotal	31625	78030
Carried Forwards from prior year		
The Big Give	9052	
Cultural Recovery Fund	22558	
subtotal	31610	
Carried Forwards to 2022		
The Big Give	5062	9052
Fonthill Foundation	2989	0
Cultural Recovery Fund	0	22558
subtotal	8051	31610
Used in 2021	55185	50809

THE ACTORS OF DIONYSUS

Accountant's Report

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2021

In accordance with instructions received I have prepared, without carrying out an audit, the accounts set out on pages 9 to 13 from the accounting records of The Actors of Dionysus and from the information and explanations supplied to me.



R Kennedy FCMA

Date: 19-8-2022

Timbers House,
Lower Icknield Way,
Marsworth,
Tring,
Herts,
HP23 4LN