

Kensington Symphony Orchestra: Annual Review 2023/24

Adventurous programming continued to be KSO's hallmark in this season. We welcomed Paul Hoskins for a second time as guest conductor and played Dohnányi and Boulanger alongside the more mainstream Mahler and Stravinsky. This also highlighted our collaborations with accomplished singers, with Claudia Huckle giving the contralto contribution to the Rückert-Lieder. This theme was replicated in Fairfield Halls, Croydon, where the orchestra joined forces with longterm associates, Epiphoni choir, to give a performance of Elgar's Dream of Gerontius, which was one of the most ambitious artistic ventures of the orchestra's lengthy career. All three vocal soloists on that occasion gave high definitive performances. And our season had started with John McCabe's evocative Notturmi ed Alba, again with a soprano soloist (Donna Lennard). This sat elegantly alongside Vaughan Williams' ever popular 2nd Symphony ('London').

The orchestra's ambition brings certain challenges which the trustees and volunteers endeavour to tackle. Chief amongst these is the availability of concert venues in London which are suitable for our size and repertoire choices. Fairfield Hall in Croydon provides the perfect venue, but with constrictions of attractiveness for audiences. Smith Square Hall remains a vital mainstay for most of our programming, but we also use Cadogan Hall (which only suits the smaller scale pieces) and Queen Elizabeth Hall, which is perfect, but costly to hire and thus a risk in respect of suitable programming for audience attractiveness. The position is fragile but we continue to make the best use of these facilities, as long as they are available.

Outreach continued in the form of our 'Music Tracks' work with Year 7 pupils of Pimlico Academy, and we have noticed a steady improvement in the standards achieved by the students. This is highly refreshing in a period when music education is known to be under continual threat.

Our accounts continue to remain in balance. The turnover was reduced owing to the need to step down from six concerts to five, but the overall robustness of the financial position was maintained. Participants continue to support our work via subscriptions, and our Friends give considerable financial help with their donations. We are also grateful to the Cuthbert Horn Trust for continued support.

Graham P Elliott

Secretary

June 2025

Kensington Symphony Orchestra Treasury report
Charity 1069620

2023-2024 – Jeremy Lambert, treasurer

Concert Profits and Losses over the season

KSO actuals Sept 2023 - Aug 2024 - updated on 20241022													
	2023/24	2023/24	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21	2019/20	2018/19	2017/18	2016/17	2015/16			
	ACTUALS	BUDGET	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS	ACTUALS			
Concert costs													
Venue hire incl. commission	22.86	23.41	28.15	21.16		16.7	30.9	21.3	27.8	18.6			
Rehearsal hall hire	11.79	13.90	14.26	12.56	6.0	7.0	10.4	10.0	10.6	10.1			
Music & instrument hire	12.91	13.56	13.75	10.47	0.8	9.1	7.3	9.8	11.6	11.0			
Conductors	10.67	11.80	10.73	9.83	1.5	9.0	10.0	10.6	10.8	9.7			
Soloists and other musicians	15.43	16.60	16.56	12.20	1.2	7.8	11.2	12.2	12.5	8.6			
Other	0.73	1.54	6.21	1.07	0.2	1.4	2.3	1.9	3.3	1.7			
Total concert costs	74.38	80.81	89.66	67.28	9.6	51.0	72.0	65.9	76.7	59.7			
Concert income													
Ticket & programme sales	18.24	18.07	39.99	31.74	0.2	17.5	28.6	25.2	44.8	20.5			
Subs & reclaimed tax	32.32	37.87	36.34	34.23	9.1	23.4	27.4	27.4	27.0	26.7			
Sponsorship & Donations	0.98	0.22	2.99	0.46		2.0	3.4	3.5	2.9	5.3			
OTR	15.00	15.00	15.60	13.69		6.3	9.9						
Total concert income	66.54	71.16	94.9	80.1	9.2	49.2	69.3	56.1	74.7	52.5			
Profit/loss on concerts	-7.84	-9.65	5.3	12.8	-0.3	-1.9	-2.8	-9.8	-2.0	-7.2			
Profits from other activities	12.84	7.0	12.60	1.87	6.1	5.3	5.1	4.8	6.4	6.4			
Additional expenditure	-7.8	-4.0	-3.8	-2.7	-4.5	-2.6							
Profit/loss total	-2.8	-6.7	14.1	12.1	1.3	0.8	2.3	-5.0	4.3	-0.7			

KSO Accounts Sept 2023 - Aug 2024				
Year start				
Represented by:				
KSO current account	£	6,403.42		
KSO Productions Ltd account	£	6,957.69		
Prepayments/debtors	£	33,469.20		
Creditors	£	(4,044.63)		
KSO savings account	£	8,217.32		
Total		£	51,003.00	
Movements				
Profit/loss on year £ (2,780.61)				
Total		£	(2,780.61)	
Year end				
Represented by:				
KSO current account	£	326.75		
KSO Productions Ltd account	£	20,425.95		
Prepayments/debtors	£	29,824.19		
Creditors	£	(2,494.73)		
KSO savings account		£	140.23	
Total £ 48,222.39				

Endowment Trust			
Year start		£	7,915.83
Interest		£	195.61
ET year end		£	8,111.44



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Kensington Symphony Orchestra

On accounts for the year
ended

31 August 2024

Charity no
(if any)

1069620

Set out on pages

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/08/2024

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

Independent
examiner's statement

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

28.5.2025

Name:

JANE E SPENCER-DAVIS

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

BA, FCCA, CTA

Address:

4-6 PETERBOROUGH ROAD

WARRON

HA1 2BQ

Section B

Disclosure

Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).