

**Company Registration Number: 5842595**

**Registered Charity Number: 1116396**

**GUITAR CIRCUS LTD  
(LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

**YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 2023**

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The trustees have pleasure in submitting their annual report and financial statement for the year ended 30 June 2023. This report constitutes a 'Directors' Report' under the requirements of Section 234 of the Companies Act 1985. The financial statements comply with current statutory requirements issued by the Charity Commission.

## **REFERENCE & ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES & ADVISERS**

### **Charity Name**

Registered Name: Guitar Circus Ltd

Working Name: Guitar Circus

**Charity Registration Number:** 1116396

**Company Registration Number:** 5842595

### **Registered Office Address**

7 The Maples, Cirencester, Gloucestershire, GL7 1TQ

### **Directors and Trustees**

The directors of the charitable company ('the charity') are trustees for the purpose of charitable law. Throughout this report members are collectively referred to as the trustees. Those serving on the date this report was approved are:

Trevor Dukes

Charlie Fraser

Nigel Manley

### **Charity Administrator**

Day-to-day management of the charity is delegated by the trustees to the Charity Administrator, Helen Sanderson.

### **Bankers**

CAP Bank Ltd., 25 Kings Hill Avenue, Kings Hill, West Mailing, Kent ME19 4JQ

### **Accountant**

Spencer-Davis & Co., 4-6 Peterborough Road, Harrow, HA1 2BQ

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Constitution**

Guitar Circus Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. A change in name from The Arts Circus (Winchester) to Guitar Circus Ltd was approved by the Board of Trustees and subsequently registered with Companies House and the Charity Commission on 26 June 2016.

It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association and was incorporated on 09 June 2006 under the name The Arts Circus (Winchester) and commenced trading on that date. It is incorporated under the Companies Acts and is registered in England and Wales. On 16 October 2006 The Arts Circus (Winchester) was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. As at 30 June 2007 each trustee had guaranteed £1 in the event of winding up the company.

### **Selection of trustees**

Every trustee has the power to nominate another trustee who must be then approved by the board. The minimum number of trustees is 3 and the maximum is 5.

### **Induction and training of trustees**

Potential new trustees are invited to attend a trustees' meeting before consenting to be proposed for appointment. Once appointed, new trustees receive a copy of the Constitution, a description of the role of a trustee and any relevant documents and background information relating to the charity. Opportunities to observe the charity's activities and any relevant training opportunities are brought to the attention of the trustees by the Charity Administrator.

### **Organisational Structure**

The trustees take final responsibility for the operation of the charity and its financial and general well-being, with day-to-day management provided by the Charity Administrator's team. The trustees meet at least twice a year and are responsible for approving all projects and workshops that are undertaken.

### **Risk assessment**

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the charity is exposed, such as those relating to finance and child welfare and are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks. Our Safeguarding and Child Protection policy was reviewed and updated in 2020 and all trustees/employees/contracted artists, who are United Kingdom citizens, are subject to enhanced checks via the Disclosure and Barring Service. For international tutors, where the Disclosure and Barring Service checks are not possible, the trustees are satisfied that we have procedures in place that follow our Safeguarding and Child Protection guidelines.

### **Serious Incidents**

The trustees confirm that there have been no serious incidents which need to be reported to the Charity Commission.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Reserves policy**

The charity's policy is to carry forward sufficient funds in reserve to cover the organisation's running costs and to ensure stability. As some charity projects are biennial, relevant restricted funds such as bursary and scholarship donations are held until the next available project.

## **OBJECTIVES & ACTIVITIES**

Guitar Circus is dedicated to promoting events and activities which support the education and performance of the classical guitar in a variety of different settings. These range from celebrating exceptional musical achievement to encouraging the grass-roots, or supporting teachers by developing their professional skills. Our work is defined by participatory and inclusive events which promote ensemble playing, such as the National Youth Guitar Ensembles (NYGE) and the World Youth Guitar Festival (WYGF).

Guitar Circus prides itself on being able to nurture artistic development in those who have little, or no experience of the arts, whilst being able to inspire gifted youngsters to even greater creative achievements and experiences. Guitar Circus promotes educational activities, ranging from one-day events to annual residential festivals which unite people of different ages, abilities and backgrounds. These events give participants an opportunity to learn with leading musicians, hear professional concerts and experience all the benefits of social music-making. The quality and expertise of the festival tutors and guest artists at our events is at a level that is particularly difficult for people to normally access.

We are also keenly aware that despite keeping fees to a minimum, some children will struggle to attend our events and so our Bursary Schemes are able to offer both partially and fully assisted places to those with financial need.

The administration of Guitar Circus is almost exclusively run on a voluntary basis. We continue to actively pursue a wider funding base in order to achieve our potential and play a lead role in guitar education throughout the UK.

## ACHIEVEMENTS & PERFORMANCE 2022/2023

### *Significant activities*

#### **National Youth Guitar Ensemble**

The regional National Youth Guitar Ensembles have a total of five groups based in London, Birmingham and Cardiff. Monthly rehearsals take place in our regional locations from September through to March, followed by an intensive Easter residential bringing together all groups from around the UK. Combining ensembles provides the players with a unique experience to create larger guitar orchestras and in July 2022 the Camerata ensembles joined together for their first European tour of Southern Spain. The opportunity to be 'on tour' for a series of concerts was an entirely new experience for the ensembles and using Granada as a base, we gave 3 evening recitals including a memorable performance for the Granada International Guitar Festival. The venues were exceptional and inspiring in themselves and for some performers, this was their first visit outside of the UK. The tour strengthened bonds between the different regional NYGE ensembles not only on a musical basis, but also deepened friendships and forged new connections. We look forward to our next tour in 2024.

#### **NYGE Fellowship**

The NYGE Fellowship Ensemble draws on the exceptional talent studying at, or recently graduated from, UK Music Conservatoires, and offers 12 early-career guitarists unparalleled opportunities to develop their performing, workshop leadership and ensemble skills. To commemorate our inaugural tour, NYGE commissioned composer Gerald Garcia to write a double guitar concerto to be performed by soloists from the NYGE Fellowship Ensemble, accompanied by the Camerata orchestra. This imaginative work took as its inspiration a traditional British folksong and infused it with Spanish flavours and soundscapes. Four members of the NYGE Fellowship joined the tour not only to perform the concerto, but also to mentor the younger players, playing alongside them throughout each concert.

#### **Development**

Guitar Circus has continued to pursue its programme of team development in order to strengthen its resilience as an organisation and create more opportunities for future expansion.

Guitar Circus supports a mentor scheme for undergraduates and recent graduates to develop their professional skills working within Guitar Circus settings. Each NYGE UK location has a mentor who shadows the musical director, helping in rehearsals and leading sectionals as required.

NYGE represents the pinnacle of the route of progression for young guitarists throughout the UK and Guitar Circus has been exploring ways in which to inspire young guitarists at an earlier stage of development and engage with the wider musical community.

## **PUBLIC BENEFIT STATEMENT**

Guitar Circus's charitable purposes support the advancement of education, arts and culture predominantly, but not exclusively, for children and young adults. Our activities give children access to the highest possible level of classical guitar tuition, from internationally renowned teachers and our concerts nurture their artistic appreciation. Increasingly, Guitar Circus is creating opportunities to broaden our reach and work with young guitarists in the earlier stages of their musical journeys. Sessions, such as those held in partnership with the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Junior Department, are free and open to all levels of experience.

Guitar Circus trustees recognise the need to support students from all backgrounds and strive to keep participation costs as low and affordable as possible. To assist with this policy, Guitar Circus has a Bursary scheme to help support participants with financial need. These bursaries are not geographically restricted, nor are they ability related. During this reporting period, Guitar Circus was able to provide 3 children with bursaries.

## **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The key strategic aims for Guitar Circus remain unchanged for the future.

### **Objectives for 2023/2024**

- Create opportunities for our Fellowship Ensemble to showcase the NYGE brand.
- Promote and hold auditions for NYGE to reflect our wider geographical reach.
- Promote and encourage greater participation at the World Youth Guitar Festival.
- Expand Guitar Circus team, volunteers and trustees.
- Pursue new funding avenues.
- Explore partnership projects with Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

Approved by the trustees and signed on their behalf by:

.....  
Trevor Dukes  
Chair of Trustees

Registered number: 05842595  
Charity number: 1116396

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**Guitar Circus Ltd**

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**UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023**

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**Prepared By:**  
Spencer-Davis & Co  
4-6  
Peterborough Road  
Harrow  
HA1 2BQ



**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023**

**TRUSTEES**

T Dukes  
C Fraser  
N Manley

**SECRETARY**

Helen Sanderson

**REGISTERED OFFICE**

7 The Maples  
Cirencester  
GL7 1TQ

**COMPANY NUMBER**

05842595

**CHARITY NUMBER**

1116396

**ACCOUNTANTS**

Spencer-Davis & Co  
4-6  
Peterborough Road  
Harrow  
HA1 2BQ

**ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023  
TRUSTEES' REPORT**

The trustees present their report and accounts for the year ended 30/06/2023

**PRINCIPAL ACTIVITIES**

The principal activity of the charity in the year under review was Provision of music & arts workshops .

**STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

Guitar Circus Ltd is a company limited by guarantee and has no share capital. It is incorporated under the Companies Acts and is registered in England and Wales. On 26 June 2016 the company's name was changed from Arts Circus (Winchester) to Guitar Circus Ltd.

On 16 October 2006 Guitar Circus Ltd was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission. Its registered charity number is 1116396.

The report was prepared in accordance with the special provisions within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006.

This report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 19/03/2024

T Dukes  
Trustee

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF GUITAR CIRCUS LTD**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 30/06/2023 .

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND EXAMINER**

The trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants . Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to an audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

**BASIS OF INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT**

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023**

**INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS STATEMENT**

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006; and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities
- have not been met; or

(2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

.....

Date: 19/03/2024

Spencer-Davis & Co

4-6

Peterborough Road

Harrow

HA1 2BQ

020 8423 7992

**Statement of Financial Activities**  
**for the year ended 30/06/2023**

	<b>Unrestric ted funds</b>	<b>Restrict ed funds</b>	<b>2023 Total</b>	<b>2022 Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income</b>				
Income from generated funds				
Donations and legacies	2,974	-	2,974	1,644
Income from charitable activities	54,255	-	54,255	32,254
<b>Total Income and endowments</b>	<b>57,229</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>57,229</b>	<b>33,898</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
Costs of generating funds				
Expenditure on Charitable activities	64,849	-	64,849	38,342
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>64,849</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>64,849</b>	<b>38,342</b>
<b>Net gains on investments</b>				
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(7,620)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7,620)</b>	<b>(4,444)</b>
<b>Gains/(losses) on revaluation of fixed assests</b>				
<b>Net movement in funds:</b>				
<b>Net income for the year</b>	<b>(7,620)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(7,620)</b>	<b>(4,444)</b>
Total funds brought forward	53,044	-	53,044	57,488
<b>Net funds carried forward</b>	<b>45,424</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>45,424</b>	<b>53,044</b>

This statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year. All income and expenditure derive from continuing activities

## BALANCE SHEET AT 30/06/2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors (amounts falling due within one year)	2	5,117	31,642
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>40,658</u>	<u>40,295</u>
		45,775	71,937
<b>CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	3	<u>351</u>	<u>18,892</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>45,424</u>	<u>53,045</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		<u>45,424</u>	<u>53,045</u>
<b>CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>			
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	5		
General fund		<u>45,424</u>	<u>53,045</u>
		<u>45,424</u>	<u>53,045</u>

For the year ending 30/06/2023 the company was entitled to exemption under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime.

**Approved by the board of trustees on 19/03/2024 and signed on their behalf by**

.....  
T Dukes  
Trustee

**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30/06/2023**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**1a. Basis Of Accounting**

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with FRS102 - The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland and the Companies Act 2006 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

**1b. Incoming Resources**

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

**1c. Resources Expended**

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**1d. Allocation And Apportionment Of Costs**

All costs relate to the single activity of the charitable company and are recognised accordingly.

**1e. Fund Accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Designated funds are funds set aside by the trustees out of unrestricted general funds for the specific future purposes or projects.

**1f. Turnover**

Turnover represents the invoiced value of goods and services supplied by the company, net of value added tax and trade discounts.



## 2. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year:		
Other debtors	5,117	31,642
	<u>5,117</u>	<u>31,642</u>

## 3. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Other creditors	351	18,892
	<u>351</u>	<u>18,892</u>

## 4. LIMITED BY GUARANTEE

The company is limited by guarantee and does not have a share capital. Each member gives a guarantee to contribute a sum not exceeding £1, to the company should it be wound up. At 30/06/2023 there were 3 members.

## 5. UNRESTRICTED FUNDS

	Brought forward	Incoming resource s	Outgoing resource s	Transfers	Carried forward
	£	£	£	£	£
General fund	53,044	57,229	(64,849)	-	45,424
	<u>53,044</u>	<u>57,229</u>	<u>(64,849)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>45,424</u>

## 6. RESTRICTED FUNDS

Brought forward	Incoming resource s	Outgoing resource s	Transfers	Carried forward
£	£	£	£	£

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Guitar Circus Ltd

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**Incoming Resources**  
**for the year ended 30/06/2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Incoming resources</b>		
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds</b>	<u>2,974</u>	<u>1,644</u>
<b>Charitable Activity</b>		
Fees receivable	34,034	32,254
Tour fees	<u>20,221</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>54,255</u>	<u>32,254</u>
	<u>54,255</u>	<u>32,254</u>
	<u>57,229</u>	<u>33,898</u>

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Guitar Circus Ltd

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**Expenses**  
**for the year ended 30/06/2023**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Expenses</b>		
<b>Costs of generating funds</b>		
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Professional fees	9,480	12,230
Venue hire	15,108	17,277
Tour costs	31,512	-
Administration fees	6,071	4,318
Training	1,417	971
Accountancy fees	270	240
Insurance	543	531
Advertising and publicity	385	2,679
Bank charges	63	96
	<u>64,849</u>	<u>38,342</u>
	<u>64,849</u>	<u>38,342</u>