

SIMPLE 8 THEATRE COMPANY

England & Wales · Charity number 1139254

Details

Other names SIMPLE 8

Status Registered

Legal form Charitable company

Company number [07307236](#)

Registered 2010-12-02

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Lyneham Road
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Chipping Norton
OX7 6LW

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Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE DRAMATIC ART AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC APPRECIATION OF SUCH ART BY PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC THEATRE PERFORMANCES.

Activities: SIMPLE8'S CHARITABLE OBJECT IS TO ADVANCE THE EDUCATION OF THE PUBLIC IN ALL ASPECTS OF THE DRAMATIC ART AND THE DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC APPRECIATION OF SUCH ART BY PRESENTATION OF PUBLIC THEATRE APPEARANCES. SIMPLE8'S CURRENT PROJECTS INCLUDE A TOUR OF ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND OF 'MOBY-DICK' AND A NEW PRODUCTION 'LAND OF THE FREE'.

Classification

- **How:** Provides Services
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- **Area of benefit:** LONDON
- Oxfordshire
- Throughout London

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-07-31	£61,877	£103,913	-	-
2024-07-31	£350,960	£431,139	-	-
2023-07-31	£450	£2,629	-	-
2022-07-31	£3,697	£3,529	-	-
2021-07-31	£1,000	£3,876	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
GENEVIEVE MARY MUINZER		
ROSALIND RILEY		2017-10-12
Sebastian Fernandez-Armesto		2020-03-23

SIMPLE 8 THEATRE COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1139254

Accounts

**Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 July 2025
for
Simple 8 Theatre Company**

SLP Advisory Limited
126 Wish Hill
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN20 9HL

Simple 8 Theatre Company
Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	Page
Report of the Trustees	1 to 3
Independent Examiner's Report	4
Statement of Financial Activities	5
Balance Sheet	6
Notes to the Financial Statements	7 to 11
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	12 to 13

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purposes of the charity is to advance the education of the public in all aspects of the dramatic art and the development of public appreciation such art by presentation of public theatre performances.

Over the last financial year, Simple 8 Theatre Company continued their relaunch of full-scale productions post-Covid. They have maintained strong relationships with partners, including Royal and Derngate Theatre in Northampton, Park Theatre London and Shoreditch Town Hall. The company produced a full-scale premiere of their new play *The Land of the Free* (formerly *Sic Semper*) about how John Wilkes Booth assassinated Abraham Lincoln, to coincide with the US Presidential election in autumn 2024. It played at Southwark Playhouse in London, and the project spanned September - November 2024. The company fundraised throughout the year, including hosting an Evening With.... Dame Imelda Staunton.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Land of the Free

Successfully mounted a full-scale production at Southwark Playhouse. In total 35 performances, employing 14 practitioners, with 2,458 people seeing it live and over 100,000 engaged online.

Alongside a positive round of private fundraising we also used a successful grant from last year's return from the De Haan Charitable Trust towards this activity.

The production was critically well-received:

- "A deft investigation of a Presidential assassination.....it's how the director Sebastian Armesto and co-writer Dudley Hinton wrap, unwrap, and reward that gift which enhances the material" *The Guardian*
- "A bold new production" *The Strand Magazine*
- "A clever piece of theatre" *ReviewsHub*

Our audience development focused on offering affordable tickets at all venues with discounts for schools, those on low incomes, multi-generational families and young people. We had the very low average ticket price of £16.88. We also created free workshops for young practitioners. These were sent to drama schools/universities local to the venue, and/or with a specific lean towards American studies or students.

We offered adapted shows including captioned shows, and a Relaxed Performance, plus a Post Show Discussion with noted US Historian Adam Smith.

Our workforce had gender parity and our casting was representative of racial and physical diversity.

Achievements Against Objective Set

We succeeded in our aim of premiering a new play with a large cast and without 'star' casting. However we were unable to sell the show as successfully as we would have hoped.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Reserves policy

Amount of reserves held: negative reserve of £4,620 (2024 - £37,416).

The Charitable Company will operate with no cash reserves. The Trustees aim to maintain a sufficient balance to meet ongoing expenditure, but if required Members will cover the costs of subscriptions for website etc. There is no anticipated major expenditure for the following tax year as we have no productions planned.

Any major projects will be met from separate fundraising activities.

Funds in deficit

There was a loss for the year caused by lower than expected box office income. This loss was offset by higher than expected fundraising and a 'creative tax credit' that made the impact manageable. If required, any loss carried forward will be mitigated by writing off money owed to Company Members.

Simple 8 Theatre Company
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

At 31 July 2025 the charitable company had free reserves of £(4,620). The net loss for the year was £42,036. This is compared to the reserves at the end of the previous year of £37,416. There was a loss for the year caused by lower than expected box office income. This loss was offset by higher than expected fundraising and a 'creative tax credit' that made the impact manageable. Once our tax credit is received, we will repay our loan due to Timothy Bull and will have reserves of net zero. If required, any loss carried forward will be mitigated by writing off money owed to Company Members.

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising) are:

Grants/donations/fundraising - £19,876

Productions/sales/royalties - £42,001

Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted:

The Charitable Company's funds are held in an interest bearing current account with the Co-operative Bank. There are currently no funds held that will not be expended within the next twelve months so longer term investment funds are felt inappropriate by the Trustees.

A description of the principal risks facing the charity:

The principal two risks are the viability of productions (can sell tickets) and losing funding in the build up. However the company mitigate against these by maintaining very low admin costs, being run by volunteers and they adjust their work and budgets to suit unfolding events.

The Trustees review the major risks facing the Charitable Company at least once a year. We have a comprehensive health and safety review and a code of conduct and safeguarding policy.

FUTURE PLANS

In terms of future plans, because the current climate in the Arts is perilous, due to a lack of funding, struggle for audience and consequential fear of risk we are considering moth-balling the company until we have a clear direction in terms of projects to mount and an industry that can offer better support. We had a fundraising target for this production of £10,000 and our Evening With fundraising events and private donations we ended up exceeding that target with total funds raised of £17,200 excluding Gift Aid. As previously mentioned we also used a grant of £5,000 from the De Haan Charitable Trust towards this year's activity, which is included in this figure.

As detailed in last year's report we have felt that the current climate in the Arts is perilous, due to a lack of funding, struggle for audience and general fear of risk from theatre programmers.

In particular, over the last two productions, this year's activity and Moby-Dick, we found that what has worked for us in the past - good reviews, a recognised aesthetic, story-centric drama, casting and marketing - are no longer enough to attract an audience larger enough to sustain the work.

Consequently we have taken the heavy decision to moth-ball the company until we have a clear direction in terms of projects to mount and an industry that can offer better support.

All our infrastructure will remain in place and we intend to continue to pursue opportunities that will fulfil our purposes.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was adopted in 07/07/2010 on the formation of the Simple 8 Theatre Company as a company limited by guarantee.

The company is limited by guarantee - each director has agreed to contribute up to £10 in the event of winding up.

The methods used to recruit and appoint new trustees, including details of any other person or external body entitled to appoint one or more trustees:

We identify the need for new trustees. Either because vacancies have arisen, or that new trustees with specific skills are needed to help run the charity more effectively. The trustees agree what skills, experience and knowledge are needed. Preferred candidates are identified and invited to join the trustees. The whole board are responsible.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company number

07307236 (England and Wales)

Simple 8 Theatre Company
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

Registered Charity number
1139254

Registered office
Heath House
Lyneham Road
Milton-Under-Wychwood
Chipping Norton
OX7 6LW

Trustees
Ms R Riley
Ms G M Muinzer
Mr S Fernandez-Armesto
Mr R Digby Day (resigned 17/11/2025)

Company Secretaries
Mr C J Doyle
Mr D J Hinton

Independent Examiner
Sarah Price
SLP Advisory Limited
126 Wish Hill
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN20 9HL

www.simple8.co.uk

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Simple 8 Theatre Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).


Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law, the trustees have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law).

Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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 prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on06.03.2026..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mr S Fernandez-Armesto - Trustee

**Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Simple 8 Theatre Company**

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Simple 8 Theatre Company ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2025.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Sarah Price

Sarah Price

SLP Advisory Limited
126 Wish Hill
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN20 9HL

Date: 05/03/2026

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies		-	19,876	19,876	119,395
Charitable activities					
Service delivery		-	42,001	42,001	231,565
Total		-	61,877	61,877	350,960
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds		-	95,536	95,536	236,454
Charitable activities					
Other		-	(22,519)	(22,519)	(73,460)
Support costs		-	28,022	28,022	194,686
Governance costs		1,047	1,827	2,874	8,778
Total		1,047	102,866	103,913	366,458
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
Transfers between funds	7	(1,047) (35,087)	(40,989) 35,087	(42,036) -	(15,498) -
Net movement in funds		(36,134)	(5,902)	(42,036)	(15,498)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		37,034	382	37,416	52,914
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		900	(5,520)	(4,620)	37,416

The notes form part of these financial statements

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Balance Sheet
31 July 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	2025 Total funds £	2024 Total funds £
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	5	-	22,519	22,519	150,726
Cash at bank		900	7,420	8,320	979
		900	29,939	30,839	151,705
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	6	-	(35,459)	(35,459)	(114,289)
NET CURRENT ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		900	(5,520)	(4,620)	37,416
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		900	(5,520)	(4,620)	37,416
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		900	(5,520)	(4,620)	37,416
FUNDS					
	7				
Unrestricted funds				900	37,034
Restricted funds				(5,520)	382
TOTAL FUNDS				(4,620)	37,416

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 July 2025.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 06.03.2026 and were signed on its behalf by:



Mr S Fernandez-Armesto - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. 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.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

2. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2025	2024
	£	£
Auditors' remuneration	420	420
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

3. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 July 2025 nor for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 July 2025 nor for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

4. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	2,833	116,562	119,395
Charitable activities			
Service delivery	-	231,565	231,565
Total	<u>2,833</u>	<u>348,127</u>	<u>350,960</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	-	236,454	236,454
Charitable activities			
Other	-	(73,460)	(73,460)
Support costs	-	194,686	194,686
Governance costs	11,612	(2,834)	8,778
Total	<u>11,612</u>	<u>354,846</u>	<u>366,458</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	(8,779)	(6,719)	(15,498)
Transfers between funds	(6,778)	6,778	-
Net movement in funds	<u>(15,557)</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>(15,498)</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	52,591	323	52,914
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>37,034</u>	<u>382</u>	<u>37,416</u>

5. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025 £	2024 £
Tax	22,519	73,460
Prepayments and accrued income	-	77,266
	<u>22,519</u>	<u>150,726</u>

Accrued income of £Nil (2024: £66,439) included debtors relates to theatre fees unbilled at the year end.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

6. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,340	7,948
Tax	-	11,647
Accruals and deferred income	34,119	94,694
	<u>35,459</u>	<u>114,289</u>

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.8.24	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.7.25
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	37,034	(1,047)	(35,087)	900
Restricted funds				
Moby dick	382	-	(382)	-
The land of free	-	(40,989)	35,469	(5,520)
	<u>382</u>	<u>(40,989)</u>	<u>35,087</u>	<u>(5,520)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>37,416</u>	<u>(42,036)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,620)</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Movement in funds
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	-	(1,047)	(1,047)
Restricted funds			
The land of free	61,877	(102,866)	(40,989)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>61,877</u>	<u>(103,913)</u>	<u>(42,036)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.8.23	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.7.24
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	52,591	(8,779)	(6,778)	37,034
Restricted funds				
Moby dick	323	(6,719)	6,778	382
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>52,914</u>	<u>(15,498)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>37,416</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	2,833	(11,612)	(8,779)
Restricted funds			
Moby dick	348,127	(354,846)	(6,719)
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>350,960</u>	<u>(366,458)</u>	<u>(15,498)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.8.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.7.25 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	52,591	(9,826)	(41,865)	900
Restricted funds				
Moby dick	323	(6,719)	6,396	-
The land of free	-	(40,989)	35,469	(5,520)
	<u>323</u>	<u>(47,708)</u>	<u>41,865</u>	<u>(5,520)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>52,914</u>	<u>(57,534)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(4,620)</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	2,833	(12,659)	(9,826)
Restricted funds			
Moby dick	348,127	(354,846)	(6,719)
The land of free	61,877	(102,866)	(40,989)
	<u>410,004</u>	<u>(457,712)</u>	<u>(47,708)</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>412,837</u>	<u>(470,371)</u>	<u>(57,534)</u>

8. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Payment for services of £4,500 (2024: £Nil) was made to one of the trustees who directed Land of the Free. Minutes of the meeting between the other trustees that authorised this payment outline details of this payment.
Donation of £2,760 (2024: £Nil) was received from one of the trustee during the year.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	2025 £	2024 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	17,200	39,691
Gift aid	2,676	3,130
Grants	-	76,574
	<u>19,876</u>	<u>119,395</u>
Charitable activities		
Admission tickets sold	42,001	231,565
	<u>61,877</u>	<u>350,960</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Casting and audition costs	-	452
Theatre hire and rehearsals	31,685	16,248
Artist fees	38,122	143,969
Refreshments	109	133
Costumes and props	1,581	20,664
Creative expenses	24,039	54,988
	<u>95,536</u>	<u>236,454</u>
Charitable activities		
Advertising	8,511	23,980
Sundries	-	82
Education costs	-	689
Environmental responsibility	-	464
Lighting costs	380	10,807
Musical instruments	190	128
Production team costs	2,380	15,953
Programme development costs	944	963
Set and stage management fees	10,018	66,960
Transport and trucking costs	851	14,920
Venue production costs	4,119	34,937
Rights	-	22,644
	<u>27,393</u>	<u>192,527</u>
Support costs		
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration	420	420
Insurance	629	2,159
Sundries	524	560
Accountancy fees	1,320	7,798
Theatre tax credit	(22,519)	(73,460)
Subscriptions	610	-
	<u>(19,016)</u>	<u>(62,523)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 July 2025

	2025	2024
	£	£
Total resources expended	103,913	366,458
Net expenditure	<u>(42,036)</u>	<u>(15,498)</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

SIMPLE 8 THEATRE COMPANY

England & Wales - Charity number 1139254

Accounts

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Company Number: 07307236 (England & Wales)

Registered Charity Number: 1139254

**Report of the Trustees and unaudited Financial Statements
For the year ended
31st July 2024**

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Content page

For the year ended 31st July 2024

Page 1	Company Info
Page 2-5	Trustee's Report
Page 6	Independent Examiner's Report
Page 7	Income and Expenditure
Page 8	Balance Sheet
Page 9-10	Notes
Page 11-12	Detailed Statement of Financial Activities

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Company Information

For the year ended 31st July 2024

Directors/Trustees	Ms Rosalind Riley Mr Richard Digby Day Mr Sebastian Fernandez-Armesto Ms Genevieve Muinzer
Secretaries	Mr Dudley Hinton (appointed 10/11/2023) Mr Christopher Doyle
Company Number	07307236 - England & Wales
Charity Number	113924
Registered Office	Heath House Lyneham Road Milton-under- Wychwood Chipping Norton OX7 6LW
Independent examiners	SLP Accountants Malthouse Cottages 126 Wish Hill Eastbourne BN20 9HL
Website address	www.simple8.co.uk

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Trustee's report

For the year ended 31st July 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 July 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

MANAGEMENT

Chair & Director: Sebastian Fernandez-Armesto

Trustee: Richard Digby-Day

Trustee: Genevieve Muinzer

Trustee: Rosalind Riley

Secretary: Dudley Hinton

Secretary: Christopher Doyle

Subscriber: Hannah Emanuel

Subscriber: Emily Pennant-Rea

Subscriber: Mathew Wandless

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The purposes of the charity is to advance the education of the public in all aspects of the dramatic art and the development of public appreciation such art by presentation of public theatre performances.

Over the last financial year, Simple 8 Theatre Company relaunched their full-scale productions post-Covid. They have maintained strong relationships with partners, including Royal and Derngate Theatre in Northampton, Park Theatre London and Shoreditch Town Hall. The company produced a full-scale adaptation of Moby-Dick, in co-production with Royal and Derngate Theatre, that started in Northampton and toured to 9 further venues across the UK. They secured Arts Council funding for the project, which ran from March - June 2024. This year's momentum has been kept up because looking forward they are fundraising and preparing for the premiere of their new play The Land of the Free (formerly Sic Semper) about how John Wilkes Booth assassinated Abraham Lincoln, to coincide with the US Presidential election in autumn 2024. It will play at Southwark Playhouse in London, and the project will span September - November 2024. The company fundraised throughout the year, including several successful grant applications towards the above-mentioned projects, have a planned Evening With... Dame Imelda Staunton, and has committed fully to its remit of educating and entertaining audiences throughout the UK.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Trustee's report

For the year ended 31st July 2024

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE

Moby-Dick

Successfully mounted a full-scale tour, in co-production with Royal and Derngate Northampton. In total 73 performances, employing 31 practitioners, with 520 active participants, 10 volunteers, across 10 venues, with 10,392 people seeing it live and over half a million engaged online.

Successful grant applications from Arts Council England, The Charlotte Aitken Trust, The Foyle Foundation and The Garrick Trust.

The production was nominated of an OffWestEnd Award and was critically well-received:

“A must see” Beyond The Curtain

“Ripe with vivid imagery and humour...an extraordinary adventure” Northampton Chronicle

Our audience development and engagement focused on local communities and removing barriers that create obstacles for communities who rarely visit the theatre. We offered affordable ticketing at all venues with discounts for schools, those on low incomes, multi-generational families and young people. Across the tour we had the very low average ticket price of £17.44 – exceptional value. We took a midscale show for the first time ever to the Isles of Scilly, giving residents access to a first-class and affordable drama (with an average ticket price of £10.27). The audience was made up of 60% residents and 40% visitors, with 92% of audiences saying the show was “outstanding”. Simple8 developed a rich learning and wraparound offer for schools and young people including workshops and education packs. These were sent to schools/youth groups local to all venues, including over 100 primary and secondary schools in London. We delivered 4x Producing Workshops, 3x audience development workshops and 3x educational workshops, all for free.

We offered adapted shows including Audio Described shows with Touch Tours, captioned shows, BSL interpreted shows and a Relaxed Performance, plus Post Show Discussions. Our workforce had gender parity and our casting was representative of racial and physical diversity.

Land of the Free

Fundraising and preparing for a world premiere of a new play.

Achievements Against Objective Set

Across both projects we succeeded in our aims of relaunching the company post-Covid and producing touring drama, especially with large casts and without ‘star’ casting.

PLANS FOR FUTURE ACTIVITIES

In terms of future plans, because the current climate in the Arts is perilous, due to a lack of funding, struggle for audience and consequential fear of risk we are considering moth-balling the company until we have a clear direction in terms of projects to mount and an industry that can offer better support.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Trustee's report

For the year ended 31st July 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Financial position

There was a loss for the year caused by ensuring accessibility to the production of Moby-Dick by offering generously priced tickets. This loss was offset by a 'creative tax credit' that made the impact manageable and still maintain reserves to launch Land of the Free going forward.

Amount of reserves held: £37,416

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising) are:

Grants/donations/fundraising - £119,395

Productions/sales/royalties - £231,565

Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted:

The Charitable Company's funds are held in an interest bearing current account with the Co-operative Bank. There are currently no funds held that will not be expended within the next twelve months so longer term investment funds are felt inappropriate by the Trustees.

A description of the principal risks facing the charity:

The principal two risks are the viability of productions (can sell tickets) and losing funding in the build up. However the company mitigate against these by maintaining very low admin costs, being run by volunteers and they adjust their work and budgets to suit unfolding events.

The Trustees review the major risks facing the Charitable Company at least once a year. We have a comprehensive health and safety review and a code of conduct and safeguarding policy.

Future plans

There was a loss for the year caused by ensuring accessibility to the production of Moby-Dick by offering generously priced tickets. This loss was offset by a 'creative tax credit' that made the impact manageable and still maintain reserves to launch Land of the Free going forward.

Reserves policy

Amount of reserves held: £37,416

The Charitable Company currently operates with limited cash reserves. The Trustees aim to maintain a sufficient balance to meet committed expenditure. Major projects are usually met from separate fundraising activities.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Trustee's report
For the year ended 31st July 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing document

The governing document of the charity is the Memorandum and Articles of Association, which was adopted in 07/07/2010 on the formation of the Simple 8 Theatre Company as a company limited by guarantee.

The company is limited by guarantee - each director has agreed to contribute up to £10 in the event of winding up.

The methods used to recruit and appoint new trustees, including details of any other person or external body entitled to appoint one or more trustees:

We identify the need for new trustees. Either because vacancies have arisen, or that new trustees with specific skills are needed to help run the charity more effectively. The trustees agree what skills, experience and knowledge are needed. Preferred candidates are identified and invited to join the trustees. The whole board are responsible.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The trustees (who are also the directors of Simple 8 Theatre Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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 prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 30.05.2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Sebastian Armesto - Trustee

Simple 8 Theatre Company
For the year ended 31st July 2024

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Simple 8 Theatre Company

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Simple 8 Theatre Company ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under Section 145(5) (b) of the 2011 Act.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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

Sarah Price

Independent examiner

Sarah Price

SLP Advisory Limited
126 Wish Hill
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN20 9HL

Simple 8 Theatre Company

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the year ended 31st July 2024

		2024			2023
	<i>Note</i>	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>	
		£	£	£	£
Income					
Grants and donations		2,833	116,562	119,395	3,697
Charitable activities			231,565	231,565	-
	2	<u>2,833</u>	<u>348,127</u>	<u>350,960</u>	<u>3,697</u>
Expenditure					
Charitable activities		-	431,140	431,140	3,529
Fundraising		-	-	-	-
Administration		3,394	(68,076)	(64,682)	978
	3	<u>3,394</u>	<u>363,064</u>	<u>366,458</u>	<u>4,507</u>
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		(561)	(14,937)	(15,498)	(810)
Fund balances at 31st July 2023		<u>52,591</u>	<u>323</u>	<u>52,914</u>	<u>53,724</u>
		52,030	(14,614)	37,416	52,914
Transfers between funds		(14,996)	14,996	-	-
Fund balances at 31st July 2024		<u>£ 37,034</u>	<u>£ 382</u>	<u>£ 37,416</u>	<u>£ 52,914</u>

Simple 8 Theatre Company
For the year ended 31st July 2024

BALANCE SHEET
At 31st July 2024

		2024			2023
		Unrestricted		Restricted	Total funds
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Cash at bank		979	-	979	50,736
Debtors	4	73,460	77,266	150,726	2,628
		<u>74,439</u>	<u>77,266</u>	<u>151,705</u>	<u>53,364</u>
Creditors amounts falling due within 1 year					
Creditors and accruals	5	37,405	76,884	114,289	450
Net assets		£ 37,034	£ 382	£ 37,416	£ 52,914
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Restricted income funds		-	382	382	323
Unrestricted funds		37,034	-	37,034	52,591
Total funds		£ 37,034	£ 382	£ 37,416	£ 52,914

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 July 2024.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 July 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

(a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and

(b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit 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 charitable company.

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on~~30.05.2025~~..... and were signed on its behalf by:



..... Sebastian Armesto - Trustee

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31st July 2024

1 Statutory information

Simple 2 Theatre Company is an incorporated charity, limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales. The charity's registered number and registered office address can be found in the Report of the Trustees.

2 Accounting policies

2.1 Basis of accounting

These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant note(s) to these accounts.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014 and with the Charities Act 2011

2.2 Recognition of income

The income of the company is derived from charitable donations, grants, fees and ticket sales from productions in fulfilment of the company's charitable objectives and is recognised when received or when entitlement to the resources are confirmed

2.3 Grants and donations

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the general income recognition criteria are met (5.10 to 5.12 FRS102 SORP).

2.4 Gift Aid

Aid amount recovered on a donation is considered to be part of that gift and is treated as an addition to the same fund as the initial donation unless the donor or the terms of the appeal have specified otherwise.

2.5 Expenditure and Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

2.6 Support costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice.

2.7 Creditors

The charity has creditors which are measured at settlement amounts less any trade discounts

2.8 Financial Instruments

The charity accounts for basic financial instruments on initial recognition as per paragraph 10.7 FRS102 SORP. Subsequent measurement is as per paragraphs 11.17 to 11.19, FRS102 SORP.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Notes to the Financial Statements For the year ended 31st July 2024

2.9 Assets

Debtors (including trade debtors and loans receivable) are measured on initial recognition at settlement amount after any trade discounts or amount advanced by the charity. Subsequently, they are measured at the cash or other consideration expected to be received.

2.10 Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

2.11 Fund accounting

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. Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

3 Debtors and prepayments

Prepayments	10,767	2,628
Theatre receipts	66,499	
Tax credit	73,460	
	<u>150,726</u>	<u>2,628</u>

4 Creditors and Accruals

Trade creditors	12,066	
Accruals	90,576	450
Taxation	11,647	
	<u>114,289</u>	<u>450</u>

5 Fees for examination of the accounts

Independent examiner's fees	-	-
Tax advisory fees	5,931	-
	<u>5,931</u>	<u>-</u>

8 Directors/Trustees' remuneration

None of the Trustees received any remuneration for services to the charitable company. Travel and other expenses properly incurred for the charitable objects of the company are reimbursed. No expenses were claimed in the year (2023 - nil)

9 Company limited by guarantee

The company was incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 as a company limited by guarantee and not having a share capital. Each member of the company undertakes to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound-up while they are members or within one year after they cease to be a member

11. Independent examiners' remuneration

	2024	2023
Fees payable to the charity's auditors for the audit of the charity's financial statements	350	-
	<u>350</u>	<u>-</u>

12. Related party disclosure

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 July 2024.

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31st July 2024

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>2024 Restricted funds</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>2023 TOTAL</i>
Income and endowments				
Donations and legacies				
Donations	2,833	36,858	39,691	1,500
Gift aid	-	3,130	3,130	2,197
Grants from Government	-	76,574	76,574	-
	<u>2,833</u>	<u>116,562</u>	<u>119,395</u>	<u>3,697</u>
Charitable activities				
Theatre ticket and associated revenue	-	231,565	231,565	-
TOTAL INCOME	<u>2,833</u>	<u>348,127</u>	<u>350,960</u>	<u>3,697</u>
Expenditure				
Expenditure on charitable activities				
Theatre hire and rehearsals	-	16,248	16,248	515
Artist's fees	-	143,969	143,969	3,014
Production expenses				
Casting/auditions	-	452	452	-
Company refreshments	-	133	133	-
Costumes	-	15,530	15,530	-
Creative accomodation	-	6,705	6,705	-
Creative expense other	-	81	81	-
Creative fees	-	42,650	42,650	-
Creative travel	-	5,552	5,552	-
Education	-	689	689	-
Environmental responsibility	-	464	464	-
Insurance	-	2,159	2,159	-
Lighting hires	-	9,650	9,650	-
Lighting purchases	-	1,158	1,158	-
Marketing	-	21,311	21,311	-
Medical	-	82	82	-
Musical instruments	-	128	128	-
Press & PR	-	1,874	1,874	-
Production Team accomodation	-	413	413	-
Production Team fees	-	13,240	13,240	-
Production Team travel	-	2,300	2,300	-
Programme development	-	560	560	-
Programme sales commission	-	403	403	-
Props	-	5,133	5,133	-
Research	-	794	794	-
Set	-	21,347	21,347	-
Stage Management fees	-	31,958	31,958	-
Stage Management subsistence	-	11,110	11,110	-
Stage Management travel	-	2,545	2,545	-
Transport/trucking	-	14,920	14,920	-
Venue Poduction team	-	17,326	17,326	-
Venue technical staff	-	17,611	17,611	-
Rights	-	22,644	22,644	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>431,139</u>	<u>431,139</u>	<u>3,529</u>

Simple 8 Theatre Company

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities For the year ended 31st July 2024

	<i>Unrestricted Funds</i>	<i>2024 Restricted funds</i>	<i>TOTAL</i>	<i>2023 TOTAL</i>
Other expenditure				
Finance - Accounts preparation	3,394	4,824	8,218	978
Raising Donations and Legacies	-	560	560	-
Theatre tax credit		(73,460)	(73,460)	-
	<u>3,394</u>	<u>(68,076)</u>	<u>(64,682)</u>	<u>978</u>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>3,394</u>	<u>363,063</u>	<u>366,457</u>	<u>4,507</u>
Net (expenditure)/income	<u>(561)</u>	<u>(14,936)</u>	<u>(15,497)</u>	<u>(810)</u>