

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

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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 on30.05.2025..... 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.

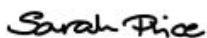
Independent examiner's statement

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.



.....

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>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>	
	<i>Note</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
		<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Total funds</i>	
		£	£	£	£
Current assets					
Cash at bank		979	-	979	50,736
Debtors	4	73,460	77,266	150,726	2,628
		74,439	77,266	151,705	53,364
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 on30.05.2025..... 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

		2024		2023
	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted funds	TOTAL	TOTAL
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>