

MIDSUMMER MUSIC

Charity No: 1145873

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

FOR THE 12 MONTHS ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2020



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ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

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MIDSUMMER MUSIC

Charity No: 1145873

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF MIDSUMMER MUSIC

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages 2 to 4.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 43 of the Charities Act 1993. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to the charity's trustees those matters I am required to state to them in my report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for my work, for this report, or for the opinions I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts; you consider that the audit requirements of s43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 does not apply. It is my responsibility to state, on the basis of procedures specified in the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners under s43(7)(b) of the Act, whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charity Commissioners. 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 the seeking of 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, I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the accounts.

Independent examiner's 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 s41 of the Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act 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.



C L H Alexander, ACMA CGMA
Chartered Management Accountant

27th May 2021

Alexander-Churchill LLP, Brandon House, 90 The Broadway, Chesham, Buckinghamshire, HP5 1EG

MIDSUMMER MUSIC

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR END 31st December 2020

INCOMING RESOURCES	Notes:	31 Dec 2020		31 Dec 2019	
		£	£	£	£
From Generated Funds:	2				
Fundraising Income			1,850	3,020	
			<u>0</u>	<u>1,850</u>	<u>3,020</u>
From Charitable Activities:					
Ticket Sales		-		18,431	
Supporters		23,732		12,986	
Refreshments - Drinks		-		964	
Programme Sales		-		649	
Gift Aid		5,351		2,077	
Grant for Cellists		-		3,000	
Advertising Revenue		-		200	
Phone final credit		100		-	
			<u>29,183</u>	<u>38,307</u>	
Total Incoming Resources			<u>31,033</u>	<u>41,327</u>	
RESOURCES USED					
Cost of Generating Funds:	3				
Fundraising Expenditure			<u>-</u>	<u>1,038</u>	
Cost of Charitable Activities:					
Accountancy Fees		600		600	
Artists' Fees	3b	-		21,356	
Office Expenses and Printing		235		2,159	
Staff Remuneration		15,000		15,000	
Telephone		29		342	
Website		53		32	
Insurance	3c	341		321	
Church Hire		-		1,425	
Piano Removal and Tuning		-		2,297	
Advertising and Publicity		275		130	
Function Refreshments food		-		878	
Stage & Lights		-		2,352	
Cleaning & Extra Help		-		1,475	
Bank Charges		-		84	
Portaloos		-		840	
Council Fees		-		62	
Stage Equipment		-		209	
PRS Fee		-		847	
Making music Subs		378		-	
		<u>16,910</u>		<u>50,409</u>	
Total Resources Used		<u>16,910</u>		<u>51,447</u>	
NET INCOMING /					
(- NET DEFICIT) / RESOURCES		<u>14,124</u>		<u>-10,120</u>	
GENERAL FUND					
Balance 1st Jan 2020		8,109		18,229	
Balance 31st December 2020		22,233		8,109	

MIDSUMMER MUSIC

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2020

	Notes:	31 Dec 2020	31 Dec 2019
CURRENT ASSESTS:			
Cash at Bank and in Hand		22,233	8,109
		<u>22,233</u>	<u>8,109</u>
LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
		-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>22,233</u>	<u>8,109</u>
 Financed by:			
GENERAL FUND			
Balance as at 1st January 2020		8,109	18,229
Net Income/(-Deficit) for year		14,124	- 10,120
Balance as at 31st December 2020		<u>22,233</u>	<u>8,109</u>

Approved by the Trustees on
and signed on their behalf:-

.....
Sir Jeremy Dixon
Trustee

27
X
21

MIDSUMMER MUSIC

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR END 31st DECEMBER 2020

Note:

ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

1

[a]

Basis Of Accounting:

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with applicable accounting standards and the Charities SORP.

[b]

General Funds:

The funds of the charity are entirely General Funds available for the objects of the charity, without restriction.

2

[a]

Fundraising Income:

Fundraising

£

£

1850

1850

3

[a]

Fundraising Expenditure:

Catering

-

Others

-

0

[b]

Artists' Fees and Expenses:

Fees

-

Refreshments

-

Flowers

-

Flights

-

Hotel

-

Taxis & Coaches

-

0

[c]

Insurance:

Public Liability

341

341

[d]

Office Expenses and Printing:

Translations

-

Office Supplies and Sundries

235

Printing:

-

235

[e]

Advertising & Publicity:

Piano Mag

120

Elgiva

155

275

midsummer music

Charity Number 1145873

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the period

01 January 2020 - 31 December 2020

Charity's principal address:
56 Severalls Avenue
Buckinghamshire
Chesham
HP5 3EL

MIDSUMMER MUSIC

Charity Number 1145873

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

for the period 01 January 2020 - 31 December 2020

Charity's principal address:

56 Severalls Avenue
Chesham
Buckinghamshire
HP5 3EL

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity:

Sir Jeremy Dixon - Chair
Mrs Bjørg Lewis - Artistic Director
Mr Christopher Aldren

Name of senior member of staff:

Mrs Madeleine Lister (Mattar) - Festival Director

Midsummer Music's governing document is a Trust Deed, which was executed on 21 December 2011. The objects of the charity as set out in its governing document are: "To advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in and appreciation of the art of music through the presentation of public concerts and recitals, and for such other purposes as shall be exclusively charitable, as the trustees may from time to time decide."

The Charitable Trust is administered by three trustees. The trustees are appointed or re-appointed by the existing trustees. At the forefront of the trustees' decision-making, is a commitment to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit. In 2020, the three trustees all gave their time voluntarily and received no remuneration or other benefits in the period.

Midsummer Music is led by two Artistic Directors: the pianist, Paul Lewis and the cellist, Bjørg Lewis (also a trustee), both of whom are internationally-renowned concert musicians and award-winning recording artists. The Artistic Directors received no remuneration or other benefit in the period - either for their work in planning the festival, or as fees for performing at the festival.

The Festival Director, Madeleine Lister (Mattar) is self-employed. The Festival Director's responsibilities include all administration, fund-raising, financial management, marketing, ticket sales, festival production and general management.

Midsummer Music in 2020

This was a devastating year for all arts organisations, and Midsummer Music was no exception. One by one the cancellations came in: the fundraising concert in March; the main festival in June (due to have been a celebration of Beethoven in his 250th anniversary year); the outreach events for children at St Mary's Church of England Primary School in Old Amersham; an advanced piano masterclass to have been given by Paul Lewis, all gone.

Many members had renewed their annual subscriptions at the beginning of the year. A pledge was made to all Supporters that their memberships would be carried over into 2021.

As the year wore on, and keen to present something in 2020, plans were made for a one-day mini-festival. It was to have taken place on 21 November at the usual venue of St Mary's, Old Amersham, with three hour-long concerts given by a small number of artists: Paul Lewis *piano*, Bjørg Lewis *cello*, Mark Padmore *voice* and Tom Poster *piano*. Each concert had a different programme, but with an emphasis on Beethoven and Schumann. The intention was to plan a day of great variety and artistic depth to be performed to a reduced capacity, socially-distanced audience.

A survey we undertook showed that there was indeed a great demand for such an event, with 80% of respondents confirming that they felt ready to return to concert-going if the correct Covid-secure measures were in place. The possibility of live-streaming the event was deemed too expensive for our organisation at that moment and put to one side. Additionally, it was strongly felt that live performance had been much missed, and that making a direct connection with an audience was the key element of what was lacking.

However, the Covid-19 situation at the beginning of November had been worsening for some time, and the event had to be cancelled. Fortunately the day had been planned in such a way as to lose no money should a cancellation be inevitable.

Although this was yet another disappointment, the plans made for the one-day event were put on hold, with the intention of seeing how the beginning of 2021 might unfold and potentially holding the one-day event in the Spring of that year.

At the close of the 2020 financial year, Midsummer Music held cash at the bank of £22,232 all of which was unrestricted funds.

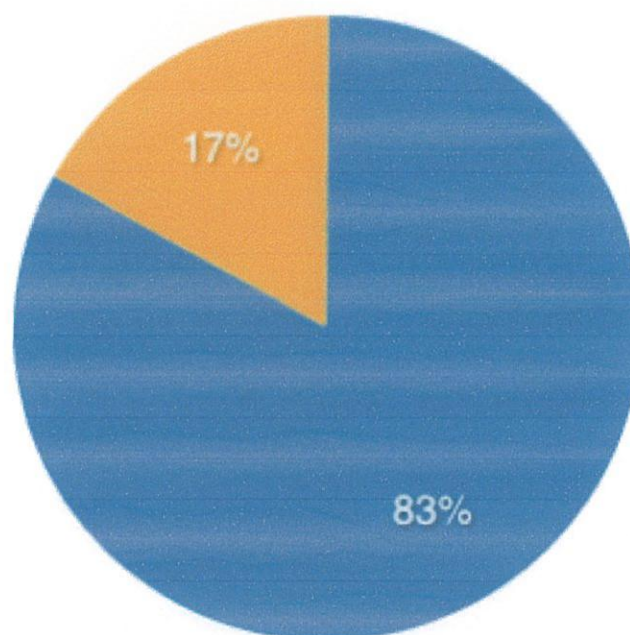
The reserve level is set at £10,000. Reserves are essential for Midsummer Music in order to meet any more unforeseen circumstances: the continuing pandemic, any further reduction in Supporters' donations; reduced ticket sales from socially-distanced concerts; the possibility of another cancelled festival.

In a normal year, Midsummer Music usually generates income from five sources as follows:

- 1) **Fundraising Concert**
- 2) **Supporters' donations**
- 3) **Ticket Sales** from the June festival
- 4) **Advertising revenue, brochure sales and refreshment sales** during the June festival
- 5) **Gift Aid**

However, in 2020 the income sources were reduced to just two: Supporters' donations and Gift Aid.

- Fundraising Concert
- Supporters' donations
- Ticket Sales
- Programme / Refreshment Sales
- Gift Aid



In the midst of the most difficult year, the commitment and generosity of many of the Midsummer Music Supporters and donors was an absolute lifeline to the festival. The Trustees and Artistic Directors are hugely grateful to those who understood the need to donate in order to help Midsummer Music survive a year in which everything was cancelled. 83% of the charity's 2020 income came from such music-lovers. To set this in context, total incoming resources in 2019 were 41.3K, and in 2020 dropped to 31.0K, a 25% reduction.

At the close of 2020, the picture going forward is still unclear. We hope to be able to work towards a festival in 2021 - even if modified by the demands of social-distancing and of course, strictly following all Covid-19 safety precautions. We remain more committed than ever to the goal of reintroducing live music events of the highest standards. The pandemic has clarified this resolve and this understanding that Midsummer Music is very much about 'being there' and experiencing the inspiring artistry of some of the world's best musicians engaging with compositional masterpieces.

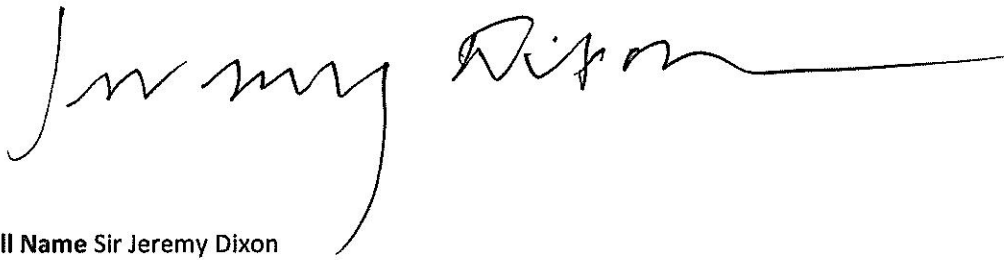
Although 2020 was a disappointment in that all events had to be cancelled, our goals for 2021 remain clear: to present the a top quality classical music festival and to reach as many beneficiaries as possible within the bounds of the current restrictions. We also strongly wish to support performing musicians who have been so adversely affected in their professional lives. The impossibility of outreach work has clearly been a loss this past year. It is an area of which we are proud. Going forward, it is one that we wish to develop further.

The arts and music are vital to our sense of wellbeing and connection. Hearing music played live is exactly the boost that so many who have struggled with isolation and un-connectedness need. We will make every effort to return in 2021.

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jeremy Dixon', followed by a long horizontal flourish.

Full Name Sir Jeremy Dixon

Position Chair

Date

27/10/21