

Company Registration Number 07285741

Registered Charity Number 1146907

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
For the year ending 31 March 2022

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

The Trustees, who are also Directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2022.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Charity Name	Eclipse Theatre Company Limited
Charity registration number	1146907
Company registration number	07285741
Registered office	Mill 2 Mabgate Mills, Leeds, LS9 7DZ

Trustees

For the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, the Board of Trustees is the Board of Directors of the charitable company and is referred to as the Trustees throughout this report.

The Trustees of Eclipse Theatre Company Limited during the period and to the date of signing this report are as follows:

Bobsie Robinson (Chair)	
Nicholas Ahad	Appointed 25 March 2022
Robert Alderson	Appointed 25 March 2022
Sade Banks	Appointed 25 March 2022
Joanna Chikezie	Appointed 25 March 2022
Benjamin Cooper-Melchior	Appointed 25 March 2022
Fiona Joseph	Appointed 25 March 2022
Maxwell Mutanda	Appointed 25 March 2022
Gregory Nash	
Michelle Carwardine Palmer	Appointed 25 March 2022
Paula Rabbitt	
Pam Fraser Solomon	Appointed 25 March 2022
Simeon Tubi	Appointed 25 March 2022
Simone Kelly	Appointed 25 March 2022
Stella Kanu	Resigned 3 August 2021
Angela McDermott	Resigned 28 June 2021

Company Secretary	Jonathan Ennis
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Independent Examiner	Pete O'Hara FCA, 4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG
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ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Documents

Eclipse Theatre Company Ltd is a charitable company limited by guarantee, incorporated on 16 June 2010, registered in England and Wales under company number 07285741 and governed by its memorandum and articles of association. The charity was registered with the Charity Commission on 17 April 2012 under charity number 1146907.

The Directors of the company are also Trustees of the charity.

Eligibility for membership of the charity, and membership of the Board of Trustees, is governed by the Articles of Association. There are no restrictions in the governing document on the operation of the charity other than those imposed by general charity law.

Charitable Purpose

Eclipse Theatre Company Limited's charitable objects are to advance the arts for the public benefit through the promotion of, in particular, but not exclusively, the art of drama.

Structure and Governance

The charity currently has a board of 14 non-executive Trustees.

The Board meets a minimum of four times per year.

Detailed written Board reports and an agenda are prepared and circulated in advance of meetings.

Recruitment and Appointment of Board of Trustees

Trustees are elected to the Board based on discussions and recommendations offered by Trustees and outside advisors to the organisation, as well as through a range of advertising channels.

2021-22 has been a year of transitional leadership and change for the organisation, in part due to the coronavirus pandemic and the departure of Artistic Director / CEO Amanda Huxtable and Executive Producer Shawab Iqbal in late 2020. Significant resourcing challenges within the creative sector meant the process of leadership change was harder felt, and this translated into a slower delivery on activity plans than originally anticipated.

The organisation appointed Kenneth Olumuyiwa Tharp, an experienced cultural leader, as Interim CEO in March 2021. Alongside supporting the existing team, he helped implement the post-pandemic artistic programme, and with the support of Eclipse Trustees, led the successful recruitment of a new Artistic Director and Joint CEO, Lekan Lawal, who took up post full-time in January 2022. The organisation also took significant steps to strengthen its governance, recruiting a cohort of 11 new Trustees, including a new Chair designate, whose appointments were formally approved in March 2022.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (Continued)

Trustee Induction and Training

New Trustees are inducted by the Chair of the Board and Director and are provided with a range of resources and publications to support their understanding of Eclipse Theatre Company Limited activities, including the latest annual report and accounts, a full role description and information on current and past productions. They also have the opportunity to see productions and are kept informed on an ongoing basis around developments in both the theatre and wider charity sectors.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have reviewed the charity's needs for reserves in line with the guidance issued by the Charity Commission.

The Trustees aim to firstly hold a level of unrestricted Reserves which enables the charity to have sufficient financial resources to meet various liabilities which would crystallise if Eclipse Theatre Company Limited's funding were to be withdrawn and/or it were unable to continue operating. At present, the Trustees estimate that the Unrestricted Reserves required for such purposes amount to approximately £150,000.

The Trustees then aspire to retain an additional allowance of £50,000 to enable the charity to respond flexibly to issues or appropriate initiatives which might be identified outside of its annual budgeting process.

The optimum level of Reserves held is therefore £200,000.

The charity's 'free' unrestricted Reserves at 31 March 2022, defined as non-designated unrestricted funds, net of the value of Fixed Assets, are £244,987, thereby providing a modest additional degree of contingency.

This policy will be reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis as part of the charity's budgeting processes.

Grant Making Policy

The charity does not currently engage in grant-making activity.

The Contribution of Volunteers

The charity does not currently use volunteers within its productions or to support its activities.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Aims & Objectives

Eclipse Theatre Company's mission is as follows:

"Eclipse Theatre will influence and instigate change that leads to a more diverse and equitable theatrical landscape".

The Eclipse Mission will be delivered by:

- **Producing quality productions:** using the Black British experience to create new work to enrich Black British theatre. Creating interesting stories that appeal to a wide-ranging audience, that are entertaining and encourage discussion. Creating productions that are consistently high quality and develop the brand that is Eclipse Theatre.
- **Touring Nationally:** establishing a touring network of middle-scale venues to offer a more diverse programme of work for their audiences, with a particular ambition to establish a regular presence further North. Firmly establishing Eclipse as a producer of black-led work and ensuring audiences for black work are engaged throughout the year, placing Eclipse firmly in mainstream theatre. Achieving this by touring black theatre classics and new work to smaller-scale venues, including arts centres and repertory studio theatres, allowing the company to develop new partnerships and reach wider audiences.
- **Consolidating and Developing Partnerships:** Eclipse will continue to work with venues from existing networks that share the organisation's core values. In addition, the company will seek to develop relationships with new venues, where appropriate using small-scale touring to build relationships and trust, encouraging venues to commit to the company for the period covered by this plan to support Eclipse in delivering its mission.
- **Developing Audiences:** continuing to develop our audience development framework and encourage engagement in the arts that inspire the next generation of audiences and artists. To keep in touch with the large national network of Cultural Ambassadors and advocates, that Eclipse has built-in working with them and local venues to explore new ways to satisfy the very real appetite for the new Black Theatre. To reach new audiences by a growing digital presence through the ever-expanding Twitter, Facebook and Instagram presence alongside the organisation's website.
- **Providing Employment and Development Opportunities:** providing employment opportunities for skilled and experienced Black artists/practitioners combined with development opportunities for early-career Black Artists, particularly writers, directors and actors. Alongside this, Eclipse consistently trains and employs Audience Development Officers, to help engage new audiences around the UK whilst on tour.
- **Advocacy and Diversity:** working to raise the profile of Black theatre makers and to diversify the workforce of British theatre, determining Eclipse as a national advocate of Black artists across the country, and as a beacon for inclusivity in the regions.
- **Building a Legacy:** through creating a library of work that will inspire future generations of Black theatre practitioners, through the development of a new body of work.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Aims & Objectives (Cont.)

- **Creating financial stability:** by seeking to diversify income for the organisation in securing funding from trusts & foundations and individual giving. Maximising income from touring and through co-productions and keeping tight control on costs.
- **Being organisationally robust:** by identifying and appointing suitably qualified and experienced core staff members to meet the needs of the organisation. Enhanced and supported by appropriate freelancers and Board of trustees with an appropriate range of knowledge and experience.

Public Benefit

The Trustees understand and have discussed the implications of the provisions of the Charities Act 2006, which state that all charities must demonstrate that they are established for public benefit, and have had due regard to the public benefit guidance issued by the Charity Commission. The Trustees believe that the charity meets both of the key principles.

In developing the objectives for the year, and in planning activities, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit.

In line with our mission, we contribute towards the creation of an environment in which the experiences of Black British people are articulated in arts forms and media nationally where we are a beacon for the work of Black artists.

Risk Management

The Trustees of the charity regularly review the major governance, operational and financial risks which the charity faces as part of its annual business planning process and confirm that systems have been established to mitigate these risks.

Eclipse Theatre Company Limited has a risk management strategy in place which comprises:

- an annual review of the strategic risks the charity may face via the business plan
- the establishment of systems and procedures to mitigate those risks identified
- the implementation of procedures designed to minimise any potential impact on the charity should those risks materialise.

The Trustees are satisfied that appropriate financial systems and controls and employment policies and practices are in place.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Risk Management (Cont.)

The Trustees have considered the key risks facing the charity and the following mitigating actions have been taken to be as follows:

- **Artistic ambition:** the risk of not achieving a strong enough national and international profile for exceptional new work. We aim to mitigate this risk through collaborating with exceptional artists, gaining critical feedback, evaluating artistic achievements and shortcomings for every project and creating plans to continually improve artistic practice.
- **Financial sustainability:** the risk of having insufficient funding to adequately support current activity levels. Our financial model is particularly dependent on Arts Council funding, fundraising revenue, and touring income. This risk is mitigated in many ways, including a four-year business and financial planning process, annual budgeting and monthly management reporting against budget, and our audience development and fundraising strategies.
- **Attraction and retention of Staff, Artists, and Trustees:** the risk of being unable to recruit and retain staff and artistic/production talent of a calibre required to support our standard of work. This risk is mitigated through artistic and organisational planning and increasing the number of Trustees. Improving resilience and Trustee succession planning.

Eclipse's annual core funding for 2021-22 was through Arts Council England (ACE). Eclipse is a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO), with funding extended to March 2023 following the sectoral impact of COVID-19.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

During the significant organisational change in 2021/22, the company continued to build on achievements that started earlier in the year. Eclipse measures its performance against how it delivers against the key areas identified above, which are designed to enable it to deliver its mission.

Producing and Artistic Programme

2021/22 continued to present unexpected complications to the sector following the Covid-19 pandemic. The majority of the mid-scale touring infrastructure continued to be affected nationally through limited venue availability, financial instability, on-going staff absence through Covid-19, and aversion to risk through collaborative partnerships. With venues, production companies and associated creative industries effectively on half measures, Eclipse, like all other affected arts organisations, persevered and focused on regrouping and rethinking effective ways to deliver its ambitions. The organisation was able to publicly present some hyper-local performances, augmented with online live-streamed access.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

My White Best Friend – North - An Eclipse Theatre production in collaboration with Royal Exchange Theatre Manchester and Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse theatres. Based on the original concept by writer, Rachel De-Lahay, Eclipse commissioned a series of personal letters from Black and Global Majority writers from across the North, exploring the personal and political of things the writers felt had previously been left unsaid, now given voice through their letters. Sometimes funny, sometimes poignant, sometimes political and full of fire, these sealed letters were opened and read out loud by actors, who only saw the letters for the first time in front of the audience. With Northern partners Royal Exchange Theatre, Manchester and Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse & Theatres, a total of 19 of the most exciting Global Majority writers across the North were commissioned, seven by Eclipse.

The first run of work since the start of the Pandemic, MWBF-North was the smallest production undertaken in the past few years, primarily due to risk mitigation as the sector emerged from the pandemic.

Eclipse chose a different approach from their partners on how to stage the show. The Liverpool and Manchester venues presented each of their two performances in their own theatre spaces in the 'traditional' way. Eclipse chose not to present in a conventional theatre setting, such as Leeds Playhouse, but in three different community spaces where they could potentially reach beyond traditional theatre audiences, and most importantly, into spaces that were already embedded in and strongly connected to their local communities.

Having moved to a new home in Leeds immediately before the Pandemic, Eclipse was keen to use these first 'post pandemic shows' as an important stepping stone to building longer-term relationships with a range of local community spaces across Leeds, underpinning the company's ambition to build ongoing local community relationships, as opposed to the more conventional pattern of touring companies who arrive at a venue and then are not seen until the next show arrives a year or more later.

In a new initiative for Eclipse, all three shows staged in Leeds were available to view online via a livestream broadcast on You Tube. The other notable change from previous shows in recent years was the introduction of a Pay What You Decide (PWYD) model in all three venues, designed to improve access for under-represented groups and non-regular theatre attenders.

The organisation continued its signature characteristic in consistently achieving high overall ratings, whilst taking the opportunity to trail more dynamic forms of artistic delivery.

Evidence of the success and impact of My White Best Friend - North was captured in filmed Vox Pops interviews with audience members post performance and on social media.

"This performance was hard-hitting, emotional, triggering, emotional, important, truthful and just incredible."

'I don't think everyone quite understands that this is a watershed in Black theatre. Don't watch the simplicity. The honesty is allowed & it's strong. You couldn't say those things & get away with it.'

"Was really pleased that I still got to hear this via the ingenious live stream last night - thanks @eclipsecl @LeftBankLeeds! All the pieces were so honest and raw. More of this needed."

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Eclipse also commissioned a Tour Evaluation Report from audience engagement specialists Indigo.

Summary and key conclusions from the Indigo report:

When Indigo was originally commissioned to carry out show evaluation reviews for Eclipse there were three 'risks' that the Company identified as being critical to address through the work.

With four successful productions having been reviewed over the past three years, it is clear that these perceived risks should no longer be considered real hurdles for Eclipse to overcome. The three key risks being: financial risk, quality risk and audience risk.

- I. Financial risk: Once again, MWBF-N has shown a strong appetite for people to attend Eclipse's work with high in-person attendances supplemented with growing live streaming attendees. This despite an 18 month 'pause' in live show theatre attendances due to the pandemic.
- II. Quality risk: MWBF-N has continued a consistent pattern of excellent ratings from attendees and a startlingly high desire to return and see more Eclipse work in the future.
- III. Audience risk: MWBF-N continues to attract people who have high engagement with the arts and are frequent attenders. They also consistently bring high levels of new bookers into the venues they perform in.

Key conclusions

- I. The advance sell out in terms of reservations at two of the three shows illustrates continuing strong demand for Eclipse work post lockdown, despite an 18-month pause in live shows
- II. The combination of Pay What You Decide with live streaming has really driven engagement levels and seems perfect for the present climate post Covid.
- III. PWYD clearly drove attendances – 53% of in-person respondents saying it made them more likely to attend and 62% of online attendees.
- IV. MWBF-N had the highest share of Black and global majority audiences recorded by Eclipse shows reviewed by Indigo over the past three years at 40%.
- V. MWBF-N drew in the youngest audience of the four shows reviewed to date with 52% of attenders being 45 years old or younger.
- VI. MWBF-N brought the highest proportion of new bookers to the three venues compared to previous shows. 40% on average which is 10 percentage points higher than the pre-pandemic Indigo benchmark.
- VII. Eclipse continues to build an audience that likes to be challenged and provoked.
- VIII. Eclipse continues to attract the 'high arts engagement' audiences so sought after by venues.
- IX. There was an extraordinarily high likelihood from attenders to return to see more Eclipse work. 94% of those surveyed when attending in person said they wished to return – a record high.
- X. Audience feedback was, once again, overwhelmingly positive with an average 'star' rating of 4.2 out of 5 – only bettered in the past by *Black Men Walking* at 4.3.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Eclipse Award - The Eclipse Award aims to help UK Black artists making boundary-pushing performance work, to undertake an Edinburgh Fringe run. The award is in partnership with the Edinburgh venue Summerhall, in response to the lack of Black artists presenting work at the festival.

Initially awarded to Initiative.dkf, for the 2020 festival, the award went on to support the digital presentation of work at the 2021 festival following a one-year postponement due to the coronavirus pandemic. The LUDALA Collection was available 'on-demand' through Summerhall's Edinburgh Festival Fringe Programme from 6th – 29th August 2021.

The award consisted of a £10,000 cash bursary, with mentoring from both partners alongside a £1000 self-care package, generously donated by former Chair, Stella Kanu, in memory of her late mother. Some support continues with initiative.dkf as the creative sector recovers from the pandemic.

Eclipse Online - In partnership with MENA Arts, eight new films commissioned by Mena Arts, were featured on Eclipse's website. MENA Arts invited artists and filmmakers across the UK to conceive a new one-minute film, exploring the question: How should the MENA+ Arts community celebrate what we have in common? This resulted in eight enchanting, joyful, and thought-provoking films spanning animation, music, poetry, dance, installation and comedy.

MENA Arts UK was launched in December 2020 to celebrate artists working in the UK live and recorded arts with a connection to the Middle East, North Africa and the surrounding area. MENA Arts UK's objectives include lobbying for appropriate representation, advocating for change, and seeking to increase UK work opportunities. The organisation has also launched the UK's first ever online directory of all MENA+ artists including creatives, technicians and academics and is encouraging artists as well as up and coming MENA+ creatives in the UK scene to sign up for a free listing.

10 by 10 films – Our films continue to be housed on Digital Theatre+ - an international education platform.

Slate: Black. Arts. World Commissions

The SLATE programme was conceived by Eclipse, to address the historical lack of recognition or profile for Black artists in the North, and to give support to the next generation of creators and leaders. It provided connections and pathways into the 'established' cultural sector, through commissioned work, which was toured and presented, with audience development and marketing support.

2021/22 saw the final culminations and delivery of this initiative. These commissions were:

- **R&D Commissions:** Houmi Miura, Olivia Hannah
- **MAKE Commission:** Dorcas Sebuyange 'Visa Versa'

Due to timings across the sector the final public delivery of the Make Commission by Dorcas Sebuyange 'Visa Versa' was scheduled for early July 2022.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Consolidating and Developing Partnerships

The company continued to hold conversations post pandemic with creative sector partner organisations Royal Exchange Theatre Manchester, Liverpool Everyman & Playhouse, Leeds 2023, Leeds Playhouse. The organisation regularly participates in conversations with Yorkshire Touring Network, SAIL (Sustainable Art In Leeds) and Producing and Touring Company networks.

The company continues to be particularly influential on the subject of diversity in the arts nationally and internationally, through strong Creative Europe cooperation legacy relationships. Eclipse's international profile continues to grow, with new discussions taking place in Germany and America.

Developing Audiences

Our ongoing commitment to diversifying the cultural offer and experience for our audiences is demonstrated through our dialogue with audiences at a hyper-local level in Leeds and through independent evaluation with INDIGO. The company continued a consistent and engaging social media presence, increasing our audience engagement online, across Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, YouTube and the organisation's website.

Providing Employment and Development Opportunities

The company employed over 36 people during the year, including writers, actors, directors, and technicians. 50% of these opportunities were taken by artists/creatives from Black and minority ethnic communities. As a company, we are consistently striving to identify and support untapped and regional talent across the UK from our home in the North. The organisation continues to raise its profile and establish and support work of the highest quality.

Eclipse Management

Following a significant period of change, and ahead of the development of a new Arts Council NPO application, Eclipse will undertake in 22/23 the start of a review of its staffing structure and resources. This organisational review cycle will look at resources needed in the period ahead - and make any recommendations as required. The organisation will undertake this review with internal resources - and Board support as required. Eclipse has detailed and formal contracts and job descriptions for all posts, and as part of its Equality Action Plan, is mindful to seek to reflect diversity in its personnel team. Eclipse strives to develop committed and motivated staff and has put measures in place to support this, including identifying staff development opportunities and offering competitive salaries within the sector. Flexible working arrangements are accommodated where these can fit within the needs of service delivery.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Building a Legacy

In acknowledging Arts Council England as a major financial stakeholder, their strategic priorities matter hugely to the future of the organisation and as such, we align our work with their investment principles guaranteeing an ongoing legacy for future generations.

Our commitment to diversifying the cultural offer, experience and legacy for our audiences is demonstrated in ongoing dialogues with audiences and artists, asking what they would like to see in their city to increase the depth of engagement and quality of experience. Eclipse's audience development officers advocate and continue the legacy work by continuing to engage with their local partner venues, where they can influence change in how new, diverse audiences are approached in their local theatres.

Eclipse's legacy is further ensured through online archiving, delivery of digital content, and social media engagement with audiences and artists. The company continues to house its 10by10 short films on the Digital Theatre+ platform, which attracts views throughout the year. Through our social media posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, we ensure the legacy of our projects through ongoing conversations about what artists and audiences need, enjoy and look for from our work.

Creating financial stability

During 2021-2022, Eclipse Theatre Company had net incoming resources of £43,756 on its general Unrestricted funds which reflected the continuing support of Arts Council England.

Reserves - At 31 March 2022, the charity had positive "free" reserves, defined as unrestricted funds less fixed assets, of £244,987. The Trustees continue to review ways to boost reserves to a level that can provide some cushion against downturns in income or unexpected expenditure.

Material investments policy - Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the charitable company has the power to make any investment that the trustees see fit.

Future developments - The Trustees are continuing their present policy of long-term financial planning allowing for better investment and artistic breadth in its slate of work accounting for risk at the box office, partnerships agreements, and philanthropic income. In 2022 the company will continue to deliver its Arts Council England, National Portfolio application for 23/26 detailing plans for future mission and vision.

Fundraising – With the company having appointed new senior leadership and Trustees, it continues to review its Strategic Development Plan and campaigns involving Trusts and Foundations. Fundraising and ongoing work around individual giving schemes remains a shared responsibility across the core team members and the Board of Trustees.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year (Cont.)

Being Organisationally Robust

Continuing with National Portfolio Organisation funding from Arts Council, we have been able to re-evaluate and evolve the organisational robustness within our small core infrastructure. We constantly review our working practices to increase resilience and sustainability. We have done this by:

- ensuring capacity is built into delivery where needed through the employment of specialist staff
- continuing with the Interim CEO to manage and lead the business
- ensuring all recruitment processes are rigorous and fair
- continuing to work successfully in partnership with a range of cultural organisations and pushing the Eclipse brand beyond the theatre sector
- extensive campaigning around the recruitment and appointment of the incoming Artistic Director & Joint CEO
- Engaging external support for the recruitment and appointment of a new Chair Elect, and an additional 10 Trustees
- securing a Covid-19 business support grant from Leeds City Council to the value of £7,383
- securing project funding towards My White Best Friend -North, from Leeds City Council to the value of £2,500
- conclusion of the ACE Sustained Theatre Funding to the value of £4,415

We monitor and evaluate all activities to assess and thoroughly understand our impact, aiming to ensure the work we do is responsive to the needs of artists and audiences involved. We do this by maintaining regular contact with colleagues across the sector and partner venues encouraging formal and informal feedback and monitoring. We continue to work closely with INDIGO and the Audience Agency who assist in producing regular reports and updates. Eclipse monitors and tracks the online behaviours of its growing followers across digital platforms.

Financial Review

The out-turn for the year is an unrestricted surplus of £43,756 (2021: Surplus £99,427). The surplus is added to Unrestricted Reserves, leaving a balance on Unrestricted Funds at 31 March 2022 of £249,605.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Artistic Programme

2022-23 will be an important year of transition and organisational development for Eclipse, shaped by both our new artistic and executive leadership, and by the challenges and opportunities of the context in which we now operate. Our Artistic plans for this year are also informed by the longer-term ambitions of the next four to five years, as we seek to put in place the resource, skills, capacity and infrastructure, that will enable the Eclipse to deliver on those ambitions in future years.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (CONTINUED)

This process of artistic evolution is important and necessary for Eclipse, for two reasons: the first is to take advantage of the strong artistic vision that Lekan Lawal brings to Eclipse, and secondly because the broader sector is facing multiple challenges.

The external context for our work remains challenging, as outlined below in more detail. Our ambition, with new artistic leadership, remains strong. We will use 2022-23 as a key year for re-setting our long-term goals and growing the pipeline of future talent and work.

We will ensure that we put in place the skills, capacity and infrastructure internally to meet our ambitions, and at the same time work hard to nurture the key partnerships that will help support our work and continue to develop sustainable relationships with the communities that we seek to serve, who will both inform and become co-creators of the stories we seek to tell.

Developments for 2022-23 include:

- New artistic and executive leadership, plus a new Chair and Trustees will refresh and reinvigorate Eclipse's purpose with new thinking and re-focused ambition.
- A resurgence of artistic activity from Eclipse will place communities at the heart of our creative process.
- We will strengthen our presence and our relationships with audiences and communities at a local, regional, and national level, and sow the seeds for future work on an international platform.
- We will consolidate existing relationships and begin to build new strategic partnerships and models, that will help grow the organisation's reach and impact.
- The new leadership team will bring a fresh perspective to what performance and collaboration look and feel like, mindful of the creative interface between the live and the digital.

Key outputs for the 2022-23 year include:

- 4 - 6 Research and Development (R & D) periods to develop key future programme strands: e.g., a family show, a digital show; a cross art form/multi-disciplinary show
- Engaging and co-creating with communities, discovering the seeds of stories and building longer-term relationships
- Working with a cohort of freelance practitioners across multiple disciplines over the course of the year to develop a pipeline of new work
- Developing a hybrid model of live and digital content
- Developing content for a season/festival/programme of work to be presented during the Leeds 2023 Year of Culture
- Switching to an interim website on a user-built platform (e.g., Square Space) to support digital R & D as we develop a bespoke destination website with a focus on housing digital work and overall user experience
- Relaunching the Eclipse Award as an award for live and digital theatre
- Undertaking key organisational development and team expansion

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (CONTINUED)

Our work will continue to place storytelling at its heart, and will be underpinned by our core values, mission and vision.

Eclipse Award - The Eclipse Award aimed to help UK Black artists making boundary-pushing performance work undertake an Edinburgh Fringe run. Awarded to initiative.dkf supported the digital presentation of work at the 2021 festival following a one-year postponement due to the coronavirus pandemic. The £10,000 cash bursary, continues into 22/23, due to timing around the pandemic in the form of sectorial support.

Slate: Black. Arts. World Commissions – 2022/23 will see the delivery of the remaining Slate commission:

- **MAKE Commission:** Dorcas Sebuyange

Fundraising - Individual givers and supporters of Eclipse are still encouraged to donate monthly. Eclipse is committed to reviewing its fundraising strategy and policies with a focus on Trust and Foundation grant applications to support the organisation's ongoing development.

Building a Legacy - As Eclipse moves towards a place in the next National Portfolio funding round (beginning April 2023), it has begun to address Outcomes and Investment Principles set out by ACE which are part of their new "Let's Create" strategy. These will continue to be developed further towards a more embedded approach for 2022/23 and onwards.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
TRUSTEES' REPORT
For the year ended 31 March 2022

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE TRUSTEES

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of Eclipse Theatre Company Limited for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report 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 these 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 judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees 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.

In preparing this report, the Trustees have taken advantage of the small companies exemptions provided by Section 415A of the Companies Act 2006.

Signed by order of the Trustees



Jonathan Ennis
Company Secretary
Company Registration Number 06764666

2 September 2022

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

I hereby report to the Trustees/Members of Eclipse Theatre Company Limited (Charity Registration Number 1146907) on the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2022 set out on pages 18 to 27.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's Trustees (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 the Company's gross income exceeded £250,000, your examiner must be a member of a body listed in section 145 of the 2011 Act. I confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountant 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 or 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 (FRS102)).

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.



**Pete O'Hara, FCA, Chartered Accountant
Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England & Wales**

4 Stoneyhurst Road West, Gosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PG

2 September 2022

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Income					
Income from Investments	3	4	-	4	34
Income from Donations, Grants & Legacies	4	261,546	6,915	268,461	275,966
Income from Charitable Activities	5	3,870	-	3,870	48,146
Total Income		265,420	6,915	272,335	324,146
Expenditure					
Expenditure on Charitable Activities	6	221,664	6,915	228,579	271,468
Total Expenditure		221,664	6,915	228,579	271,468
Net Income/(Expenditure)		43,756	-	43,756	52,678
Balance brought forward at 1 April		205,849	-	205,849	153,171
Balance carried forward at 31 March	13	£249,605	£-	£249,605	£205,849

The notes on pages 20 to 27 form part of the financial statements.

All of the activities of the company are classed as continuing.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses in the year and therefore a statement of total recognised gains and losses has not been prepared.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION/BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 MARCH 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Fixed Assets	9	4,618	2,804
Current Assets			
Debtors	10	5,705	47,467
Cash At Bank & In Hand		262,113	220,873
		<u>267,818</u>	<u>268,340</u>
Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year	11	(22,831)	(65,295)
Net Current Assets/(Liabilities)		<u>244,987</u>	<u>203,045</u>
Total Net Assets	12	<u>£249,605</u>	<u>£205,849</u>
Represented by:			
Unrestricted Funds	13	249,605	205,849
Restricted Funds	13	-	-
		<u>£249,605</u>	<u>£205,849</u>

The notes on pages 20 to 27 form part of the financial statements.

The Trustees are satisfied that for the year ended 31 March 2022 the charity was entitled to exemption under section 477(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

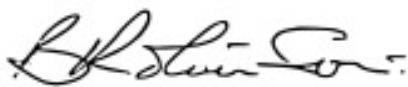
The Trustees also confirm that the Members have not required the charity to obtain an audit in accordance with section 476 of the Companies Act 2006

The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

(i) ensuring that the charity keeps adequate accounting records which comply with section 386 of the Act, and

(ii) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of its profit or loss for the financial year in accordance with the requirements of section 393, and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Act relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charity.

These financial statements were approved and signed by a Member of the Board of Trustees on 2 September 2022.



Bobsie Robinson
Trustee
Company Registration Number 07285741

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. Accounting Policies

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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 2015) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Eclipse Theatre Company Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy.

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) when there is entitlement, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Such income is only deferred when the donor or funder has specified that the grant or donation can only be used in future accounting periods or where the donor or funder has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Investment income, including interest on funds held on deposit, is recognised on a receivable basis.

Expenditure

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and is recognised when a liability is incurred.

- Expenditure on raising funds are those costs of seeking potential funders and applying for funding
- Charitable activities include expenditure associated with the planning and delivery of artistic productions and associated activities. This includes both the direct costs and support costs relating to these activities.
- Support or Indirect costs are those costs incurred in support of the charitable objectives. These have been allocated to the resources expended on a consistent basis that fairly reflects the true use of those resources within the organisation, such as allocating staff costs by time spent and other costs by their usage.
- Governance costs are those incurred in the governance of the charity and its assets and are primarily associated with the constitutional and statutory requirements.

Irrecoverable VAT

All resources expended are classified under activity headings that aggregate all costs related to the category. Irrecoverable VAT is charged against the category of resources expended for which it was incurred.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

1. Accounting Policies (Continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

Depreciation is provided on any fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the assets over their remaining useful lives as follows:

IT & Office Equipment - 33% per annum straight line

A full year's depreciation charge is applied in the year of acquisition and no charge is made in the year of disposal.

Financial Instruments

The charity only has financial assets and liabilities of a kind which qualify as basic financial instruments. Such instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Fund Accounting

General Funds are unrestricted funds which are available for use at the discretion of the Trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated Funds comprise unrestricted funds set aside by the Trustees for a specific purpose.

Restricted Funds reflect income received which a funder or donor requires must be spent on a particular purpose or where funds have been raised for a specific purpose. Such income and associated expenditure is shown as Restricted in the Statement of Financial Activities, whilst any unspent balances at the year-end are carried forward as Restricted Funds.

Taxation

Eclipse Theatre Company Limited meets the definition required of a charitable company for UK Corporation Tax purposes. Consequently, the company is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively for charitable purposes.

2. Going Concern

The Trustees have reviewed the circumstances of the charity and consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the charity for the foreseeable future. The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

3. Income from Investments

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest Receivable	4	-	4	34
	£4	£-	£4	£34

The 2021 total of £34 was wholly attributable to Unrestricted Funds.

4. Income from Donations, Grants & Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Donations	71	-	71	676
Grant Income				
Arts Council England – National Portfolio Organisation	254,092	-	254,092	254,092
Arts Council England – Sustained	-	4,415	4,415	-
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme	-	-	-	6,915
Creative Europe	-	-	-	4,283
Leeds City Council - COVID	7,383	-	7,383	10,000
Leeds City Council – My White Best Friend	-	2,500	2,500	-
	£261,546	£6,915	£268,461	£275,966

Of the 2021 total of £275,966, £271,683 was attributable to Unrestricted Funds and £4,283 to Restricted Funds.

5. Income from Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Box Office & Other Production Income	2,184	-	2,184	-
Other Income	50	-	50	-
Income from Royalties, Scripts & Digital	1,636	-	1,636	1,280
Speaking & Panellist Fees	-	-	-	875
Theatre Tax Relief	-	-	-	45,991
	£3,870	£-	£3,870	£48,146

The 2021 total of £48,146 was wholly attributable to Unrestricted Funds.

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

6. Expenditure on Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Artistic Production/Project Costs				
Theatre Tax Relief – Co-Producers	-	-	-	9,941
Production Costs/Artistic Programme	22,200	6,915	29,115	68,151
Marketing, Press & PR	4,864	-	4,864	-
Salaries & On Costs	127,224	-	127,224	138,667
	154,288	6,915	161,203	216,759
Support Costs				
Rent & Office Expenses	17,224	-	17,224	23,971
Recruitment & Training Costs	5,813	-	5,813	80
Website Costs	-	-	-	2,650
	23,037	-	23,037	26,701
Governance Costs				
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,800	-	1,800	1,800
Legal & Professional Fees	25,366	-	25,366	8,800
Book-keeping & Other Accountancy Fees	15,415	-	15,415	14,488
Governance Meeting Costs & Expenses	197	-	197	665
Depreciation	1,561	-	1,561	2,255
	44,339	-	44,339	28,008
	£221,664	£6,915	£228,579	£271,468

Of the 2021 total of £271,468, £220,436 was attributable to Unrestricted Funds and £51,032 to Restricted Funds.

7. Net Income/(Expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):	2022	2021
	£	£
Independent Examiner's Fees – current year	1,800	1,800
Independent Examiner – other services – current year	350	350
Depreciation of owned Tangible Fixed Assets	1,561	2,255

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

8. Staff Costs & Trustees' Remuneration

	2022	2021
	£	£
Gross Salary Costs	68,139	128,263
Freelance Contracts	56,900	-
Employer's National Insurance	1,147	8,095
Employer's Pension Contributions	1,038	2,309
	£127,224	£138,667

No employee received remuneration of more than £60,000 during the year (2021 - Nil).

The average number of staff employed during the year, calculated as full-time equivalents, was as follows:

	2022	2021
	No	No
Artistic Production and Support	2	3

Key Management Personnel are defined by the organisation as the Trustees.

No remuneration has been paid to any Trustees/Directors in the year (2021: £Nil).

No reimbursement has been made in the year to Trustees for Travel and Subsistence expenses incurred in respect of their attendance at meetings of the charity (2021: £Nil).

9. Tangible Fixed Assets

	IT & Office Equipment	Total
	£	£
Cost		
At 1 April 2021	15,046	15,046
Additions in year	3,583	3,583
Disposals	(625)	(625)
At 31 March 2022	18,004	18,004
Accumulated Depreciation		
At 1 April 2021	12,242	12,242
Charge for year	1,561	1,561
Disposals	(417)	(417)
At 31 March 2022	13,386	13,386
Net Book Value		
At 31 March 2022	£4,618	£4,618
At 1 April 2021	£2,804	£2,804

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

10. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Debtors	337	694
Other Debtors	1,743	1,743
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	1,794	1,505
Prepayments	1,537	1,577
Accrued Income	294	41,948
	£5,705	£47,467

11. Creditors – Amounts Falling Due Within 1 Year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade Creditors	6,489	4,145
Other Creditors	359	118
Other Taxes & Social Security Costs	2,220	601
Accruals	13,763	60,431
	£22,831	£65,295

12. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets	4,618	-	4,618	2,804
Debtors	5,705	-	5,705	47,467
Cash at Bank and In Hand	262,113	-	262,113	220,873
Creditors – Amounts Due Within 1 Year	(22,831)	-	(22,831)	(65,295)
	£249,605	£-	£249,605	£205,849

ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

13. Analysis of Charitable Funds

	Fund at 1 April 2021	Incoming Resources in Year	Resources Expended in Year	Fund at 31 March 2022
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted Funds				
General Funds	205,849	265,420	(221,664)	249,605
Restricted Funds				
Arts Council England – Sustained	-	4,415	(4,415)	-
Leeds City Council – My White Best Friend	-	2,500	(2,500)	-
Total Restricted Funds	-	6,915	(6,915)	
Total Funds	£205,849	£272,335	£(228,579)	£249,605

Name of Restricted Fund	Description, Nature & Purpose of the Restricted Fund
Arts Council England – Sustained	Towards the cost of the Sustained programme
Leeds City Council – My White Best Friend	Towards production costs of My White Best Friend

**ECLIPSE THEATRE COMPANY LIMITED
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2022

14. Related Party Transactions

The charity has a close working relationship with Arts Council England which is a registered charity and has provided significant project funding which enables the charity to carry out its charitable objectives. In total, grant funding of £258,507 (2021: £254,092) from Arts Council England was recognised in the year.

At 31 March 2022, £Nil was owing to Eclipse Theatre Company Limited from Arts Council England (31 March 2021: £Nil).

15. Taxation

The company is a registered charity and no provision is considered necessary for taxation.

16. Financial Commitments

No material financial commitments have been made in respect of future financial periods.

17. Company Limited by Guarantee

The charity is incorporated under the Companies Act 1985 and is limited by guarantee, each member having undertaken to contribute such amounts not exceeding £1 as may be required in the event of the company being wound up whilst he or she is still a member or within one year thereafter.

There are currently 11 members of the company (2021 - 5 members).