

**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE  
INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

**UNAUDITED**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE CHARITY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**Trustees**

Mr J Brunetiere (resigned 13 June 2022)  
Mr D Syed  
Ms B Schlumberger  
Mrs J Carter (resigned 4 April 2023)  
Mr L Blackall  
Mr P Espenhahn (deceased 6 December 2023)  
Mr A Lavin (appointed 29 August 2024)

**Charity registered number**

1147535

**Principal office**

FESTIVAL D'AIX-EN-PROVENCE, 65 RUE MONTMARTRE, PARIS

**Accountants**

Wellers, 1 Vincent Square, London, SW1P 2PN

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## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements for the 1 October 2022 to 30 September 2023.

#### OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

##### a. Policies and objectives

The objective of the charity is to advance the education of the public in the arts generally and particularly music. The charity is associated with the Festival of Aix en Provence.

It is the trust's policy to make grants from time to time rather than to accumulate reserves and a grant of £92,313.33 was made to the *Fonds de dotation* of Aix Festival in August 2023.

The trust continues to raise money, often working with the Aix Festival, to be applied towards the trust's objectives.

##### b. Activities for achieving objectives

During the year, the charity was focused on raising money for Festival d'Aix 2023 edition, the 75th anniversary of the Festival.

The 2023 Edition of the Festival was a success with both the media and the audiences: Festival d'Aix featured 6 new operas including 2 world premieres (*Picture a Day Like This* ; *The Faggots and Their Friends Between Revolutions*) and a total of 39 opera performances, with 7 guest orchestras, 15 concerts, 4 professional meetings, and 10 Aix in June events gathering an audience of more than 75,524 spectators. The Festival's Academy also provided high-level training to 77 young artists from 23 nationalities in 2023.

Through its entire program, the Festival helped audiences discover different artistic universes, by combining proposals from experienced artists and those of emerging young talents. It also presented a rich variety of repertoires, thanks especially to INCISES, a new series of events that highlights contemporary music and living composers. The Festival also provided for 16 opera screenings in 11 cities in the Region. 204 journalists from 21 countries attended the Festival and produced 110 video and radio broadcasts, including 2 evenings live on the air. 5 operas were recorded for TV or Web.

During the year, total donations received totaled £364,536 including Gift Aid.

The Festival has offered recognition benefits as well as a series of opportunities to its generous contributors to take part to the artistic life of Festival d'Aix: rehearsals of the productions, visit of the backstage, attendance to the post-performance cocktail to meet with the artists and members of the artistic team,...etc.

Donors to specific opera productions were also given the opportunity to attend some rehearsals, meet with the artistic team and the cast, get an opera programme signed by all the cast, be invited to the Premiere's post-cocktail,...etc.

During this period, the charity's cash balance has decreased from £693,442 to £40,471.

The expenses during the year amount to £1,019,667. They include the 2023 grant of £92,313 to Festival d'Aix, bank charges and the transfer to Festival d'Aix of the Major Gifts (+ Gift Aid) made by V. Meyer to the 2021, 2022 and 2023 opera productions for a total of £925,000.

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## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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#### **c. MAIN ACTIVITIES UNDERTAKEN TO FURTHER THE CHARITY'S PURPOSES FOR PUBLIC BENEFIT**

During the year, the charity provided benefit to the public by raising money and making grants for the purpose of increasing interest and participation in opera. Thanks to the grant made by IFILAF UK, the Festival was able to achieve several public benefit projects such as:

- awareness-raising activities about music and opera for 4000 participants from 193 schools and social organizations of 47 partner municipalities;
- artistic projects involving more than 200 amateurs;
- more than 200 free artistic practice workshops;
- the OPERA ON programme, enabling 3788 young people under 30 to benefit from 9€ opera tickets in the best categories;
- the training of 116 young artists from 23 nationalities through 8 residencies of the Festival's Académie;
- the free access to a free application, Opera Play;
- free theatre backstage tours for 500 participants;
- 100% of the sets 100% eco-designed

The Trustees have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission.

#### **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

##### **a. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

##### **b. Reserves policy**

In the Trustees' view, the reserves should provide the charity with adequate financial stability and the means for it to meet its charitable objectives for the foreseeable future.

The Trustees propose to maintain the charity's reserves at a level which is at least equivalent to six months operational expenditure and have done so having regards to its manner of operation of likely funding streams. The Trustees review the amount of reserves that are required to ensure that they are adequate to fulfil the charity's continuing obligations on an ongoing basis at their finance meeting.

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **a. Constitution**

IFILAF was constituted by a trust deed dated 10th April 2011. It is managed by a board of Trustees who are generally appointed for an indefinite period. The appointment is by the existing Trustees.

##### **b. Method of appointment or election of Trustees**

The management of the charity is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

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## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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#### c. Organisational structure and decision making

The Trustees held only one regular meeting during the year, to review progress and governance in July 2023.

#### TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England & Wales 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 charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity 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 accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charity (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

This report was approved by the Trustees, on 26-11-24 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:  
  
 78EB8F45C88F40B...  
**Mr L Blackall**  
 Trustee

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## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL (the 'charity')

I report to the charity Trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2023.

This report is made solely to the charity's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. 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 an Independent examiner's 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 or for this report.

#### RESPONSIBILITIES AND BASIS OF REPORT

As the Trustees of the charity you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

#### INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S STATEMENT

Since the charity'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 ACA, which is one of the listed bodies.

Your attention is drawn to the fact that the charity has prepared the accounts 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) in preference to the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice issued on 1 April 2005 which is referred to in the extant regulations but has been withdrawn.

I understand that this has been done in order for the accounts to provide a true and fair view in accordance with the Generally Accepted Accounting Practice effective for reporting periods beginning on or after 1 January 2015.

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

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the 2011 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 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.

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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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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.

Signed:

Dated: 26-11-24

DocuSigned by:  
  
08B75681713545C...  
Mr Matthew Wyatt FCA

**WELLERS**

Accountants  
1 Vincent Square  
London  
SW1P 2PN



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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>INCOME FROM:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2	52,036	312,500	364,536	733,717
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>		<u>52,036</u>	<u>312,500</u>	<u>364,536</u>	<u>733,717</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON:</b>					
Charitable activities	4,5	94,667	925,000	1,019,667	102,222
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	5	<u>94,667</u>	<u>925,000</u>	<u>1,019,667</u>	<u>102,222</u>
<b>NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>		(42,631)	(612,500)	(655,131)	631,495
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		(42,631)	(612,500)	(655,131)	631,495
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:</b>					
Total funds brought forward		75,025	614,098	689,123	57,628
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u><u>32,394</u></u>	<u><u>1,598</u></u>	<u><u>33,992</u></u>	<u><u>689,123</u></u>

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**BALANCE SHEET  
AS AT 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Cash at bank and in hand			<b>40,471</b>		693,442
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	8		<b>(6,479)</b>		(4,319)
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>			<b>33,992</b>		689,123
<b>NET ASSETS</b>			<b>33,992</b>		689,123
<b>CHARITY FUNDS</b>					
Restricted funds	9		<b>1,598</b>		614,098
Unrestricted funds	9		<b>32,394</b>		75,025
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			<b>33,992</b>		689,123

The financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 26-11-24 and signed on their behalf, by:

DocuSigned by:

*Laurence Blackall*

Mr L Blackall

The notes on pages 9 to 14 form part of these financial statements.

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## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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 (FRS102)(Second Edition)' and the Charities Act 2011 and UK generally accepted practice as it applies from 1 January 2015.

The financial statements have been prepared to give a 'true and fair' view and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a 'true and fair view'. This departure has involved following '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 (FRS102)(Second Edition)' rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1 April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

International Friends of the International Lyric Art Festival constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

##### 1.2 Income

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

Donated services or facilities are recognised when the charity has control over the item, any conditions associated with the donated item have been met, the receipt of economic benefit from the use of the charity of the item is probable and that economic benefit can be measured reliably. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), the general volunteer time of the Friends is not recognised and refer to the Trustees' report for more information about their contribution.

On receipt, donated professional services and donated facilities are recognised on the basis of the value of the gift to the charity which is the amount the charity would have been willing to pay to obtain services or facilities of equivalent economic benefit on the open market; a corresponding amount is then recognised in expenditure in the period of receipt.

Income tax recoverable in relation to donations received under Gift Aid or deeds of covenant is recognised at the time of the donation.

Income tax recoverable in relation to investment income is recognised at the time the investment income is receivable.

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## INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL

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### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

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#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

##### 1.3 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Support costs are those costs incurred directly in support of expenditure on the objects of the charity and include project management carried out at Headquarters. Governance costs are those incurred in connection with administration of the charity and compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements.

Charitable activities and Governance costs are costs incurred on the charity's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the charity apportioned to charitable activities.

Grants payable are charged in the year when the offer is made except in those cases where the offer is conditional, such grants being recognised as expenditure when the conditions attaching are fulfilled. Grants offered subject to conditions which have not been met at the year end are noted as a commitment, but not accrued as expenditure.

##### 1.4 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the charity; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

##### 1.5 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

##### 1.6 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the charity anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)**

**1.7 Financial instruments**

The charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

**1.8 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 and which have not been designated for other purposes.

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by donors or which have been raised by the charity for particular purposes. The costs of raising and administering such funds are charged against the specific fund. The aim and use of each restricted fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

**2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND LEGACIES**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	52,036	312,500	364,536	733,717
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>21,217</i>	<i>712,500</i>	<i>733,717</i>	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	

**3. SUPPORT COSTS**

	Bank charges £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Bank charges	194	194	62
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>62</i>	<i>62</i>	
	<hr/>	<hr/>	

**4. GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Independent examiners' fee	2,160	-	2,160	2,160
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**5. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY EXPENDITURE TYPE**

	<b>Other costs 2023 £</b>	<b>Total 2023 £</b>	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Bank charges	194	194	62
Grants payable	1,017,313	1,017,313	100,000
<b>Charitable activities</b>	<u>1,017,507</u>	<u>1,017,507</u>	<u>100,062</u>
<b>Expenditure on governance</b>	<u>2,160</u>	<u>2,160</u>	<u>2,160</u>
	<u><b>1,019,667</b></u>	<u><b>1,019,667</b></u>	<u>102,222</u>
	<u>102,222</u>	<u>102,222</u>	

**6. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)**

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration (2022 - £NIL).  
During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2022 - £NIL).  
During the year, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2022 - £NIL).

**7. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION**

The Independent Examiner's remuneration amounts to an Independent Examination fee of £2,160 (2022 - £2,160).

**8. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023 £</b>	<i>2022 £</i>
Accruals and deferred income	<u><b>6,479</b></u>	<u>4,319</u>

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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**9. STATEMENT OF FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 October 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Balance at 30 September 2023 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>				
General Funds	75,025	52,036	(94,667)	32,394
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted Funds	614,098	312,500	(925,000)	1,598
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of funds	689,123	364,536	(1,019,667)	33,992
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR**

	<i>Balance at 1 October 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Balance at 30 September 2022 £</i>
General Funds	56,030	21,217	(2,222)	75,025
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Restricted funds</b>				
Restricted Funds	1,598	712,500	(100,000)	614,098
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total of funds	57,628	733,717	(102,222)	689,123
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**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDS OF THE INTERNATIONAL LYRIC ART FESTIVAL**

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER 2023**

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**10. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

**ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £</b>
Current assets	38,873	1,598	40,471
Creditors due within one year	(6,479)	-	(6,479)
	<u>32,394</u>	<u>1,598</u>	<u>33,992</u>

**ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Current assets	79,344	614,098	693,442
Creditors due within one year	(4,319)	-	(4,319)
	<u>75,025</u>	<u>614,098</u>	<u>689,123</u>

**11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

During the period under review, donations, gala dinner and subscription income were received from Trustees' of the charity:

L Blackall - £20,000 (2022 - £10,000)  
P Espenhahn - £2,000 (2022 - £1,500)  
B Schlumberger - £17,381 (2022 - £Nil)