

London Firebird Orchestra

Company Registration No. 8392959
Registered Charity Number: 1151014

Report of Activities for the year ending 29 February 2024

During the period five orchestral concerts and two chamber concerts took place. Music by Haydn, Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, Schumann, Mendelssohn, Sir Edward Elgar, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Yury Revich and Ruth Gipps was performed by the orchestra. Firebird's two Principal Guest Conductors, George Jackson and Michael Thrift, conducted the concerts. The orchestra collaborated with a stunning range of fantastic soloists including Jonathan Leibovitz, Maciej Kulakowski, Yury Revich and Harris Tsz-Chun Leung. Two student pianists performed piano concertos at a private concert. Two chamber ensembles – the Trio de Beauvoir and the Avalon Trio - gave recitals featuring piano trios by Haydn, Beethoven, Fanny Mendelssohn, Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff and Gabriela Lena-Frank. Shortly after the period ended a further Firebird for Schools Concert took place. Overall, the wide-ranging repertoire enabled Firebird's young musicians to explore works by living composers, female composers and lesser-known pieces alongside well-established classics.

Audience numbers continued to increase, alongside voluntary income. The size and number of donations from the Friends and Benefactors of the orchestra rose happily. Players took part in just one engagement during the period, at a Christmas charity event. A restructuring at the music department of a local university led to a reduction in engagement requests from there. Temporarily, the orchestra produced fewer audio-visual recordings of concerts due to the lack of availability of its AV team. Activity in this area restored itself after the period. As is typical well over half of expenditure amounted to payments to performing artists. Most of the concerts took place at St George's Hanover Square in central London. One concert took place at Kings Place in Kings Cross as part of a collaboration with the London Chamber Music Society. This was originally to have taken place during the coronation weekend, but was successfully rescheduled.

The period ended with a healthy surplus. Future plans include increasing the orchestra's offering to its players and a busy forthcoming concert season.

November 2024

David Baty (*Chairman*), Marc Corbett-Weaver (*Artistic Director*),
Michael Manning Clark, Roderick Graham, Philip Rowley, James Saunders, Stephen Wilson
Trustees of London Firebird Orchestra

For further information about London Firebird Orchestra please visit: www.LondonFirebird.com

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Financial Statements for the year ending 29 February 2024

Notes		Year to 29 Feb '24	Year to 28 Feb '23
	Income	£	£
1	Concert income	18,276	16,929
2	Engagement fees	1,850	3,345
3	Voluntary income	51,149	40,057
4	Gift Aid	12,395	10,072
	Total Income	<u>83,670</u>	<u>70,403</u>
	Expenses		
5	Payments to performing artists	42,073	44,118
6	Concert expenses	26,945	29,966
7	Recordings	315	1,885
8	Promotion	2,203	2,220
9	Insurance	1,469	1,400
10	Bank charges	133	134
	Total Expenses	<u>73,138</u>	<u>79,723</u>
	Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	<u>10,531</u>	<u>(9,320)</u>

Notes

- 1 Ticket sales and other income generated by the orchestra's own productions.
- 2 Fees paid by external promoters in respect of the orchestra's performances.
- 3 Gifts donated to support the orchestra's work.
- 6 Venue hire, hire of percussion equipment and other musical instruments, hire or purchase of sheet music, catering and ancillary expenses, management and production costs

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Balance Sheet as at 29 February 2024

	Year to 29 Feb '24	Year to 28 Feb '23
ASSETS		
	£	£
Fixed Assets	0	0
Current assets		
Cash at bank and in hand	28,592	18,061
Total current assets	<u>28,592</u>	<u>18,061</u>
Current liabilities	0	0
Total current liabilities	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Net Assets	<u>28,592</u>	<u>18,061</u>
 CAPITAL & RESERVES		
Reserves brought forward	18,061	27,381
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	10,531	(9,320)
Total Reserves	<u>28,592</u>	<u>18,061</u>