

**The Cooper Hall Foundation**  
Charity Number: 1151565

**Report and Financial Statements**  
Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021

# **The Cooper Hall Foundation**

## **Report of the Trustees for the Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021**

The Trustees hereby present their Annual Report together with the Financial Statements of the Charity for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021.

The Financial Statements comply with the Charities Act 1993 and the Trust Deed of the Charity. The Charity's Accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis and therefore fall outside the scope of the Statement of Recommended Practice – Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2005).

### **Chair's Report**

The Charity was set up on the back of an arrangement to lease Cooper Hall for a Peppercorn Rent and to use this facility in particular to create and support opportunities for young performing artists in the early stages of their professional careers, as well as presenting a range of musical events for the local community to enjoy and get involved with. The Charity may enter into wider activities should the trustees feel that is appropriate.

### **Overview of 2021**

2021 continued to be severely disrupted by the COVID-19 virus pandemic. A wide range of planned workshops, performances, recording sessions, educational activities, and collaborations were postponed or cancelled and we were unable to present performances in Cooper Hall for the 2021 Frome Festival.

Instead, we supported The Frome Festival by sponsoring and presenting an outdoor Opera Event in the Town centre. We engaged Daisy Brown, who had set up her company Give Music during the first "lockdown" to put this project together for us. It was well attended and enjoyed by a more diverse audience than we usually reach and received very positive feedback from audience and the Festival organisers.

We made donations to Frome Festival, Pegasus Opera, the Williams-Howard Prize (a new competition to promote the study and performance of arts songs by African-heritage composers) and BOIBA singing competition.

We have continued to enable and facilitate "Lockdown" projects, including recording and streaming audience-less concerts, facilitating the creation of new shows and furthering our on-line education activities and "Cooper Hall Talks".

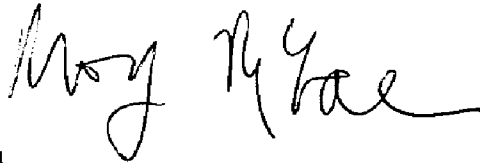
We have hosted a variety of small-scale creative residencies as well as developing our education activities and relationship and collaboration with other companies. Our residencies are offered to emerging artists and allows them to develop projects/products that they can take forward and out of the pandemic. These residencies have served to reorientate our focus in that they have become a model we intend to take on as a core activity of the Charity.

During the year we took advantage of an opportunity to rent, at a peppercorn amount, a space in St Andrew's Hill near St Paul's Cathedral in the city of London while it is commercially unrentable. We have been able to use this as a London central base for meeting/connecting/innovating in relation to the Foundations creative and funding initiatives.

We also provided the opportunity for our deep bore hole ground sourced heat pump heating and cooling system to be used for specific research and development on renewable energy facilities.

**Future plans for 2022**

It seems unlikely that we will be able to resume our normal public performances and in-house workshop activities to a large degree in 2022 due to the pandemic. We therefore plan to continue to operate in a COVID safe environment providing filming, recording and streaming facilities aimed at supporting emerging artists and our education activities in particular. We plan to continue to host small scale creative residencies as well as develop further our relationships and collaborations. We plan to provide financial support and the use of Cooper Hall for preparing and rehearsing performances for the 2022 Frome Festival but will avoid public concerts. We have made a financial donation to the Festival to further our support in 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Morag McLaren', written in a cursive style.

Morag McLaren  
Chair

## **The Cooper Hall Foundation**

### **Our purpose and activities**

#### **The objectives of the charity are:**

To manage musical and artistic events and educational activities at Cooper Hall, Frome, with a view to:

- a) Providing opportunities for young performers on the brink of their careers to perform at Cooper Hall;
- b) Presenting a range of performances at Cooper Hall which audiences in the locality would otherwise not have available to them
- c) Providing artists opportunities to focus on process and developmental work on creative projects in an inspiring environment where new ideas and collaborations can flourish
- d) Provide an environment for a range of musical education opportunities, including master classes and workshops

Other activities that the Trustees feel to be appropriate to the charity.

### **Achievements and performance**

Performances and workshops with audiences had to be cancelled at the start of the COVID pandemic crisis in 2020.

In response we invested in and installed recording, lighting and transmission facilities in Cooper Hall to facilitate live and recorded streaming from Cooper Hall. Cooper Hall has presented various online and live-streamed performances from Cooper Hall and a variety of on-line teaching and coaching sessions have also been presented during this period. Morag McLaren has facilitated a range of small-scale creative residencies within COVID restrictions. A new *Cooper Hall Talks* platform has also been created.

### **Plans for future period**

We will continue to provide the wide range of workshops, performances, recordings, educational activities and collaborations in 2022. Of particular note is a relationship we are developing with Olivier Award winning local children's theatre company, Little Bulb and Pegasus Opera Company in their mission to provide opportunities for artists from African and Asian heritage. For the time being, this will very much focus and orientate towards small-scale residencies on site, with public performances being very restricted and controlled in the light of our continuing concern over COVID risks in the community. We plan to also continue to explore initiatives in environmental matters, including experimentation with the ground-sourced heat pump system installed at Cooper Hall for heating and cooling the building.

## **Reference and administrative details:**

**Charity Number: 1151565**

### **Office**

Cooper Hall, Selwood Manor, Jack's Lane, Frome. BA11 3NL

Tel: 07568 374109

[www.cooperhall.org](http://www.cooperhall.org)

## **Our Advisors**

### **Bankers**

HSBC, 24 Market Place, Frome, Somerset. BA11 1AJ

### **Trustees**

**The trustees serving during the period and since the year-end were as follows:**

Jonathan Cooper

Fay Goodridge

Morag McLaren BEd (Music), PPRNCM, MA (Chair)

Torun Stavsén

### **Charity Secretary and Accountant**

Hugh M Riddell BA FCA

## The Cooper Hall Foundation

### Income and Expenditure Account

Period Ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021

	2020 £	2021 £
<b>Income</b>		
Donations and Sales	<u>229,893</u>	<u>273,028</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>		
Charitable Donations		3,050
Property and Production Costs	<u>230,288</u>	<u>264,670</u>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<u>230,288</u>	<u>267,720</u>
<b>Net Surplus/(Deficit) For Period</b>	<u>(395)</u>	<u>5,308</u>

### Balance Sheet

As at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021

	£	£
<b><u>Assets</u></b>		
Debtors/ (Creditors)	(53,729)	(52,944)
Cash At Bank	<u>60,437</u>	<u>64,960</u>
<b>Net Assets</b>	<u>6,708</u>	<u>12,016</u>
<b><u>Retained Surpluses</u></b>		
Brought Forward	7,103	6,708
<b>Net Surplus /(Deficit) For Period</b>	<u>( 395)</u>	<u>5,308</u>
	<u>6,708</u>	<u>12,016</u>

Approved By Trustees  
Morag McLaren, Chair



## **COOPER HALL RESIDENCIES/WORKSHOPS DURING 2021**

### **January/February:**

Morag McLaren led a series of workshops and one-to-one sessions with emerging artists, including devising and leading two comedy workshops for singers, a workshop for Bath Spa University, a series of workshops for Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music.

Auditions and a series of on-line rehearsals for the Salon Music Project in preparation for their creative residency later in the year.

### **March:**

Morag McLaren led an online talk and masterclass from Cooper Hall on singing Sondheim for Vox Integra.

Hesta Banks – photoshoot for launch of new single.

Rosie Middleton – on-site creative residency.

### **April/May:**

Morag McLaren participated in a singer's mentoring scheme as part of her involvement with Singers ReSound.

### **June:**

Salon Music creative residency. Morag McLaren facilitated process of script writing and character development where Cooper Hall facilities were used and cast of 5 stayed on-site.

Hesta Banks – follow-up recording on site.

### **July:**

Cooper Hall used for filming Emily Attack series.

### **August:**

Iford Arts residency, three-day workshop on-site for 4 singers to prepare roles for Pagliacci led by Morag McLaren and Oliver Gooch.

### **September:**

Soprano Elin Prichard on site residency on audition preparation.

Little Bulb – rehearsal space donated in support of their work and in preparation for their show at Covent Garden in December.

### **October:**

Little Bulb – continued use of space at Cooper Hall to rehearse.

### **November:**

Beka Reid – 5-day creative residency for 10 musicians to rehearse for their show at the Royal Albert Hall

Also, donation of Cooper Hall space to local actor Mark McGann's company Drama Direct for training.

## **Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Cooper Hall Foundation**

I hereby report on the Financial Statements of the Trust for the period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 in the Report and Financial Statements period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021 document.

### **Respective Responsibilities of Trustee and Examiner**

The Charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Charity's Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act; and
- to state 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 Commission. 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 seeking 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 no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a "true and fair view" and the Report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### **Independent Examiner's Statement**

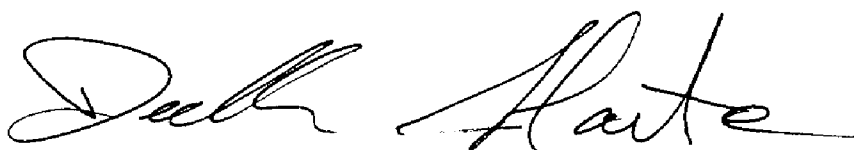
In connection with my examination. No matter has come to my attention:

(1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:

- to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 130 of the 2011 Act; and
- to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Derek M Harte', written in a cursive style.

Derek M Harte CA  
26 Duncan Terrance, London N1 8BS