



Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From		Period start date			To		Period end date		
		06	April	2023			05	April	2024

Section A Reference and administration details

Charity name

Brighton Theatre

Other names charity is known by

Registered charity number (if any)

1156577

Charity's principal address

28 George Street

Brighton

Postcode

BN2 1RH

Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Daniel Finlay	Chairperson		
2	Stephen Pavey	Treasurer		
3	Teohna Williams			
4	Rosie McColl			
5	Ruth Goodall			
6	Andrew Kay			
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

Names of the trustees for the charity, if any, (for example, any custodian trustees)

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
Accountant		

Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

Richard Crane (Associate Director), Faynia Williams (Artistic Director)

Section B Structure, governance and management

Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document (eg. trust deed, constitution)	Constitution
How the charity is constituted (eg. trust, association, company)	Charitable Incorporated Organisation
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by Board

Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

The charity follows the Charity Commission's guidelines on selection and recruitment of trustees, and ensures that trustees are familiar with the Commission's guidance notes "The Essential Trustee...".

Section C Objectives and activities

Summary of the objects of the charity set out in its governing document

To advance public education in the Arts and to promote knowledge, understanding and appreciation in the Arts (in particular drama, scenography, music, dance, visual and performing Arts) by the production, in collaboration with other artists and venues, of innovative plays and performance work that are both intellectually stimulating and entertaining, and of a national and international standard of excellence.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)

The year began with the production of ANNA & MARINA, by Richard Crane and directed by Faynia Williams, having its premiere in the Brighton Fringe Festival.

The play focused on the historic meeting in 1941, of two rival poets, Anna Akhmatova and Marina Tsvetaeva, on the eve of the German invasion of the USSR.

At a time of continuing conflict in eastern Europe, the themes of resistance, betrayal and the power of the arts against barbarism were especially relevant.

Akhmatova's quote '*The future ripens in the past; the past rots in the future*' and Tsvetaeva's '*The typewriter is mightier than the tank*', brought a historic emergency into direct alignment with the present, and provoked lively ongoing debate.

Brighton Theatre's objective to advance public education in the arts then broadened into the realm of music, as research began towards the planned premiere PLAYING TCHAIKOVSKY in 2024. Here the theme is the power of music to exalt the soul and to transcend national boundaries, raising the question of 'genius' - is it heaven sent and inexplicable, or born of the agonies and ecstasies of human life? In Tchaikovsky's case, should discovery of morally transgressive behaviour lead to the cancelling of his music, or does scrutiny of private passions, and consequent tragedies, lead to a deeper appreciation of the art?

Alongside the research and development of PLAYING TCHAIKOVSKY, Faynia Williams continued to represent Brighton Theatre, locally and nationally, as Governor of Brighton Girls School and Member of the Stephen Joseph Committee, hosting events, awards and seminars for the public benefit.

Richard Crane continued to promote his theatre memoir GHOST BOY: A PLAYWRIGHT'S PROGRESS, and began research on the sequel, charting the development of late 20th century mainstream and alternative theatre, from the 'insider' point of view. Both Williams and Crane were active participants in local theatre and cultural enterprises, such as Iron Clad Creative, What Next? Network, and the local branch of Equity.

More details on these activities are given in Section D.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

April 2023: Pre-production, casting and rehearsal for ANNA & MARINA, in association with the Latest Music Bar and Latest Television.

May 2023: Premiere and performances of ANNA & MARINA. Participation in the Brighton Fringe Festival.

June-Dec 2023: Beginning research into PLAYING TCHAIKOVSKY. Correspondence and discussions with biographers and musicians, venue managers and funding sources.

Dec 2023 to April 2024: The Artistic Director suffered an accident in late December, necessitating hospitalisation and a slow recovery period. This put the production of PLAYING TCHAIKOVSKY on hold.

Work on the script nevertheless continued and was subsequently completed, with the intention to have an initial public reading of the play later in 2024.

Section E Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

We intend to build up reserves as appropriate to a small grant aided arts charity. Ideally we would like to have sufficient reserves to enable us to invest in innovative productions without over reliance on external grants.

Details of any funds materially in deficit

None

Further financial review details (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

Although audience numbers and Box Office sales in the year showed that we have now returned to normal activity after the Covid pandemic, the continuing cost-of-living crisis is affecting the economics of live performance.

Box Office income was £1154

Donation income was £695

During the year our work has advanced public education and knowledge of the Arts fully in accordance with our objects.

Section F Other optional information

Section G Declaration

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)	D Finlay	S. Pavey
Full name(s)	Daniel Joseph Laurence Finlay	Stephen Peter Charles Pavey
Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)	Chair	Treasurer
Date	02 February 2025	



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Brighton Theatre

1156577

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

Period start date
06-Apr-23

To

Period end date
05-Apr-24

Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Donations	695	-	-	695	276
Brighton Fringe	-	-	-	-	-
Arts Council	-	-	-	-	-
Box Office other	1,154	-	-	1,154	996
Other	1	-	-	1	2
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	1,850	-	-	1,850	1,274
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	1,850	-	-	1,850	1,274
A3 Payments					
Production costs - ANNA & MARINA	47	-	-	47	320
Production costs - other	49	-	-	49	-
Fees	772	-	-	772	586
Travel/Accommodation	41	-	-	41	391
Office/admin/overheads	278	-	-	278	222
Promo/publicity	85	-	-	85	91
Venue Hire	286	-	-	286	213
Sub total	1,558	-	-	1,558	1,823
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,558	-	-	1,558	1,823
Net of receipts/(payments)	292	-	-	292	- 549
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	580	-	-	580	1,129
Cash funds this year end	872	-	-	872	580

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Co-Op Bank accounts	872	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	Total cash funds	872	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
B2 Other monetary assets	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
	S. Pavey	Stephen Peter Charles Pavey	02-Feb-24	