



## Annual Report 2024-25

All trustees are provided with the recommended documentation from the Charity Commission related to their responsibilities as trustees including *The Essential Trustee*, *Public Benefit: The Public Benefit Requirement*, *Public Benefit Rules for Charities* and *Being a Trustee* guidance.

Mirror Mirror Education is governed by a board of four trustees and managed and run by a freelance employed Director.

We are not connected to any wider networks.

Potential risks to the charity include

1. Having enough time, financial and operational resources to attract interest in our activities
2. Having the right skills and knowledge to ensure quality of our activities
3. Knowing how to manage the business to a consistent level
4. Maintaining the relevancy of the activities we deliver (both pedagogically and culturally)

We are managing the risks via

1. Appropriate planning, investing more of the Director's time and using a pool of freelance facilitators to deliver work
2. Discussing work with peers, going to see a lot of other similar work
3. Discussion of work with peers and partners, seeing similar work, keeping abreast of the latest changes in state education. Three trustees are parents, one is a teacher and two also work in public engagement in the arts and one is a school governor.

Mirror Mirror Education is an arts education charity which explores the history of art, cinema and technology.

Our work is interdisciplinary - in delivery and subject – often immersive and ephemeral; much like early magic lantern performances and optical illusions that inspired us to set up the charity.

In practice we deliver workshops, performances and festival appearances; and we are now moving towards new funding streams that will allow us to work on longer term projects. Our areas of activity can be categorised under four main headings: immersive experiences, magic lanterns and optical illusions, cinema days and commissions.

In terms of staffing we have a bank of freelancers who are passionate about early cinema, optical technology and storytelling and experienced in working with children and developing / delivering activities. We also have a significant number of specialist resources – lanterns, overhead projectors and other obsolete technology that we are making come alive again through children's creativity.

Mirror Mirror Education's objects are:

- Advance the education of public in the subject of pre-cinema ephemera, non-mainstream cinema and artists' film and video
- Advance education of the public in the development of technology and the arts mostly (though not exclusively) from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century
- Benefit the public by increasing awareness of the history of popular culture and impact on contemporary society

From April 2024- April 2025 this has been achieved in the following ways.

*Advance the education of public in the subject of pre-cinema ephemera, non-mainstream cinema and artists' film and video*

In this period we delivered 3 magic lantern shows and workshops for City of London Libraries. These workshop -performances were for family audiences and had a total of 120 attendees. It was an opportunity to explore how pre-cinema, creative projection techniques and framing worked as well as enabling young children to make their own 'live art' works via drawings, fabric and using mirrors, prism and diffusers,

Looking forward to 25-26, Director Claire Cooke has begun a PhD in Education at Glasgow University looking at magic and play - lessons from which will be applied to Mirror Mirror's activities and build up its networks. We shall we performing an educational activity for the British Music Hall Society this November.

*Advance education of the public in the development of technology and the arts mostly (though not exclusively) from 18<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup> century.*

As above

*Benefit the public by increasing awareness of the history of popular culture and impact on contemporary society*

As above





**B3 Investment assets**

Not applicable		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-


**B4 Assets retained for the charity’s own use**

Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
Magic lanterns and specialist equipment	Unrestricted	-	
Audio visual equipment	Unrestricted	-	
Other props	Unrestricted	-	
		-	-
** None of these assets where purchased in 2019-20		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-
		-	-

**B5 Liabilities**

Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
Not applicable		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	
		-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Catherine Whitehouse	04/02/26