



London English Song Festival: Trustees' Annual Report

From	Period start date			To	Period end date		
	1	1	2023		31	12	2023

Section AReference and administration details

Charity name

London English Song Festival

Other names charity is known by

N/A

Registered charity number (if any)

1159818

Charity's principal address

14 College Court, West Road

London

Postcode

SW3 4NL

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	William Vann	Chair		
2	Matthew Kay	Treasurer		
3	Katie Emily Bray			
4	Jonathan Langridge			

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year
N/A	

Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address
N/A		

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

N/A

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)	CIO
Trustee selection methods (eg. appointed by, elected by)	Appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees.

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.

Section C

Objectives and activities

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

The objects of the CIO are to advance the education of the public in the musical arts and in particular the art of English language song in all its aspects.

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)

(a) by organising and promoting the public performance of English song, and in particular an annual festival of English song recital in London and
(b) complementary thereto or in connection therewith, by further providing for the public benefit in London and elsewhere in the United Kingdom as may be appropriate educational and vocal workshops and masterclasses and other activities to promote and encourage musical education and vocal performance.

The trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission of 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.

N/A

Section D Achievements and performance

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year

2023 was a light year of activity for the LESF, following our extensive projects in 2022, in particular our world premiere recording of Parry's *Prometheus Unbound*. In 2023, our sole event was a launch event for *Prometheus Unbound*, the costs of which we agreed to split 50/50 with the record label Chandos. The event at Royal Hospital Chelsea (chosen because of the significant discount that our Chair was able to negotiate because of his employment there) was attended by supporters of the project, classical music journalists and reviewers, and experts on Parry's music. Three singers performed excerpts from *Prometheus Unbound*, including Sarah Fox and Neal Davies, who performed on the disc, and Cara Curran, stepping in for Sarah Connolly, who was unable to attend because of illness. All three performed for expenses only. Jeremy Dibble, world renowned Parry expert, travelled from Durham to speak at the event. We also covered his expenses. All four received a bottle of champagne from the LESF as a thank you for their time and effort.

The event was a huge success, leading to recognition of the recording as one of the most significant in the field in 2023 (it was subsequently chosen to be Gramophone's Recording of the Month in November 2023 and short-listed for a 2024 Gramophone Award). It was also an important occasion to thank our array of private donors.

2023 and 2024 will both be quiet years of activity while we regroup, fundraise and plan for projects in 2025-26, including a planned recording of Stanford's oratorio *Eden* and our Vaughan Williams in Chelsea festival. We already have £10K of funding committed in principle towards the former from a mixture of private donors and charitable foundations.

Section E

Financial review

Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves

The charity manages its funds, including any project-specific restricted funds, with a view to achieving parity over a project's lifecycle. In light of the charity's business model and limited financial risk exposure, the trustees currently set a minimum reserves level of £nil, and will review this annually.

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.

Fundraising is an important part of our work – by its very nature, our educational ventures make a loss, and so the support of private individuals and other charities is crucial.

Funds raised in 2023 were all small, regular donations, mostly through the CAF fundraising portal, except for one private annual donation of £50. These were put towards the costs of the fundraising event, though with a small surplus remaining at the end of the year.

As receipts in 2023 were below the £25K threshold, we did not need the services of an Independent Examiner this year.

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)



Full name(s)

William Vann

Matthew Kay

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Chair

Treasurer

Date

30th October 2024

30th October 2024



Receipts and payments accounts

For the period
from

Period start date
01-Jan-23

To

Period end date
31-Dec-23



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					
Loan advances	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	1,303	-	-	1,303	30,380
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	4,164
Grants	-	1,451	-	1,451	19,920
Royalties	1,063	-	-	1,063	338
Ticket sales	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total (Gross income for AR)	2,366	1,451	-	3,817	54,801
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	2,366	1,451	-	3,817	54,801
A3 Payments					
Administration fees	-	-	-	-	111
Loan repayments	-	-	-	-	-
Marketing - advisory & booking	-	-	-	-	-
Marketing - leaflets & flyering	-	-	-	-	113
Marketing - online	-	-	-	-	-
Marketing - other	-	-	-	-	-
Marketing - print	-	-	-	-	96
Online presence (email & website)	86	-	-	86	168
Production costs - performers	659	-	-	659	55,228
Production costs - programme	-	-	-	-	-
Production costs - other	277	420	-	697	375
Production costs - reception	532	-	-	532	-
Production costs - sheet music	-	-	-	-	862
Production costs - staging	-	-	-	-	1,910
Production costs - venue hire	-	1,031	-	1,031	2,725
Sub total	1,555	1,451	-	3,006	61,588
A4 Asset and investment purchases (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	1,555	1,451	-	3,006	61,588
Net of receipts/(payments)	811	-	-	811	6,787
A5 Transfers between funds					
	549	-	-	549	2,399
A6 Cash funds last year end					
Cash funds this year end	1,360	-	-	1,360	4,388

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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	Bank account	1,360	-	-
	Total cash funds	1,360	-	-
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	None - gift aid all received in year		-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets	None	n/a	-	-
	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	None	n/a	-	-
	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities	None			
Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval	
		Matthew Kay	25-Oct-24	
		William Vann	25-Oct-24	