



Faust Chamber Orchestra

**Trustees' Annual Report**

From 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024

Registered Charity England & Wales no. 1163070

The trustees are pleased to present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charity for the year ending 31 August 2024.

## **CHAIR'S REPORT**

This season contained a performance of Haydn's opera 'The Apothecary' in partnership with Bampton Classical Opera.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

The objective of Faust Chamber Orchestra (the 'Orchestra') is:

to advance, improve, develop and maintain public education in, and appreciation of, the art of music in all its aspects by the presentation of public concerts and recitals, and by such other means as the trustees shall determine from time to time.

The Orchestra is composed of young professional musicians and aims at making classical music fresh, comprehensible, and inspirational in the concert hall. Under the artistic direction of conductor, Mark Austin, the Orchestra provides accessible spoken introductions and musical demonstrations as part of its concerts, which bring the music closer to audiences.

In order to achieve its objectives, the Orchestra organises and delivers a range of live performances, in 3 main formats:

- Orchestral concerts, usually under the baton of Artistic Director, Mark Austin
- Chamber Series recitals, showcasing a few members of the Orchestra and external guest artists in a more intimate setting
- Educational projects, organised on an *ad hoc* basis with schools or other partner organisations, to share professional performances of classical music with children and adults and educate them about the beauty and power of music

The Orchestra gives professional players the opportunity to perform with and play an active and fairly remunerated role with a top-class ensemble.

The Orchestra is involved in the community and relies on voluntary help. In addition to the time volunteered by trustees and members of the management team, several volunteers assist with box office administration, concert management, and catering for Orchestra players and guest artists. Faust Chamber Orchestra is extremely grateful for their ongoing support.

In shaping the objectives for each season and planning the activities, the Charity Trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

## **PERFORMANCES**

## Major concerts

There were no orchestral performances this season.

## Chamber Series

8 September 2023

Haydn 'The Apothecary'

An outdoor, staged and costumed performance of Haydn's comic opera, sung in English with piano accompaniment

Guy Beynon *Sempronio*

Iuno Connolly *Grilletta*

Madeline Robinson *Volpino*

Harry Ross *Mengone*

Mark Austin *piano, conductor*

Jeremy Gray *director*

Bampton Classical Opera

## Recording

There were no recordings this season.

## FINANCIAL REVIEW AND PRICING POLICY

The results for the year ended 31 August 2024 and the financial position as at 31 August 2024 are set out in the Annual Accounts prepared on the basis of receipts and payments.

The financial year 2023-24 ended with an overall surplus of £1456, resulting from total receipts of £3156 and total payments of £1700. Cash funds at the year end amounted to £25005.

## **Pricing Policy**

Affordability and access to the performances are important criterias and the pricing policy reflects the strategy of enabling all within the community, whatever their means, to attend a live music performance. Full ticket prices to the orchestral concerts in this season were however determined by the promoter.

## **Reserves Policy**

The trustees acknowledge the need to maintain sufficient reserves to provide a degree of financial security for the Orchestra's ongoing and future operations.

Continuing from the previous season, the board worked on the basis of a reserve policy which established that funds equivalent to typical project turnover, £10,000 at the time, should be held as free reserve to ensure financial stability.

As the Orchestra develops and the size of its operations changes, the amount of reserves will be reviewed accordingly.

# **GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

## **Governing document**

Faust Chamber Orchestra is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation governed according to its Constitution ('foundation' model) dated 7 March 2014.

The Constitution was modified on 29 July 2015 (Object) and further modified on 30 November 2015 (change in name from Faust Ensemble to Faust Chamber Orchestra).

## **Organisation**

The trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the CIO. The board of trustees meets on a quarterly basis, with members of the management team in attendance.

Decisions are made by simple majority of votes at a meeting of the board of trustees or by resolution made in writing or in electronic form and agreed by all trustees.

All Trustees give of their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid in the year.

Day to day management of the Charity's affairs is delegated to the Artistic Director.

## **Appointment of Trustees**

The existing trustees may appoint a new trustee at any time for a term of three years by a resolution passed at a meeting of the board of trustees.

In selecting individuals for appointment as charity trustees, the existing trustees have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the Charity.

There must be at least three and not more than twelve trustees.

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATION DETAILS

Charity name: Faust Chamber Orchestra

Previously known as: Faust Ensemble (name change decided on 30 November 2015 and recorded by the Charity Commission on 22 December 2015)  
For the purposes of simplicity, the organisation is referred to as 'Faust Chamber Orchestra' or 'the Orchestra' throughout this report

Charity Number: 1163070 (registered on 10 August 2015)

Address: 21 Layston Park, Royston, Hertfordshire SG8 9DS

Website: [www.faustchamberorchestra.org](http://www.faustchamberorchestra.org)

### Trustees

The trustees serving during the year are set out below:

Countess Elizabeth Howe	Chairman
Ms Klara Kan	Treasurer
Ms Helen Ecclestone	
Mr Mark Austin	

### Management Team

The members of the Management team serving during the year were:

Mr Mark Austin	Artistic Director
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This report has been approved by all of the charity's trustees, and signed on their behalf by:

Countess Elizabeth Howe *Elizabeth Howe* ... Date *27/6/2025*



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Faust Chamber Orchestra

1163070

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period  
from

01/09/2023

To

31/08/2024

### 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 £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Voluntary Income	-	-	-	-	-
Donations	1,050	-	-	1,050	1,100
Grants	-	-	-	-	-
Gift Aid	-	-	-	-	-
Income from Charitable Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Ticket Sales	1,916	-	-	1,916	2,488
Performance Fees	-	-	-	-	-
Bank Saving Interest	190	-	-	190	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>3,156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,156</b>	<b>3,588</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>3,156</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>3,156</b>	<b>3,588</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Costs of Charitable Activities	-	-	-	-	-
Musicians' Fees	1,700	-	-	1,700	2,000
Venue and Other Costs	-	-	-	-	-
Support Costs	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>2,000</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,700</b>	<b>2,000</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,456</b>	<b>1,588</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>23,549</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>23,549</b>	<b>21,961</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>25,005</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>25,005</b>	<b>23,549</b>

### 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 £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>				
	Cash at bank	25,005	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>25,005</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
CCXX R1 accounts (SS)		OK	OK	OK
(agree balances with receipts and payments <sup>1</sup> account(s))				

		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details			
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details			
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details			
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-

		Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details			
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

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

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Klara Kan	28 June 2025