

The Raze Collective

Charity Registration No.1167655

Report and Unaudited Financial Statements
Year ended 30 September 2021

The Raze Collective

Status:	Charity Registration No.1167655 The Raze Collective is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) registered on 16 June 2016 governed by its trust deed.
Governing document:	
Registered Office:	84 Bethune Road London N16 5BA
Independent examiner:	Shruti Soni ACCA Shruti Soni Ltd Chartered Certified Accountants 117a St. John's Hill, Sevenoaks TN13 3PE

The Raze Collective
Charity registration number 1167655

Trustees Report for 12 months from 1 October 2020 to 30 September 2021

Introduction

The Raze Collective is a charity that supports, develops and nurtures queer performance in the UK. Raze was established in 2015 as a charity to support and develop LGBTQI+ (queer) performance and performers. It is called 'raze' as it was founded in response to the many queer venues that hosted closing down (i.e. being razed) and the knock-on effect this was having on queer performers and the provision of queer performance for the benefit of the public more generally.

We work by bringing together people and organisations working in different aspects of the queer performance community, including performers, producers, promoters, directors, venue owners, academics and audience members. The charity protects and promotes queer performance for everyone through events, workshops, artist development and commissioning new work. Find out more at www.razecollective.com

Charitable Objects

Our charitable objects are as follows:

- A. To promote, maintain, improve and advance performing arts, defined as art forms involving voice and/or movement alone or in relation to other objects to convey artistic expression, undertaken by people who identify as Lesbian, Gay Bisexual, Transgender, Queer or Intersex (LGBTQI) or that contains LGBTQI themes, content or context, through the provision of workshops, training and cultural events for the benefit of the LGBTQI community and the public.
- B. The advancement of education of the public in relation to LGBTQI performing arts through the provision of workshops, seminars, discussions, lectures, screenings and live performances.
- C. The advancement of LGBTQI performing arts by assisting young performers of moderate or limited means in such ways as to enable them to become self-supporting.
- D. The preservation of LGBTQI performing arts heritage and culture, including spaces and buildings of historic interest or importance, for the benefit of the LGBTQI community and the public.

Board of Trustees

- **Beck Tadman (Chair):** producer with an academic interest in queer performance.
www.becktadman.com
- **Tam Vibert:** experienced venue manager, queer nightlife veteran, now of the Outside Project and Vogue Fabrics Dalston.
- **Steve Hignell:** planning consultant with expertise in nightlife venues and queer spaces.

- **Krishna Isthā:** performer, live artist and theatre maker.
- **Jamie Tagg:** Director at East Creative.
- **Tracy Gentles:** Artistic producer at Sick of the Fringe.
- **Florent Trioux** - Producer, Sadler's Wells

Board Observer

- **Sadie Sinner** - Performer & Founder of The Cocoa Butter Club

Staff

- **Tim Other:** Director
- **Lucy Hayhoe:** Operations Manager
- **Cassie Leon:** Creative Producer
- **Fraser Buchannan:** Producer
- **Seyi Osibamowo:** Trainee Producer
- **Zaki Musa:** Digital Manager

CHAIR'S REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report and financial statements for the year ended 30th September 2021. This is also a Directors' Report required by s417 of the Companies Act 2006 and all trustees are directors. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 of the accounts and comply with the charity's governing document, the Charities Act 2011, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) 2019 ("SORP").

This report covers a substantial body of diverse activities across live performance and digital live performance, undertaken during the second and third waves of the global Covid-19 pandemic.

Public benefit

The Trustees have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Charity's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives that have been set.

Related party relationships

The Charity has considered the disclosure requirements of the SORP for related party relationships. The Charity has no related party connections with other organisations. The Trustees consider that the members of the Board of Trustees and their close connections to be the only related parties of the

Charity. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the Charity of any kind. No expenses were claimed from the Charity by any Trustees in the reporting year. Trustees are required to disclose all relevant interests and register them with the Chair of Trustees and to withdraw from decisions where a conflict of interest arises.

Managing risk of harm

In carrying out the charity's purpose to achieve public benefit the trustees have managed risk of detriment or harm to the charity's beneficiaries or to the public in general (which they feel is minimal). This has been achieved by identifying such risks where possible, minimising them and making sure any harm that might arise is of a minor consequence to the carrying out of such purpose.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Charity has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Financial Position

Income during the period under review was £105,188 (end Sept 2020: £111,450), a decrease of £6,262 on the previous year; and expenditure was £101,498 (end Sept 2020: £42,435), an increase of £59,063 on the previous year. This includes expenditure on artistic and creative costs of £20,585 (2020: £26,599), production and management costs of £41,626 (2020: £15,039) and £39,287 (2020: 797) on office expenses. Of the total expenditure, £100,069 was from restricted grants (end Sept 2020: £24,799). The charity had net income during the year of £904 was from restricted grants (end Sept 2020: £65,737). Unrestricted and restricted funds at the year end were £4,916 and £76,654 respectively.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees approved a new reserves policy in the reporting year, acknowledging that the reserves should only be used in relation to strategic actions, and that they should be maintained at a level to cover the following financial year's budgeted minimum operational costs, with ability to maintain staffing levels for a 3-month period, calculated to be £9,500 in addition to any other unrestricted funds available.

Remuneration policy for key management personnel

The remuneration of all staff is reviewed annually. The Trustees review the remuneration of key management personnel, and draw on their knowledge of the sector, the formal appraisal process, and

common practice in other charities of similar size, to ensure that the remuneration set is fair and not out of line with that generally paid for similar roles.

Principal Funding Sources

These are:

- Grants from Arts Council England
- Grants and funding from charitable institutions
- Proceeds from ticket sales
- Commissions and contracts for producing activities
- Donations

ACTIVITIES

The period October 2020 to September 2021 remained extremely challenging for the Arts Sector with the repeated implementation of public health measures to control the COVID-19 pandemic. This also had significant knock-on effects for both the artists we support and our audiences, with reduced confidence in accessing arts organisations in both groups.

However, The Raze Collective continued to grow in this period and further strengthened our partnerships. The largest change for the organisation was the operationalisation of the Queer Arts Consortium (QUAC) with the appointment of the QUAC manager Lucy Hayhoe, and the move of Raze and the other Consortium members into a new office building. One original consortium member left during this time, and was replaced with two new, bringing QUAC to 5 members: Raze, Cocoa Butter Club, Fringe Queer Film and Arts Fest, Queer Youth Art Collective and Prim Black. The activities are now well underway with significant support for training and organisations development in progress.

Given the challenges with producing live events, we continued to develop our online performances opportunities through two rounds of Razed and Confused Goes Digital, supporting 9 artists to develop new and innovative digital work. These were presented through the online platform provided by Something to Aim For and each showing was attended by between around 60 audience members. This enabled us to work with artists outside of London more reliably for the first time. To support queer performance poets, we produced 3 Instagram Poetry takeovers during the year, supporting 19 poets in total. We also developed a new programme of work called Raze Your Profile, working with a queer videographer and designer to produce showreels for 6 emerging queer artists, which received very good feedback.

In the breaks between public health requirements, we also managed to produce several live events. This included our sold-out showcase of queer artists X Raze, held at the Bethnal Green Working Men's Club

in July 2021 and a weekend takeover of the outside space of the Southbank Centre in May 2021, which was also well attended. We also staged a full day of the Queer Clash Diary at the Yard Theatre in September 2021, which was attended by 70 queer artists and arts professionals to share information, ideas and activities for the forthcoming year. Here we also presented the preliminary results of the London Queer Nightlife Research Project, which was undertaken with academics of the University of Roehampton and Liverpool to further evaluate and establish the effects of the COVID pandemic on the queer nightlife community, which was well received.

We have continued to develop our staff team with the recruitment of the trainee producer Seyi Osibamowo, who went on to be appointed as our new Assistant Producer, the development of Lucy Hayhoe's role to become Operations Manager and the appointment of Zaki Musa as digital manager to improve our online activities.

Despite the challenges wrought by the COVID-19 pandemic, Raze has continued to move from strength to strength with increasing activities and partnerships. Our role has expanded and we now provide a core role in the queer arts community in both London and the UK more widely.

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of the incoming resources, and of the application of resources, of the Charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP (FRS102);
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to assume that the group will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Charity's governing document. They are also responsible for

safeguarding the assets of the Charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Charity and financial information included on the Charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO THE EXAMINERS

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

There is no relevant information of which the Charity's examiners are unaware; and The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information. The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the Charity's websites. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

PLANS FOR 2022-2023

- Submission of application to become a National Portfolio Organisation for Arts Council England
- Delivery of a new Podcast project "Raze Sounds"
- Delivery of a further edition of Let Us Raze You artistic development programme
- Further projects based on new fundraising, including with a greater focus on community partnerships
- Development and increasing skill of our staff team to take on further responsibility
- Ongoing organizational development for QUAC members, with a view to completing the Elevate project in March 2023.

Summary

Raze has contributed significantly to the arts landscape of England and particularly in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic. Despite the pandemic, we have continued to unearth and champion the work of marginalised performers and performance collectives, and provide opportunities through our digital commissions.

In addition, we continue to capitalise on the many collaboration offers that we regularly receive, including collaborations with large and small venues and organisations, charities, universities, privately owned enterprises, producers and the performers themselves. We have further live and digital events and commissions planned

Thanks to receiving Elevate funding, we look forward to a further further growth and collaboration to continue to support a sustainable queer performance landscape across the country. We hope to become part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio in the next round, which will start in April 2023.

APPROVAL OF THE REPORT

This report, which was prepared in accordance with the special provisions relating to Companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006, was approved by the Board of Trustees on 13th May 2022 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Rebecca Tadman', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Rebecca Tadman - Chair, Board of Trustees

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of The Raze Collective

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 September 2021 which are set out on pages 10 and 11.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act').

I report in respect of my examination of the charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe that in any material respect:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the charity as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Shruti Soni

Shruti Soni FCCA FCIE

Shruti Soni Ltd • Chartered Certified Accountants
117a St. John's Hill, Sevenoaks TN13 3PE

Date: 17 May 2022

The Raze Collective
Charity Registration number 1167655

Receipts and payments accounts

For the year ended 30 September 2021

	30-09-21			01/04/2019 to 30/09/2020		
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Receipts						
Arts Council England grants	-	90,973	90,973	-	90,536	90,536
City of London grant	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-
Donation	51	-	51	6,000	-	6,000
Paypal donation	375	-	375	2,338	-	2,338
Income from performances and activities	3,789	-	3,789	12,576	-	12,576
Total Receipts	4,215	100,973	105,188	20,914	90,536	111,450
Payments						
Artistic and creative (commission and fees)	1,060	19,525	20,585	14,270	12,329	26,599
Production, management and design	-	41,626	41,626	3,197	11,842	15,039
Rent and Utilities	-	7,157	7,157	-	-	-
Website and office expenses	369	11,461	11,830	169	628	797
Marketing	-	10,045	10,045	-	-	-
Equipment and consumables	-	3,724	3,724	-	-	-
Training	-	6,531	6,531	-	-	-
Sub total	1,429	100,069	101,498	17,636	24,799	42,435
Total payments	1,429	100,069	101,498	17,636	24,799	42,435
Net of receipts/(payments)	2,786	904	3,690	3,278	65,737	69,015
Transfer between funds	(5,005)	5,005	-	-	-	-
Cash funds last year end	7,135	70,746	77,881	3,857	5,009	8,866
Cash funds this year end	4,916	76,655	81,571	7,135	70,746	77,881

The Raze Collective

Statement of assets and liabilities

at the end of the period 30 September 2021

Details	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £
Cash at bank and on hand	4,916	76,655
Creditors	1,400	

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

Signature



Print Name

TRACY GENTLES

Date of
approval

16/05/22