



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## Trustees' Annual Report for the period

From

01/08/2023 To

31/07/2024

**Charity name: Society for the Study of Sound and Music in Games**

**Charity registration number: 1180483**

## Objectives and Activities

|  | SORP reference     |  |
|--|--------------------|--|
| Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document  | Para 1.17          | <b>To build an extensive and diverse body of knowledge for the advancement of the understanding of and education in music and sound in games, for the public benefit; in particular, but not exclusively, by the dissemination of the latest scholarly research.</b> |
| Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts. | Para 1.17 and 1.19 | <b>To support scholars of video game music and sound through research and education.</b>   |
| Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit   | Para 1.18          | <b>Yes.</b>  |

## Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|  | SORP reference |            |
|--|----------------|------------|
| Policy on grant making   | Para 1.38      | <b>N/A</b> |
| Policy on social investment including program related investment | Para 1.38      | <b>N/A</b> |
| Contribution made by volunteers                                  | Para 1.38      | <b>N/A</b> |

|       |  |     |
|-------|--|-----|
| Other |  | N/A |
|-------|--|-----|

## Achievements and Performance

|   | SORP reference |  |
|---|----------------|--|
| Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole. | Para 1.20      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Publication of several issues of the <i>Journal for the Study of Music in Games</i> (University of California Press), sharing the research of a number of global scholars with the wider academic community.</li> <li>- Nominal sponsor/host of two academic conferences (the North American Conference on Video Game Music and Ludo 2024), sharing the research of a number of global scholars with the wider academic community.</li> </ul> |

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|  |           |     |
|--|-----------|-----|
| Achievements against objectives set                          | Para 1.41 | N/A |
| Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set | Para 1.41 | N/A |
| Investment performance against objectives                    | Para 1.41 | N/A |
| Other  |           | N/A |

## Financial Review

|  |           |  |
|--|-----------|--|
| Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period              | Para 1.21 | <b>The charity is continuing to increase the strength of our financial position year-to-year, thanks primarily to income from royalty payments to the society from subscriptions to our journal.</b> |
| Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held   | Para 1.22 | <b>Reserves are held until the board has identified a suitable expenditure or payments are required for the operation of the society.</b>  |
| Amount of reserves held  | Para 1.22 | <b>£5,438</b>  |
| Reasons for holding zero reserves  | Para 1.22 | <b>N/A</b>   |
| Details of fund materially in deficit  | Para 1.24 | <b>N/A</b>   |
| Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern | Para 1.23 | <b>N/A</b>   |

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|   |           |            |
|---|-----------|------------|
| The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)            | Para 1.47 | <b>N/A</b> |
| Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted | Para 1.46 | <b>N/A</b> |
| A description of the principal risks facing the charity                         | Para 1.46 | <b>N/A</b> |
| Other   |           | <b>N/A</b> |

## Structure, Governance and Management

|   |           |                                |
|---|-----------|--------------------------------|
| Description of charity's trusts:  |           | N/A                            |
| Type of governing document<br>(trust deed, royal charter)   | Para 1.25 | Constitution                   |
| How is the charity constituted?<br>(e.g unincorporated association, CIO)  | Para 1.25 | CIO                            |
| Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees | Para 1.25 | Election by Board of Directors |

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

|   |           |     |
|---|-----------|-----|
| Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees                | Para 1.51 | N/A |
| The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works | Para 1.51 | N/A |
| Relationship with any related parties   | Para 1.51 | N/A |
| Other   |           | N/A |

## Reference and Administrative details

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Charity name                | Society for the Study of Sound and Music in Games   |
| Other name the charity uses | SSSMG   |
| Registered charity number   | 1180483   |
| Charity's principal address | SSSMG<br>University of Chichester<br>Bognor Regis Campus<br>Upper Bognor Road<br>BOGNOR REGIS<br>PO21 1HR |

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|  |  |
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## 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  | Michael Austin        | Executive Director |                                   |   |
| 2  | Stephen Baysted       |                    |                                   |   |
| 3  | Elizabeth Medina-Gray |                    |                                   |   |
| 4  | Tim Summers           |                    |                                   |   |
| 5  | Mark Sweeney          |                    |                                   |   |
| 6  |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 7  |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 8  |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 9  |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 10 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 11 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 12 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 13 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 14 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 15 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 16 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 17 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 18 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 19 |                       |                    |                                   |   |
| 20 |                       |                    |                                   |   |

## Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved

| Director name |  |  |
|---------------|--|--|
| N/A           |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |
|               |  |  |

## Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity

| Trustee name | Dates acted if not for whole year |  |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| N/A          |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |
|              |                                   |  |

## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

|   |  |
|---|--|
| Description of the assets held in this capacity   |  |
| Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects |  |
| Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets                         |  |

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

| Type of adviser | Name | Address |
|-----------------|------|---------|
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |
|                 |      |         |

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

|  |
|--|
|  |
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## Exemptions from disclosure

Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

|  |
|--|
|  |
|--|

## Other optional information

|  |
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|  |
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## Declarations

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

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)

Michael Austin

Full name(s)

Michael Lee Austin

Position (eg Secretary,  
Chair, etc)

Executive Director

Date

20 May 2025



**Show Transactions**  
**Society for the Study of Sound and Music in Games**  
Accounting Year 2023/24

750-1 Bank Account: SSSMG Current Account

| Date         | Description   | Debit            | Credit |
|--------------|---|------------------|--------|
| 01 Aug 23    | Brought Forward                                       | 3,493.62         |        |
| 26 Sep 23    | 1&1 Internet Ltd. V9026110 63012124 Web Hosting       |                  | 19.32  |
| 17 Apr 24    | CY23 UCP JSMG Royalty Payment JSMG Royalty            | 1,983.02         |        |
| 19 Jul 24    | Eventbrite Operati897557818597 Conference Fees - Ludo | 1,705.01         |        |
| 24 Jul 24    | 1&1 Internet Ltd. V9026110 63012124 Web Hosting       |                  | 19.32  |
| <b>Total</b> |   | <b>£7,143.01</b> |        |

750-2 Bank Account: SSSMG PayPal Account

| Date         | Description     | Debit          | Credit |
|--------------|-----------------|----------------|--------|
| 01 Aug 23    | Brought Forward | 363.60         |        |
| <b>Total</b> |                 | <b>£363.60</b> |        |