

BRIXTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

England & Wales · Charity number 1181169

Details

Status Registered

Legal form CIO

Registered 2018-12-14

Register [View on the Charity Commission register](#)

Contact

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Lambeth
SE24 0PY

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Activities

Objects: TO ADVANCE THE ART OF MUSIC FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT, AND TO PROMOTE, SUSTAIN, AND INCREASE INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE OF MUSIC, BY PROVIDING PUBLIC CONCERTS AND SUCH OTHER WAYS AS THE ORGANISATION, THROUGH ITS BOARD OF TRUSTEES, SHALL DETERMINE FROM TIME TO TIME.

Activities: Activities description

Classification

- **How:** Other Charitable Activities
- **What:** Arts/culture/heritage/science
- **Who:** The General Public/mankind

Geography

- Throughout England And Wales

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2024-12-31	£470,221	£457,203	-	-
2023-12-31	£290,084	£291,587	-	-
2022-12-31	£189,631	£174,872	-	-
2021-12-31	£106,870	£92,053	-	-
2020-12-31	£40,351	£38,134	-	-

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
Geraldine Glennon		2018-12-14
Henry Little		2018-12-14
Hester Warner		2019-05-19
Marion Schumann		2022-11-14

BRIXTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1181169

Accounts

Registered Charity Number
1181169

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2024

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report and accounts
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Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Introduction

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Name, registered office and constitution of the charity

The name of the charity is Brixton Chamber Orchestra (BCO).

The charity was successfully registered with the Charities Commission on the 14th of December 2018 under the registration number of 1181169.

The legal registration details are:

Date of formation	14/12/2018
The Principal Office is	157 Shakespeare Road, Lambeth, SE24 0PY
Charity Registration Number	1181169
The telephone number is	07495074286

A summary of the objects of the charity as set out in its governing document

The charitable objectives of the Brixton Chamber Orchestra are to advance the art of music for the public benefit, and to promote, sustain, and increase individual and collective knowledge of music, by providing public concerts and such other ways as the organisation, through its board of trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Public benefit that is provided by the charity

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra's work benefits the general public through sustaining, promoting & developing the art of live music in public and private performances.

The charity's trustees have referred to the guidance 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, they have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The trustees have considered the charity's public benefit and concluded:

1. That the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
2. That the aims and the work done give identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both indirectly and directly to individuals in need;
3. That the benefits are for the public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by ability to pay;
4. That there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

An explanation of the charity's main objectives & Activities for the year

In 2024 the BCO worked towards the following strategic aims: to reach new audiences with live orchestral performances; to provide a training and performance platform for local musicians & creatives; to innovate new orchestral experiences in fresh formats; and to embed in the local community as Brixton's own orchestra. In addition to these, we increased our educational offer to schools. In 2024, we performed at 11 community events, delivered ten charitable projects, and enjoyed dozens of commercial bookings which supported those projects – over 150 performances in all, to combined audiences of over 20,000 people. 40 of these performances were orchestral (20+ musicians), and six fielded full orchestras of 40+ players (including our excellent youth and amateur players).

Estates Tours

Now into its 7th year, our Estates Tours project was more popular than ever. We delivered two orchestral tours of Lambeth's housing estates in July & December, completing 24 performances and visiting six new locations. As part of these tours we visited Jubilee Primary, Archbishop Sumners Primary, and Elms Academy to give performances which included pieces played alongside over 80 children – preceded by rehearsal workshops some weeks before. In 2024 we added a compere to present the show, helping the atmosphere to be even more welcoming and drive-up interaction and engagement. Summer tour performances were attended by 2008 people (44% growth from 2023) and Christmas tour performances were attended by 1409 (14% growth from 2023). The programmes were the usual eclectic mix of styles, including exploration into new areas such as Dancehall and the French baroque. The Christmas Tour included a new commission called Sepandarmazgan (Love's Day), an original piece of Persian music by Brixton-based composer Benham Khodarahmi. Another highlight was a Grime rap cypher over Mussorgsky's Baba Yaga. This project continues to further all our strategic aims, particularly to reach new audiences with orchestral music. We thank Arts Council England, Jerwood Foundation, Lambeth Council (Social Values Fund), Joanna Lumley, Edward Lewis Foundation, Thistle Trust, and Brixton Brewery for funding this project.

Spring Concert

We launched our season with a symphonic orchestral concert in the Brixton Recreation Centre indoor 3G football pitch on 16th March. Unlike most orchestras, the BCO does not often perform full symphonies, so preparing Cherubini's Symphony in D was a challenge we took up with relish. For concerts which demand a symphonic orchestra we call on talented local amateur players to join our young professionals. Falling on the St Patrick's Day weekend, and in acknowledgment of the substantial influence Irish immigration has had on South London, we offered a second half of orchestrated Irish folk music, featuring local fiddler legend Dermot Crehan as soloist. Irish dancers joined us for Riverdance in a riotous encore. We thank Brixton BID, Brixton Brewery, Christopher King, & Squire & Partners for funding this project.

Brixton Opera Gala

The demand for opera in Brixton continued to grow in 2024, with over 400 attending a performance in Myatt's Fields Park and about 200 attending in Lambeth Town Hall courtyard across the August bank holiday weekend. We again partnered with Pegasus Opera and Equip Event Services. Our 45-piece orchestra performed a varied operatic programme with five singers. Highlights included a series of excerpts from Gounod's Faust, Britten's Midsummer Night's Dream, and of course Offenbach's Can Can which, having also featured in the Summer Tour set, became the unrivalled track of the Summer. We thank Hagemann Rosenthal Associates for so generously supporting this project.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Brockwell Music Trail

The Music Trail is one of our most innovative formats. It entails scattering chamber groups across a defined area like a park, campus or high street, and inviting the public to seek them out, gather clues, and discover the secret location of a finale concert played by an orchestra formed of all the groups having come together. In Brockwell Park in May we delivered the largest version of this concept yet, with 10 groups spread over the whole park. Well over 600 people engaged with the event over the afternoon, and 420 attended the finale concert, which presented a 'magic garden' themed programme (excerpts from Swan Lake, Firebird, Midsummer Night's Dream (Britten & Mendelssohn), and Peer Gynt, the Dance of the Dryads and the Hansel & Gretel Overture). We thank The Foyle Foundation, The Marchus Trust, and Brockwell Live for giving grants to fund this project.

Schools' Side-by-side

One of our goals for 2024 was to increase our offer to schools. We were pleased to create a side-by-side project with two clusters of schools in Lambeth, in which 30 pupils around grade 3 level performed a programme alongside 20 BCO players. The music chosen was a challenge for the children, but after four focussed all-day rehearsals, supported with school-class and personal practice, their confidence and competence had clearly improved. The side-by-side format allows children to contribute to an overall sound which is well beyond their individual ability to create. When so few schools can assemble a functional orchestra, projects like this which bring pupils together from multiple schools are vital, as is offering the pupils a chance to make music which sounds genuinely impressive. This project is something we want to repeat annually, in order to keep more young people playing orchestral instruments throughout their teenage years. We thank the RKS Foundation for funding this project.

Lambeth Country Show: 50 Years of Music

Performing at popular local fixtures is a great chance to reach more local people, offer a huge platform to our talented local musicians, and key to embedding into local cultural life. We were delighted to be commissioned to create a special set for the festival's 50's birthday in 2024, which we called 50 years of Music. The set featured a song from every year from 1974 to 2024 – played in full, briefly quoted, and everything in between – over 90 minutes. This was, without a doubt, our largest live audience ever, estimated to be about 10,000 people. Our set presented a 33-piece orchestra and featured 10 impressive vocalists and 15 young dancers from Neon Performing Arts. Most of the songs were new to BCO, so we had to do a lot of arranging and orchestrating. To ensure good value for money, we reused many of these songs in the 2024 and 2025 estates tours.

Film Orchestrated: Halloween

We are lucky in Brixton to have an excellent cinema – the Ritzy – with an impressive theatrical screen. Thanks to Picture House for partnering with us again to deliver another Film Orchestrated, which again themed on Halloween in 2024, which marked 100 years since the release of the original Nosferatu film, and the release of the much-anticipated modern remake. We found a transcription of the original Hans Erdman score, which employs excellent use of classical pastiche and effective tension-building throughout. Our 15-piece ensemble performed Nosferatu, Disney's Skeleton Dance, and a newly commissioned short horror film by local film-makers Noah Kean & Alfred Wales, for which we improvised and workshopped a soundtrack. We were delighted to sell out the 350-seat Ritzy cinema, with excitement in the air as a long queue lining the whole block beforehand! Earlier that day we offered a child-friendly version of the show to primary-school children at Lambeth Schools, which also included a catchy 'trick or treating' sing-along number. We thank It's Music for their financial contribution to this project and providing the sing-along material for children. We also thank Brixton Brewery for their sponsorship.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Brazil meets Brixton

The BCO was approached by Brazilian cultural promoter Marta Viera, a Lambeth local, to perform at an international Portuguese language and culture festival at the Brazilian Embassy in November. Many South Americans, and Brazilians in particular, have moved to Lambeth in the last few years, so this was a good opportunity for us to reach out to another local community. Marta organised for three popular artists from Bahia to come over to the UK and connected us with another three already resident in London. As well as the performance at the Brazilian Embassy, we also had a Culture Night here in Brixton, with Brazilian music, food and dancing. We created an hour-long set of various Brazilian styles of music, with 15 BCO instrumentalists performing with six Brazilian musicians. Approximately 200 attended, along with the cultural attaché of the Brazilian embassy. We plan to use these arrangements and the performance practises we have learned across community performances in the coming years.

Effra Tavern Residency

One of the orchestra's favourite pubs in Brixton is the Effra Tavern, well-known for its live music. We delivered a residency of monthly chamber recitals in 2024 on Sunday evenings, fielding various chamber groups including our Street Band, String quartet and trio, wind quintet, brass quintet, jazz quintet, folk ensemble, and percussion ensemble. Our highly informal sets were interactive and accessible, and attended by the regular patrons of the pub – most of whom had never been to a chamber recital before.

Community Fairs

As a community-rooted organisation, it is important that we are available to that community to provide live music at their events, as well as producing our own. Professional live music is unaffordable for community event budgets, so in 2023 we created the Local & Live fund with our lead sponsor, Brixton Brewery, which subsidises the cost of our groups to perform at community events in Lambeth & Southwark by 50%. In 2024, we spent £5k subsidising 11 community events playing to approximately 1500 people.

BCO Extend

The orchestra and bands were hired for over 96 performances across the UK, with the resulting surplus forming a vital part of our core funding. In 2024 this included two residencies at London's Blues Kitchen venues, another London Marathon start line performance, nine Musical Bingo events, sets at The Oval cricket ground, and Grime and Disco Orchestrated bookings. Extend activity generated £23,987 surplus.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

A Summary of Achievements & Performance

The following achievements are organised in relation to our strategic aims.

Reach New Audiences

The Estates Tours project delivered well against this strategic aim in 2024, during which 3,400 people attended show. 20% of the audiences had not attended a live orchestral performance before. 50% didn't attend classical concerts. 93% of respondents said that coming to an estate show has made them more likely to listen to orchestral music in future.

Our 50 Years of Music show at Lambeth Country Show presented orchestra versions of 50 favourite songs to such a large audience that we achieved a huge impact locally.

In both the Brazil project and Spring Concert, we used music from a particular part of the world to reach a particular audience. There was a large Irish contingent at the Spring Concert who had come for the folk but equally enjoyed the symphony. Our Brazil project, whilst limited in size and impact, demonstrated our commitment to reaching and serving diverse local audiences, and piloted a method of bringing new types of music into our sets. We aim to develop ties with other groups in 2025/26, particularly Colombians and Cubans who have also arrived in Lambeth in large numbers.

The Effra Residency chamber recitals garnered small audiences of 25-50 people, but their reach was still high. It was clear that the vast majority were totally unfamiliar with the types of music we were performing, and they interacted with it exactly as they might a regular Effra jazz jam.

The Music Trail in Brockwell Park attracted many people who were primarily interested in the gamified format more than the orchestral music, but 500 still stood silently to listen to a 45-minute orchestral concert at the end.

Provide a Platform

With our new side-by-side project we were able to offer a platform for talented instrumentalists from local schools to play challenging orchestral music alongside young professionals. Most schools in Lambeth do not have enough instrumentalists to form a full orchestra, so by bringing children together from multiple schools we can introduce them to music and a type of performance which many do not have access to.

Our three youth players were offered a valuable training and performance platform across our entire programme, and two of them started undergraduate courses at London conservatoires. At six concerts we provided a platform for 15 excellent local amateur players to perform at a high standard.

Sometimes providing a platform is about making a space for well-established artists to perform in different settings. For example, Dermot Crehan is an internationally renowned Irish folk violinist and has lived in Brixton for 20 years. But it wasn't until we invited him to join us as a soloist in our Spring Concert that he had the opportunity to share his talents with the local community.

We also provided platforms for other types of performers and creatives. Emerging professional singers and rappers were given paid work and good exposure in our tours, at the Lambeth Country Show, and across Extend bookings (Grime & Disco Orchestrated, Blues Kitchen residencies, and more). The Brixton Opera Gala showcased five excellent global majority opera singers from Pegasus Opera to highly diverse audiences. We provided a platform for local filmmakers to share their talents in our Film Orchestrated project. Noah and Alfred are both staff at the Ritzy, so this was especially meaningful to them to see their film, performers with full orchestra, on the same screens that they load international blockbusters onto every day.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

But most of all, it is the platform we can provide to community members in our open mic sets at the end of Estates Tour shows which are most memorable for inspiring creativity and expressivity. The quality of these scratch performances from members of the audience continue to astound our audiences and the orchestra itself. Offered an informal and friendly setting, with the added draw of orchestral accompaniment, many residents (who may usually only sing at home) come out of their shells and are delighted to share their talent with their own community.

Innovate New Orchestral Experiences

The BCO continue to deliver orchestral music in innovative formats in 2024, most notably in the Brockwell Music Trail, which was well attended and piqued interest among families and young adults. We aim to hone and repeat this project in 2026. Our 50-years-of-music set placed an orchestra in a pop music space, bringing orchestral colours and impact to very familiar songs. While many orchestras play live soundtracks, our Film Orchestrated project brings this practise to Brixton for the first time (since the 1930's, at least!), and our newly commissioned films and scores mean the events offer novel experiences every time. Lastly, Brazil Meets Brixton piloted our idea of cultural nights themed on places in the world with large diasporas in Lambeth – something we would like to develop in the spirit of welcoming newcomers and community-integration.

Two of our most successful innovative projects over the last few years have been Grime & Disco Orchestrated. In 2024, these moved into our commercial strand – BCO Extend – and now are hired out, delivering surpluses back to cover the charity's core costs. This transition demonstrates how the BCO can turn musical innovation into commercial opportunities.

Embed in the Community

The BCO is well embedded in Brixton and Lambeth. In 2024 we started to see our events much better attended, with some becoming fully booked just days after release. A significant proportion of the Brixton public now know who we are and show interest in our work.

Being commissioned by Lambeth Country Show for their 50th birthday showed the council has confidence in our creativity and ability to deliver a high-quality large-scale show. Side by Side brought us into much closer contact with schools in the area. We developed our partnerships with Pegasus Opera, Brixton Recreation Centre, Ritzy Picturehouse, Lambeth Music Service, Lambeth Events, Neon Performing Arts, and The Effra Tavern. We struck up new relationships with two local dance schools and visited four new estates on our tours.

That the BCO is properly embedded in the community is not just to our benefit. 90% of estates tour respondents said the experience had made them more likely to attend more community events in general. Sharing thrilling live music with one's community is a bonding experience, promoting trust and understanding. In the medium-term, the BCO is keen to collect more data and produce some formal evaluation of the impact of our Estates Tours on communities since its inception in 2018.

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Structure, Governance and Management

The Board of Trustees sets the broad strategy for how the BCO will achieve its charitable objects. The Board determines financial and organisational priorities, which include scrutinising and approving all performance projects and spending plans. Trustees regularly offer their time and expertise to build and develop the organisation, including making recommendations as to the artistic direction of the BCO, and effecting the vital introductions which make these ideas possible.

The BCO continues to engage Matthew O'Keeffe as its director, who is responsible for the artistic and logistical leadership of the organisation. The director works with several contracted and freelance staff to deliver the strategy as set by the Board of Trustees. Staff remuneration is set as part of the annual budget. Trustees have looked at the rate of pay for similar posts with other new charities and consider this good value for money. The director is also the Data Protection Officer.

The Board is also responsible for identifying the risks faced by the charity. Risks are identified and assessed with controls established throughout the year. A formal review of the charity's risk management processes are undertaken on an annual basis. Risk is considered with respect to artistic reputation, financial sustainability and project delivery.

In more detail:

Artistic reputation

The BCO's success is built in part on the substance and quality of its performances. We take qualitative and quantitative feedback from audiences whenever possible, analysing the results and responding in future planning. We also regularly review which musicians we engage, and how much rehearsal time we should book with them.

Financial sustainability

Annual budgets are developed and presented to the Board for approval. An analysis of recent and upcoming spending is reported to the Board at each quarterly trustee meeting. As a charity which is very strongly reliant on achieving grants to support its work, we pay particularly close attention to our performance in applications for funding judged against the budget and plan contingency measures to deal with any shortfall.

Project delivery

Projects are planned to a timeline and checklist to ensure nothing is overlooked. Up-to-date information is stored on a shared drive to ensure all staff are working from the same details. Risks to the orchestra's instrumentalists and the public at events are managed through specific risk assessments carried out by project managers under the guidance of the director, with Board oversight).

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Nature of the Governing Document and constitution of the charity

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

The methods adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The trustees are nominated & appointed by the Board of Trustees. Information about trustee responsibilities are made available to all trustees in a shared drive. New guidance and information from the Commission is regularly circulated.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

Income for the year amounted to £470,221 (2023 £290,084), including performance fees £221,925 (2023 £120,556), grants £133,992 (2023 £95,405), sponsorship £19,200 (2023 £30,900), merchandise sales £2,872 (2023 £1,910), ticket sales £4,404 (2023 £3,444), donations £52,651 (2023 £31,031) and tax relief £35,177 (2023 £6,837).

Expenditure on Charitable Activities amounted to £282,084 (2023 £267,281), and Expenditure on the raising of funds was £175,119 (2023 £24,306). Net Profit of £13,078 (2023 net loss was £1,503), with a total of £44,096 (2023 £31,078) carried forward into 2025.

All project proposals are judged against our strategic aims before being signed off by trustees, to ensure that resources are directed appropriately. The Trustees have considered the financial position of the charity, reviewed plans for the year 2025 and have concluded that Brixton Chamber Orchestra can continue to trade viably for the next twelve months from the date of signature of these accounts.

Fundraising

As a charity, BCO is reliant on fundraising to enable us to achieve our charitable outcomes. Trustees review the delivery of our fundraising targets against budget at each quarterly Board meeting. Trustees pay close attention to ensure that the costs of our fundraising are accurately explained and managed. Trustees would like to express their thanks to all our funders in 2024.

Trusts & Foundations: Arts Council England, The Jerwood Foundation, Lambeth Council Social Values Fund, The Edward Lewis Foundation, The Thistle Trust, The Foyle Foundation, The Marchus Trust, The RKS Foundation.

Sponsors: Brixton Brewery, Hagemann Rosenthal Associates, It's Music, Brixton BID, Brockwell Live, Squire & Partners

Donors: Joanna Lumley, Tom Holland, Christopher & Charlotte King, several anonymous donors, and all our BCO Supporters!

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Plans for Future Periods

The BCO will maintain the strategic aims outlined above and add a fifth aim of ***Extend*** – Extend our brand and musical offering via a broad range of commercial settings deploying versatile and creative ensembles, providing a range of new creative opportunities for our professional musicians and generating additional income to support delivery of our charitable objectives. We plan to create a trading subsidiary company to house this commercial activity.

We aim to deliver two estates tours, our opera gala, a Spring concert, Music Trail, and Side-by-Side. In the management team, we aim to hire an orchestral manager and a learning co-ordinator to execute more ambitious projects, with larger reach and impact.

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Charity during the year ended 31st December 2024 were:

H Little
Dr Y Fitzpatrick
G Glennon
H Warner
M Schumann

The trustees are all members of the charity.

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Charity at the date the report and accounts were approved were:

H Little
G Glennon
H Warner
M Schumann

Independent Examiner

William Mantz
Chartered Accountant ICAEW
90 Brixton Hill
Brixton
London
SW2 1QN

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act requires the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 27 October 2025.



Hester Warner
Trustee

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the charity

Report of the Independent Examiner to the trustees
on the accounts of the Charity for the year end 31 December 2024

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brixton Chamber Orchestra (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

Respective responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement, report and opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, in connection with my examination, I can confirm that this is a report in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Act and in accordance with any directions given by the Commission under subsection (5)(b) of that section which are applicable, no matter has come to my attention in connection with my examination which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

(i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act;

(ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and;

(iii) that the financial statements be prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met;

William Mantz
Chartered Accountant ICAEW
90 Brixton Hill
Brixton
London
SW2 1QN

The date upon which my opinion is expressed is:
27 October 2025

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year Total Funds
Notes	2024 £	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £
Incoming resources				
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>				
Voluntary Income	52,651	-	52,651	31,031
Activities for generating funds	257,635	-	257,635	28,587
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>	34,021	125,914	159,935	230,466
Total incoming resources	344,307	125,914	470,221	290,084
<i>Costs of generating funds</i>				
Fundraising trading - costs of raising charitable funds	64,103	125,914	190,017	24,306
<i>Costs of charitable activities</i>	267,186	-	267,186	267,281
Total resources expended	331,289	125,914	457,203	291,587
Net incoming resources/(net outgoing resources) before transfers between funds	13,018	-	13,018	(1,503)
Gross transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
Net incoming resources/(net outgoing resources) before Other recognised gains and losses	13,018	-	13,018	(1,503)
Other recognised gains and losses	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	13,018	-	13,018	(1,503)
Reconciliation of funds				
<i>Total funds brought forward</i>	31,078	-	31,078	32,581
Total Funds carried forward	44,096	-	44,096	31,078

The net movement in funds referred to above is the net incoming resources as defined in the SORP and is reconciled to the total funds as shown in the Balance Sheet on page 11 as required by the SORP.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover	2	470,221	290,084
Direct costs of turnover		457,203	291,587
Gross surplus/(deficit)		<u>13,018</u>	<u>(1,503)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) on ordinary activities before tax		<u>13,018</u>	<u>(1,503)</u>
Surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		<u>13,018</u>	<u>(1,503)</u>
Gift Aid Payments		-	-
Retained surplus/(deficit) for the financial year		<u>13,018</u>	<u>(1,503)</u>

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	2024	2023
Excess of Expenditure over income before realisation of assets	13,018	(1,503)
Loss per Profit and Loss account	13,018	(1,503)
Grants for the acquisition of fixed assets	-	-
Net Movement in funds before taxation	13,018	(1,503)

Movements in revenue and capital funds
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£
Accumulated funds brought forward	31,078	-	31,078	32,581
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	13,018	-	13,018	(1,503)
	44,096	-	44,096	31,078
Closing revenue accumulated funds	44,096	-	44,096	31,078

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year Total Funds
	2024	2024	2024	2023
Revenue accumulated funds	44,096	-	44,096	31,078

The statement of changes in resources applied for fixed assets for Charity use is shown in the notes to the accounts.

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
The assets and liabilities of the charity :			
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	5	11,957	5,954
Tangible assets	6	1,392	2,259
Total fixed assets		13,349	8,213
Current assets			
Stocks & Work in progress		310	1,126
Debtors	7	88,368	63,671
Cash at bank and in hand		34,599	4,236
Total current assets		123,277	69,033
Creditors: amounts due within one year	8	(92,530)	(46,168)
Net current assets		30,747	22,865
Total assets less current liabilities		44,096	31,078
Creditors: amounts due after more than one year		-	-
Net assets including pension asset / liability		44,096	31,078
The funds of the charity :			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		44,096	31,078
Total unrestricted funds		44,096	31,078
Restricted income funds			
Total restricted funds		-	-
Total charity funds		44,096	31,078

Hester Warner
Trustee
Approved by the board of trustees on 27 October 2025

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The particular accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of freehold land and buildings and fixed asset investments.

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Recognition of liabilities

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles, modified where necessary in accordance with the guidance given in the SORP.

Stocks and work in progress

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is determined using the first in first out method. The carrying amount of stock sold is recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised.

Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative amortisation and any accumulative impairment losses.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

Fixed assets and depreciation

All tangible fixed assets, except freehold land and buildings, are stated at cost less depreciation. Freehold land and buildings are stated at a valuation arrived at by a professionally qualified firm of valuers, who valued the assets on the basis of open market value in current use.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets (less their estimated residual value) over their estimated useful economic lives.

Fixtures & Equipment 25% straight line

Taxation

As a registered charity, the organisation is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Funds structure policy

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

Revenue Turnover from ordinary activities	470,221	290,084
--	---------	---------

and after charging:

Depreciation of owned fixed assets	867	867
Rentals under operating leases	3,070	2,254
Amortisation of goodwill	4,648	1,985
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,650	1,435
	459,986	283,543

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

3 Deferred Incoming Resources & Reserves - Unrestricted funds

	Opening Deferrals	Released from prior years	Received less released in year	Deferred at year end
	£	£	£	£
Postcode Society	-	-	20,800	20,800
Q Charitable Trust	-	-	22,360	22,360
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>43,160</u>	<u>43,160</u>
			2024	2023
			£	£
These deferrals are included in creditors			<u>43,160</u>	<u>-</u>

4 Staff Costs and Emoluments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	45,545	29,314

5 Intangible fixed assets

	£
Music Produced:	
Cost	
At 1 January 2024	7,939
Additions	<u>10,651</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>18,590</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 January 2024	1,985
Provided during the year	<u>4,648</u>
At 31 December 2024	<u>6,633</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2024	<u>11,957</u>
At 31 December 2023	<u>5,954</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

6 Tangible functional fixed assets

	Fixtures and Fittings £
Asset cost, valuation or revalued amount	
At 1 January 2024	3,439
At 31 December 2024	<u>3,439</u>
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2024	1,180
Surplus on revaluation	-
Charge for the year	867
At 31 December 2024	<u>2,047</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2024	1,392
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,259</u>

7 Debtors	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	21,665	11,104
Prepayments	11,146	14,850
Other Debtors	-	59
Advance	55,557	35,953
VAT	-	1,705
	<u>88,368</u>	<u>63,671</u>
8 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	13,504	21,194
Accrued expenses	26,100	24,974
VAT	9,766	-
Deferred income and grants in advance	43,160	-
	<u>92,530</u>	<u>46,168</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2024

8 Analysis of the Net Movement in Funds	2024	2023
	£	£
Net movement in funds from Statement of Financial Activities	13,018	(1,503)

The net resources applied on functional fixed assets and the net investment in programme related investments represents the cost of additions less proceeds of any disposals.

9 Particulars of Individual Funds and analysis of assets and liabilities representing funds				
At 31 December 2024	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Intangible Assets	11,957	-	-	11,957
Tangible Fixed Assets	1,392	-	-	1,392
Current Assets	123,277	-	-	123,277
Current Liabilities	(92,530)	-	-	(92,530)
	<u>44,096</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,096</u>
At 1 January 2024	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£
Intangible Assets	5,954	-	-	5,954
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,259	-	-	2,259
Current Assets	69,033	-	-	69,033
Current Liabilities	(46,168)	-	-	(46,168)
	<u>31,078</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,078</u>

Analysis of movements in funds as shown in the table above

	Funds at 2023	Movements in Funds as below	Transfers Between funds	Funds at 2024
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	31,078	13,018	-	44,096
	<u>31,078</u>	<u>13,018</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>44,096</u>
	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	344,307	331,289	-	13,018
Restricted funds	125,914	125,914	-	-
	<u>470,221</u>	<u>457,203</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,018</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2023 £
Gifts in kind, donated services and facilities				
Donations	52,651	-	52,651	31,031
Total Gifts in kind, donated services and facilities	52,651	-	52,651	31,031
Activities for generating funds				
Performance fees	212,975	-	212,975	13,400
Tax relief	35,177	-	35,177	6,837
Project grants	8,078	-	8,078	2,000
Sponsorship income	-	-	-	6,350
Merchandise and Ticket sales	1,405	-	1,405	-
Total of activities for generating funds	257,635	-	257,635	28,587
Incoming resources from charitable activities				
Sponsorship income	19,200	-	19,200	24,550
Performance fees	8,950	-	8,950	107,156
Grants for provision of charitable goods and services	-	125,914	125,914	93,405
Merchandise and Ticket sales	5,871	-	5,871	5,355
Charitable activities	34,021	125,914	159,935	230,466
Total Incoming Resources	344,307	125,914	470,221	290,084
Fundraising Trading				
<i>Fundraising Trading: Cost of raising charitable funds</i>				
Merchandise costs	2,573	-	2,573	790
Musican's fees	56,122	121,201	177,323	22,452
Rehersal space	184	-	184	190
Management costs	3,170	-	3,170	800
Other delivery costs	2,054	-	2,054	74
Event fees	-	665	665	-
Equipment hire	-	4,048	4,048	-
	64,103	125,914	190,017	24,306
Total Fundraising Trading costs	64,103	125,914	190,017	24,306
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives				
Wages	14,211	-	14,211	12,437
Musican's fees	138,604	-	138,604	175,175
Other delivery costs	4,732	-	4,732	5,192
Event fees	7,146	-	7,146	5,860
Equipment hire	2,758	-	2,758	3,060
Rehersal space	2,908	-	2,908	2,092
Music licences	332	-	332	125
Merchandise costs	2,115	-	2,115	1,316
Sundries	2,313	-	2,313	4,118
	175,119	-	175,119	209,375

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Prior Period Total Funds 2023 £
Management and administration costs in support of charitable activities				
Staff costs in support of charitable activities				
Salaries - Director	20,170	-	20,170	13,348
Salaries - Administrative and marketing staff	25,375	-	25,375	15,966
Musician's fees	-	-	-	-
	45,545	-	45,545	29,314
Indirect employee costs				
Travel and subsistence	602	-	602	185
Entertaining	400	-	400	-
Recruitment expenses	-	-	-	751
Training and welfare	65	-	65	-
	1,067	-	1,067	936
Premises Costs				
Rent payable	3,070	-	3,070	2,254
Insurance	157	-	157	157
Premises repairs and renewals	256	-	256	-
	3,483	-	3,483	2,411
General administrative expenses:				
Postage	33	-	33	17
Stationery and printing	272	-	272	849
Subscriptions	509	-	509	22
Equipment expenses	429	-	429	-
Office Expenses	57	-	57	25
Advertising and PR	22,630	-	22,630	14,275
Bank charges	484	-	484	218
	24,414	-	24,414	15,406
Professional fees in support of charitable activities				
Accountancy fees other than examiners/auditors	10,343	-	10,343	6,987
Consultancy fees	1,500	-	1,500	-
Legal fees	200	-	200	-
	12,043	-	12,043	6,987
Other support costs				
Amortisation of intangible & historic assets	4,648	-	4,648	1,985
Depreciation fixtures and fittings	867	-	867	867
	5,515	-	5,515	2,852
Total Support costs	92,067	-	92,067	57,906
 Total Expended on Charitable Activities	 267,186	 -	 267,186	 267,281
The basis for the allocation of costs as shown above is explained in the accounting policies and the notes to the accounts.				
 Net Outgoing Resources	 13,018	 -	 13,018	 (1,503)

BRIXTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1181169

Accounts

Registered Charity Number
1181169

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
For The Year Ended 31 December 2023

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report and accounts
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Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Introduction

The trustees present their annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Name, registered office and constitution of the charity

The name of the charity is Brixton Chamber Orchestra (BCO).

The charity was successfully registered with the Charities Commission on the 14th of December 2018 under the registration number of 1181169.

The legal registration details are:

Date of formation	14/12/2018
The Principal Office is	157 Shakespeare Road, Lambeth, SE24 0PY
Charity Registration Number	1181169
The telephone number is	07495074286

A summary of the objects of the charity as set out in its governing document

The charitable objectives of the Brixton Chamber Orchestra are to advance the art of music for the public benefit, and to promote, sustain, and increase individual and collective knowledge of music, by providing public concerts and such other ways as the organisation, through its board of trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Public benefit that is provided by the charity

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra's work benefits the general public through sustaining, promoting & developing the art of live music in public and private performances.

The charity's trustees have referred to the guidance 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, they have considered how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The trustees have considered the charity's public benefit and concluded:

1. That the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
2. That the aims and the work done give identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both indirectly and directly to individuals in need;
3. That the benefits are for the public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by ability to pay;
4. That there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

An explanation of the charity's main objectives for the year

Summary of the main objectives and activities of the charity during the year:

In 2023 the BCO worked towards the following strategic aims: to reach new audiences with live orchestral performances; to provide a training and performance platform for local musicians; to innovate new orchestral experiences in less traditional environments; and to embed in the local community as Brixton's own orchestra. In addition to these, we also delivered educational activities for children. We delivered nine charitable projects and performed at 20 community events.

UMOJA, April

We were invited to take part in Brixton BID's Brixton Performs Festival. We wanted to develop a new piece for children featuring our street band, and commissioned local poet, story-teller and song-writer Floetic Lara to create it. The result was a wonderfully colourful and interactive piece called UMOJA, which explores themes of cultural diversity, listening, discord Vs harmony, and the development of skills through practice. In this theatrical work, the 7 members of our street band were also characters in the action, with lines to deliver. We performed this piece to 40 children aged 5-8 in POP Brixton, and look forward to performing it again.

Coronation Carnival, May

After the success of our Platinum Jubilee roadshow, we decided to go bigger and better for Charles III's Coronation weekend. Our Street Band played at 8 street parties and 2 parades in Lambeth between 6 - 8 May 2023. We estimate 1000 people were impacted locally by the live experience, and over 3000 impacted online through live streams. In true Carnival spirit we engaged Sunshine international Arts from Brixton, a Carnival Mas company, to add three costumed masquerades to our company. We were also joined by dancers from Neon Performing Arts, and some rather unique comedy floats courtesy of the Bureau of Silly ideas. Our Street Band played festival and carnival music, and also some British patriotic songs which we gave the Brixton treatment to great effect for our local community.

London Marathon, April

It was a pleasure to be invited to perform at the start line of the London Marathon. The unique logistical challenge of the day – to hold an orchestral performance in the middle of a road, and to completely clear the space within 30 seconds of the final note – is one which few orchestras would attempt. The outcome was an energetic and well-received 10-minute orchestral set, most of which was broadcast and highlighted on BBC 1.

Disco Orchestrated, May & December

2023 was a good year for our Disco Orchestrated project, in which we recreate the colourful and intricate dance music of the 70s and 80s with a 20-piece orchestra and 4 vocalists. We played at the South London Soul Train in O'Meara, to 500 people. We were also the headline act at Peckham Levels for their New Year's Eve party, where we played to an audience of over 800 people.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Brixton Re:Created, June

Brixton was one of the London Festival of Architecture's *Destinations* in 2023, with many installations and events taking place in the neighbourhood. We wanted to situate an orchestral concert in an architecturally interesting space in Brixton which had no history of performance. We found the perfect space in the concourse of the Brixton Recreation Centre. In June, we assembled a 35-piece chamber orchestra to play a programme of symphonic movements by composers spanning 100 years of symphonic writing, from Eichner to Brahms. The performance was dedicated to eminent local architect Michael Squire who sadly had recently passed away. Michael was a long-time supporter of the BCO and had also sponsored the concert through Squire & Partners architects' firm. Over 120 people came to watch the concert.

Opera Galas, August

Our opera gala back in 2022 gathered larger audiences than we had expected, so we were keen to keep developing the idea. We invited Pegasus Opera to collaborate by providing the singers. Pegasus is an opera company and talent agency for black singers, and has been based in Brixton since forming in 1992. Two performances were given 12th and 13th August, first in Trinity Gardens, and then in Ruskin Park. We were delighted to find that the bandstand in Ruskin park is in fact large enough to hold a 40-piece orchestra and singers. The concert was amplified by our partners Equip Event Services. Over 650 attended overall. The orchestra performed a varied operatic programme with a special focus on music from Eastern Europe.

Film Orchestrated: Silent Slapsticks, November

Delivered in partnership with Ritzy Picturehouse, this was our most technically and artistically ambitious project of 2023. After a successful debut in 2022 with Dreyer's *Die Vampyr* on Halloween, we pivoted to silent comedy. We focused on films made in the 1910's and 1920's, screening some with their original scores, some with new commissions, and others with soundtracks improvised by the orchestra. We were joined by stand-up comedian Darren Griffiths who deftly compered the evening. Our aim was to create a unique artistic experience, introducing people to classical film which they may not be familiar with, demonstrating the important role music plays in film, and contributing to Brixton's status as a diverse cultural centre. On 2nd November we gave a public evening performance for 240, and a schools' matinee for 262 children.

Estates Tours, July & December

We delivered our flagship orchestral tours of Lambeth's housing estates in July & December, completing 24 performances and visiting six new locations. A major addition in 2023 were participatory performances in schools, preceded by workshop-rehearsals 2 weeks before. We visited Evelyn Grace Academy in Brixton & Christ Church Primary School in Streatham, performing with 30 secondary and 50 primary pupils. Summer tour performances were attended by 1394 people, and Christmas tour performances were attended by 1248. This project is designed to further all our strategic aims, particularly to reach new audiences with orchestral music.

Community Fairs

As well as delivering our own projects, we are available for community events organised by other organisations. With our partner Brixton Brewery we renewed our community fund which subsidises the cost of small bands of BCO musicians performing at local community events by 50%. We played at 20 community events in 2023, 11 of which were subsidised.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

BCO Extend

The orchestra and groups of musicians from it were hired for over 50 performances across London and further afield, and the profit we made went toward funding our overhead costs. In 2023 this included providing a Christmas brass and percussion band for Hyde Park's Winter Wonderland. We had 34 extend bookings which generated nearly £16,000 profit.

Details of achievements and performances for the year

In 2023, the BCO gave 112 performances to combined audiences of over 10,000 people. The following achievements are organised in relation to our strategic aims.

To reach new audiences

Our flagship estates tours project continues to enjoy increasing local support. Our unique method of bringing orchestral music to people's doorsteps reaches thousands of residents, the vast majority of whom are not regular classical concert-goers. Inclusion of rap and pop genres alongside classical music continues to attract and engage audiences who do not consider themselves classical music fans, but who report that they enjoy the programme in its entirety. In 2023, feedback tells us that an average of 20% of our audiences had never seen an orchestra perform live before – up from 10% in 2022. Hard to reach audiences are often only reachable through word of mouth, so we are pleased that 99% of our audience would recommend the BCO to friends and family.

Our ambition to hold performances in unusual spaces continues to be successful in reaching new audiences. Many people report to have stumbled across our events and are delighted to discover them. Many people are keen to mention that they don't usually listen to classical music, but that they had enjoyed this in particular – a tendency summed up in the below quotation from someone at Brixton Re:Created:

"Amazing and so unexpected. Didn't know it was happening! I left the gym at the Rec and stayed for the whole thing. What a brilliant idea to bring music into different places in Brixton and an ingenious use of the space. I don't normally listen to chamber music, but this was fab and an event that (as a local) I could see brought a diverse group of people together --More please! And thank you!"

Here is some more feedback:

"A good way to introduce kids to orchestral music –so inclusive".

"This was the most joyous live music I have been to in years!"

"A Polka... have not heard one performed live since I was a teenager"

"Magic!! Never listened to classical music so this is an education a joy and a total pleasure. More concerts in Brixton please. It's wonderful that you are here for us in Brixton."

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

To provide a platform

In 2023 we welcomed 3 youth players in the orchestra who played with us in most performances and were given on-the-job training. We are developing a valuable platform for young people to develop orchestral skills.

Through our estates tours we continue to provide a platform for emerging singers and rappers to gain exposure and experience. We welcomed rappers Krxze & Saiming into the orchestra, performing their original songs and developing covers together. In Summer, we collaborated with Brixton's Artist Development Programme. Six training vocalists aged 18-25 were given the opportunity to perform a cover with the orchestra, and some have been hired by us subsequently. This demonstrates BCO's ability to act as a pathway to careers in music.

Through open mic sessions at the end of each tour performance we also gave a platform for dozens of resident musicians to perform to their own communities, gaining confidence and assurance from the orchestral backing. These sessions are growing in popularity as word-of-mouth spreads between local musicians.

In 2023 we gave three concerts with full-sized classical orchestra, for which we invited talented amateurs to join our young professional players. These performances provided them with a platform to share their skill with their local community, while playing varied and challenging repertoire to a high standard.

To innovate new orchestral experiences

The BCO is building a reputation for innovating fresh orchestral experiences and formats. Film Orchestrated: Silent Slapsticks was a truly unique event, combining stand-up with slapstick, classical film, new commissions of film and music, live improvisation, theatre, and archival research. With Disco Orchestrated, we put a 20-piece orchestra in front of 1200 young people in nightclubs, bringing the intricately orchestrated dance music of the 70s and 80s to life in all its colourful glory.

At Brixton Re:Created, we turned a liminal, and unloved space associated with antisocial behaviour into an auditorium for the community to enjoy orchestral music. Our appearance at the London Marathon was innovative in that an orchestra has never attempted it before, due to the logistical challenges. But our willingness to embrace of the challenges of delivering orchestral music out in the world means that we can provide performances in novel situations.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

To embed in the community

The BCO is becoming well embedded in Brixton and wider South London. New collaborations with local partner organisations like Bureau of Silly ideas, St Matthew's Church, Brixton Recreation Centre, POP Brixton, Brockwell Bounce, Effra Tavern, Pegasus Opera, Neon Performing Arts, and The Effra Tavern, as well as renewed collaboration with many others, have helped us to cement ourselves as the Brixton's own orchestra.

As well as embedding within the wider Brixton community, we also aim to benefit it with our work. More than three quarters of the community residents at estates tours in 2023 said they were inspired to attend more arts and cultural events in their neighbourhood. Half said they would be more likely to attend community events in their neighbourhood.

Here are some quotes from audience-members in this year.

"New to area, never seen so many people out in the community –best day of the summer so far!"

"Huge thank you –such a fantastic way to bring the community together and from all generations!"

"One of the best events I've been to. Amazing for the community. Thank you!"

"Such a brilliant idea to bring your music to community spaces. Thank you!"

"We love Brixton Chamber Orchestra, it was such an honour you came to play our street party"

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Structure, Governance and Management

The Board of Trustees sets the broad strategy for how the BCO will achieve its charitable objects. The Board determines financial and organisational priorities, which include scrutinising and approving all performance projects and spending plans. Trustees regularly offer their time and expertise to build and develop the organisation, including making recommendations as to the artistic direction of the BCO, and effecting the vital introductions which make these ideas possible.

The BCO continues to engage Matthew O'Keeffe as its director, who is responsible for the artistic and logistical leadership of the organisation. The director works with several contracted and freelance staff to deliver the strategy as set by the Board of Trustees. Staff remuneration is set as part of the annual budget. Trustees have looked at the rate of pay for similar posts with other new charities and consider this good value for money. The director is also the Data Protection Officer.

The Board is also responsible for identifying the risks faced by the charity. Risks are identified and assessed with controls established throughout the year. The charity's risk management processes are reviewed annually. Risk is considered with respect to artistic reputation, financial sustainability and project delivery.

In more detail:

Artistic reputation

The BCO's success is built in part on the substance and quality of its performances. We take qualitative and quantitative feedback from audiences whenever possible, analysing the results and responding in future planning. We also regularly review which musicians we engage, and how much rehearsal time we should book with them.

Financial sustainability

Annual budgets are developed and presented to the Board for approval. An analysis of recent and upcoming spending is reported to the Board at each quarterly trustee meeting. As a charity which is very strongly reliant on achieving grants to support its work, we pay particularly close attention to our performance in applications for funding judged against the budget and plan contingency measures to deal with any shortfall.

Project delivery

Projects are planned to a timeline and checklist to ensure nothing is overlooked. Up-to-date information is stored on a shared drive to ensure all staff are working from the same details. Risks to the orchestra's instrumentalists and the public at events are managed through specific risk assessments carried out by project managers under the guidance of the director, with Board oversight).

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Nature of the Governing Document and constitution of the charity

The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

The methods adopted for the recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The trustees are nominated & appointed by the Board of Trustees. Information about trustee responsibilities are made available to all trustees in a shared drive. New guidance and information from the Commission is regularly circulated.

Financial Review

Transactions and Financial position

Income for the year amounted to £290,084 (2022 £189,631), including performance fees £120,556 (2022 £40,105), grants £95,405 (2022 £70,584), sponsorship £30,900 (2021 £20,969), merchandise sales £1,910 (2022 £0), ticket sales £3,444 (2022 £0), donations £31,031 (2022 £27,533) and tax relief £6,837 (2022 £0).

Expenditure on Charitable Activities amounted to £267,281 (2022 £153,278), and Expenditure on the raising of funds was £24,306 (2022 £21,594). Net loss was £1,503 (2022 net surplus £14,759), with a total of £31,078 (2022 £32,581) carried forward into 2024.

All project proposals are judged against our strategic aims before being signed off by trustees, to ensure that resources are directed appropriately. The Trustees have considered the financial position of the charity, reviewed plans for the year 2024 and have concluded that Brixton Chamber Orchestra can continue to trade viably for the next twelve months from the date of signature of these accounts.

Fundraising

As a charity, BCO is reliant on fundraising to enable us to achieve our charitable outcomes. Trustees review the delivery of our fundraising targets against budget at each quarterly Board meeting. Trustees pay close attention to ensure that the costs of our fundraising are accurately explained and managed. Trustees would like to express their thanks to all our funders in 2023.

- Lambeth Council's Social Values Fund, toward Coronation Carnival.
- The Backstage Trust, toward Film Orchestrated.
- The Thriplow Charitable Trust, toward the Opera Galas.
- Active Lambeth for Brixton Re:Created.
- The Maria Bjornson Memorial Fund, The Jerwood Foundation and Arts Council England, toward Estates Tours.
- Brixton Brewery, for support right across our programme.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Plans for Future Periods

The BCO will maintain the strategic aims outlined above, with the additional aim to provide educational experiences for local children. We will develop our educational work with more workshops in schools and a multi-school side-by-side orchestral project. We will deliver a large-scale Music Trail in Brockwell Park, a symphonic concert in Brixton Performs Festival, the Brixton Opera Galas, Disco & Grime Orchestrated performances, another Film Orchestrated project, and of course two estates tours.

We will continue to grow BCO Extend, our commercial arm, to bring in funds to run our organisation. In addition, we will focus on raising core funding to support and grow the management team.

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Charity during the year ended 31st December 2023 were:

H Little
Dr Y Fitzpatrick
G Glennon
H Warner
M Schumann

The trustees are all members of the charity.

The members of the Board of Trustees of the Charity at the date the report and accounts were approved were:

H Little
G Glennon
H Warner
M Schumann

Independent Examiner

William Mantz
Chartered Accountant ICAEW
90 Brixton Hill
Brixton
London
SW2 1QN

The report of the trustees for the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Charities Act requires the Board of Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity as at the end of the financial year and of the surplus or deficit of the charity. In preparing those financial statements the Board is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in business.
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;

The Trustees are also responsible for maintaining adequate accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and which are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with regulations made under the Charities Act. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees' report, and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

This report was approved by the board of trustees on 30th October 2024.

Hester Warner

Chair of Trustees

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of the charity

Report of the Independent Examiner to the trustees
on the accounts of the Charity for the year end 31 December 2023

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brixton Chamber Orchestra (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Respective responsibilities and basis of report

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

Independent Examiner's Statement, report and opinion

Subject to the limitations upon the scope of my work as detailed above, in connection with my examination, I can confirm that this is a report in respect of an examination carried out under section 145 of the Act and in accordance with any directions given by the Commission under subsection (5)(b) of that section which are applicable, no matter has come to my attention in connection with my examination which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements

- (i) to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act;
- (ii) to prepare financial statements which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act and;
- (iii) that the financial statements be prepared in accordance with the methods and principles set out in the Statement of Recommended Practice - Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met;

William Mantz
Chartered Accountant ICAEW
90 Brixton Hill
Brixton
London
SW2 1QN

The date upon which my opinion is expressed is:
23 October 2024

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year Total Funds
Notes	2023 £	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £
Incoming resources				
<i>Incoming resources from generated funds</i>				
Voluntary Income	31,031	-	31,031	54,973
Activities for generating funds	28,587	-	28,587	-
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>	230,466	-	230,466	134,658
Total incoming resources	290,084	-	290,084	189,631
<i>Costs of generating funds</i>				
Fundraising trading - costs of raising charitable funds	24,306	-	24,306	21,594
<i>Costs of charitable activities</i>	249,023	18,258	267,281	153,278
Total resources expended	273,329	18,258	291,587	174,872
(Net outgoing resources)/net incoming resources before transfers between funds	16,755	(18,258)	(1,503)	14,759
Gross transfers between funds	-	-	-	-
(Net outgoing resources)/net incoming resources before Other recognised gains and losses	16,755	(18,258)	(1,503)	14,759
Other recognised gains and losses	-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds	16,755	(18,258)	(1,503)	14,759
Reconciliation of funds				
<i>Total funds brought forward</i>	14,323	18,258	32,581	17,822
Total Funds carried forward	31,078	-	31,078	32,581

The net movement in funds referred to above is the net incoming resources as defined in the SORP and is reconciled to the total funds as shown in the Balance Sheet on page 11 as required by the SORP.

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

Income and Expenditure Account
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Turnover	2	290,084	189,631
Direct costs of turnover		291,587	174,872
Gross (deficit)/surplus		<u>(1,503)</u>	<u>14,759</u>
(Deficit)/surplus on ordinary activities before tax		<u>(1,503)</u>	<u>14,759</u>
(Deficit)/surplus for the financial year		<u>(1,503)</u>	<u>14,759</u>
Gift Aid Payments		-	-
Retained (deficit)/surplus for the financial year		<u>(1,503)</u>	<u>14,759</u>

All activities derive from continuing operations

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023	2022
Excess of Expenditure over income before realisation of assets	(1,503)	14,759
Profit per Profit and Loss account	(1,503)	14,759
Grants for the acquisition of fixed assets	-	-
Net Movement in funds before taxation	(1,503)	14,759

Movements in revenue and capital funds
for the year ended 31 December 2023

Revenue accumulated funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Accumulated funds brought forward	14,323	-	14,323	17,822
Recognised gains and losses before transfers	16,755	(18,258)	(1,503)	14,759
	31,078	(18,258)	12,820	32,581
Closing revenue accumulated funds	31,078	(18,258)	12,820	32,581

Summary of funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Last Year Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
Revenue accumulated funds	31,078	(18,258)	12,820	32,581

The statement of changes in resources applied for fixed assets for Charity use is shown in the notes to the accounts.

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Balance Sheet
as at 31 December 2023

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
The assets and liabilities of the charity :			
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	4	5,954	-
Tangible assets	5	2,259	343
Total fixed assets		<u>8,213</u>	<u>343</u>
Current assets			
Stocks & Work in progress		1,126	-
Debtors	6	63,671	54,413
Cash at bank and in hand		4,236	18,258
Total current assets		<u>69,033</u>	<u>72,671</u>
Creditors: amounts due within one year	6	(46,168)	(40,433)
Net current assets		<u>22,865</u>	<u>32,238</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>31,078</u>	<u>32,581</u>
Creditors:			
amounts due after more than one year		-	-
Net assets including pension asset / liability		<u>31,078</u>	<u>32,581</u>
The funds of the charity :			
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted revenue accumulated funds		31,078	14,323
Total unrestricted funds		<u>31,078</u>	<u>14,323</u>
Restricted income funds			
Restricted revenue accumulated funds		-	18,258
Total restricted funds		<u>-</u>	<u>18,258</u>
Total charity funds		<u>31,078</u>	<u>32,581</u>

Hester Warner
Trustee
Approved by the board of trustees on 23 October 2024

The notes on pages 16 to 20 form an integral part of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

1 Accounting policies

Basis of preparation of the accounts

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The particular accounting policies adopted are set out below.

Accounting convention

The financial statements are prepared, on a going concern basis, under the historical cost convention as modified by the revaluation of freehold land and buildings and fixed asset investments.

Incoming Resources

Incoming resources are accounted for on a receivable basis.

Recognition of liabilities

Liabilities are recognised on the accruals basis in accordance with normal accounting principles, modified where necessary in accordance with the guidance given in the SORP.

Stocks and work in progress

Stocks are measured at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell. Cost is determined using the first in first out method. The carrying amount of stock sold is recognised as an expense in the period in which the related revenue is recognised.

Intangible fixed assets

Intangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative amortisation and any accumulative impairment losses.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

Fixed assets and depreciation

All tangible fixed assets, except freehold land and buildings, are stated at cost less depreciation. Freehold land and buildings are stated at a valuation arrived at by a professionally qualified firm of valuers, who valued the assets on the basis of open market value in current use.

Depreciation has been provided at the following rates in order to write off the assets (less their estimated residual value) over their estimated useful economic lives.

Fixtures & Equipment 25% straight line

Taxation

As a registered charity, the organisation is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity, and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Funds structure policy

The charity maintains a general unrestricted fund which represents funds which are expendable at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the objects of the charity. Such funds may be held in order to finance both working capital and capital investment.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2 Winding up or dissolution of the charity

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

Revenue Turnover from ordinary activities	290,084	189,631
and after charging:		
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	867	60
Rentals under operating leases	2,254	-
Amortisation of goodwill	1,985	-
Independent Examiner's Fees	1,600	1,435

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

3 Staff Costs and Emoluments	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	29,314	4,533
Numbers of full time employees or full time equivalents	2023	2022
Artistic director and CEO	1	1
Marketing Manager	1	1
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000 There were no fees or other remuneration paid to the trustees		
4 Intangible fixed assets	£	
Music Produced:		
Cost		
Additions	<u>7,939</u>	
At 31 December 2023	<u>7,939</u>	
Amortisation		
Provided during the year	<u>1,985</u>	
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,985</u>	
Net book value		
At 31 December 2023	<u>5,954</u>	

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

5 Tangible functional fixed assets

	Fixtures and Fittings £
Asset cost, valuation or revalued amount	
At 1 January 2023	656
Additions	2,783
At 31 December 2023	<u>3,439</u>
Accumulated depreciation	
At 1 January 2023	313
Surplus on revaluation	-
Charge for the year	867
At 31 December 2023	<u>1,180</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2023	<u>2,259</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>343</u>

6 Debtors	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	11,104	26,800
Prepayments	14,850	316
Other Debtors	59	-
Advance	35,953	27,297
VAT	1,705	-
	<u>63,671</u>	<u>54,413</u>
6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023 £	2022 £
Bank loans and overdrafts	-	17,700
Trade creditors	21,194	150
Accrued expenses	24,974	22,583
	<u>46,168</u>	<u>40,433</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 December 2023

7 Analysis of the Net Movement in Funds

	2023	2022
	£	£

Net movement in funds from Statement of Financial Activities	(1,503)	14,759
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The net resources applied on functional fixed assets and the net investment in programme related investments represents the cost of additions less proceeds of any disposals.

8 Particulars of Individual Funds and analysis of assets and liabilities representing funds

At 31 December 2023	Unrestricted funds	Designated funds	Restricted funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Intangible Assets	5,954	-	-	5,954
Tangible Fixed Assets	2,259	-	-	2,259
Current Assets	69,033	-	-	69,033
Current Liabilities	(46,168)	-	-	(46,168)
	<u>31,078</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,078</u>
At 1 January 2023	Unrestricted	Designated	Restricted	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible Fixed Assets	343	-	-	343
Current Assets	54,413	-	18,258	72,671
Current Liabilities	(40,433)	-	-	(40,433)
	<u>14,323</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>32,581</u>

Analysis of movements in funds as shown in the table above

	Funds at 2022	Movements in Funds as below	Transfers Between funds	Funds at 2023
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	14,323	16,755	-	31,078
Restricted funds	18,258	(18,258)	-	-
	<u>32,581</u>	<u>(1,503)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,078</u>

	Incoming Resources	Outgoing Resources	Gains & Losses	Movement in funds
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds	290,084	273,329	-	16,755
Restricted funds	-	18,258	-	(18,258)
	<u>290,084</u>	<u>291,587</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,503)</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Period Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Gifts in kind, donated services and facilities				
Donations	31,031	-	31,031	54,973
Total Gifts in kind, donated services and facilities	31,031	-	31,031	54,973
Activities for generating funds				
Performance fees	13,400	-	13,400	-
Tax relief	6,837	-	6,837	-
Project grants	2,000	-	2,000	-
Sponsorship income	6,350	-	6,350	-
Total of activities for generating funds	28,587	-	28,587	-
Incoming resources from charitable activities				
Sponsorship income	24,550	-	24,550	20,969
Grants for provision of charitable goods and services	93,405	-	93,405	70,584
Merchandise and Ticket sales	5,355	-	5,355	-
Charitable activities	230,466	-	230,466	134,658
Total Incoming Resources	290,084	-	290,084	189,631
Fundraising Trading				
<i>Fundraising Trading: Cost of raising charitable funds</i>				
Merchandise costs	790	-	790	-
Musican's fees	22,452	-	22,452	21,594
Rehearsal space	190	-	190	-
Management costs	800	-	800	-
Other delivery costs	74	-	74	-
	24,306	-	24,306	21,594
Total Fundraising Trading costs	24,306	-	24,306	21,594
Costs of activities in furtherance of the charity's objectives				
Wages	12,437	-	12,437	-
Musican's fees	156,917	18,258	175,175	98,480
Other delivery costs	5,192	-	5,192	2,696
Event fees	5,860	-	5,860	-
Equipment hire	3,060	-	3,060	-
Rehearsal space	2,092	-	2,092	-
Music licences	125	-	125	-
Merchandise costs	1,316	-	1,316	-
Sundries	4,118	-	4,118	700
	191,117	18,258	209,375	101,876

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Schedule to the Statement of Financial Activities
for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds	Prior Period Total Funds
	2023	2023	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Management and administration costs				
in support of charitable activities				
Staff costs in support of charitable activities				
Salaries - Director	13,348	-	13,348	-
Salaries - Administrative and marketing staff	15,966	-	15,966	4,533
Musician's fees	-	-	-	-
	29,314	-	29,314	4,533
Indirect employee costs				
Travel and subsistence	185	-	185	-
Recruitment expenses	751	-	751	-
	936	-	936	-
Premises Costs				
Rent payable	2,254	-	2,254	-
Insurance	157	-	157	96
Premises repairs and renewals	-	-	-	1,451
	2,411	-	2,411	1,547
General administrative expenses:				
Postage	17	-	17	258
Stationery and printing	849	-	849	-
Subscriptions	22	-	22	-
Other delivery costs	-	-	-	38,822
Office Expenses	25	-	25	-
Advertising and PR	14,275	-	14,275	6,116
Bank charges	218	-	218	26
Sundry expenses	-	-	-	40
	15,406	-	15,406	45,262
Professional fees in support of charitable activities				
Accountancy fees other than examiners/auditors	6,987	-	6,987	-
	6,987	-	6,987	-
Other support costs				
Amortisation of intangible & historic assets	1,985	-	1,985	-
Depreciation fixtures and fittings	867	-	867	60
	2,852	-	2,852	60
Total Support costs	57,906	-	57,906	51,402
Total Expended on Charitable Activities	249,023	18,258	267,281	153,278
The basis for the allocation of costs as shown above is explained in the accounting policies and the notes to the accounts.				
Net Outgoing Resources	16,755	(18,258)	(1,503)	14,759

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022
for
Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
Mynshull House
78 Churchgate
Stockport
Cheshire
SK1 1YJ

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

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Detailed statement of financial activities	20 to 21

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2022. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

The charitable objectives of the Brixton Chamber Orchestra are to advance the art of music for the public benefit, and to promote, sustain, and increase individual and collective knowledge of music, by providing public concerts and such other ways as the organisation, through its board of trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects:

In 2022 the BCO undertook nine performance projects which satisfied one or more of the following strategic aims: to reach new audiences with live orchestral performance; to provide a training and performance platform for local musicians; to innovate new orchestral experiences in less traditional environments; and to embed in the local community as Brixton's own orchestra.

Grime Orchestrated @ Hootananny

Our first performance of the year was a sell-out headline show at Brixton's premiere live music venue. This event showcased significant musical development, with a greater degree of cohesion between the rappers and orchestra. The set included the premiere of Rite of Grime - a cycle of five beats based on dances from the Rite of Spring. The star of the show was Duppy, who had featured on our Summer Tour in 2021.

Brixton Performs Festival @ Windmill

In March, we were invited by Brixton Bid to give a family concert at The Windmill Learning Centre on Brixton Hill. This was the first project we developed particularly for younger children. We commissioned a poem which tied together six short pieces of classical music into an engaging story. We played Prelude a l'Apres-midi d'un Faune, the Montagues & Capulets Theme, Trisch Trash Polka, Susato Dansereye, Czardas, and the Allegro from JC Bach Symphony in D. The second half of the concert was a collection of orchestral arrangements of rock music from 70's-90's - which appealed to the parents as much as the kids! 120 attended, including 60 children under 10. The project was funded by Brixton Bid, which raises its budget from a levy of local businesses.

Jubilee Project

We knew that there would be local street parties to celebrate the platinum jubilee. We booked our 7-piece Street Band across the long weekend, and advertised for community groups to book us for their events. Thanks to some nifty scheduling, we played eight street and estate parties to a combined audience of 400 and did three parades, watched by over 1000. This was funded by a combination of donations from individuals and residents' groups, and sponsorship from Brixton Brewery.

Disco Orchestrated Launch @ Hootananny

In June, we debuted our new project - Disco Orchestrated. This outfit is an homage to the expertly orchestrated dance music of the 70's and 80's. Despite the centrality of instrumental parts to the success of this genre, it has become unusual to hear live in all its intricacy outside of large-scale one-off events like a Radio 1 prom. Disco Orchestrated showcases the orchestra in night clubs, reaching new audiences. We headlined a Dynamite Disco night at Hootananny, playing to over 400 people.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Lambeth Country Show

This event is a local institution, and has hosted some huge stars since its inception in 1974. We were thrilled to be invited to perform on a large festival stage, fully amplified to the entirety of Brockwell Park. We rose to the occasion, fielding a 36-piece orchestra which featured professionals, students, volunteers, some children too. We played a very eclectic set, similar to our estates tours. The festival is set up to book bands, usually 5-10 members, and has budgets to match this size. They did well to manage the sound and stage for an orchestra, and to secure additional funds sponsorship from the beer provider at the festival.

Summer Estates Tour

We continue to grow our estates tours, improving the show offered and increasing the level of community engagement. We were joined by rapper Yezzi Yezzir - first time performing with a female rapper, and singer Cartell Green-Brown. The set opened with Robbie's Let Me Entertain You, and featured excerpts from Carmen, the 1st mvt from CPE Bach's 2nd Symphony, the showstopper that is Copacabana, Solvej's Song from Peer Gynt, some of the Rite of Grime, gospel song Great is Your Mercy, Czardas (featuring leader Hannah Littlechild), and plenty more. A major improvement was the addition of a sound engineer, who also led on logistics. This meant we could use more amplification, which in turn meant we could be heard much better by audiences, even whilst playing larger locations. Over 1200 attended this tour.

This project also gave us the opportunity to make our first recording. The resulting eight tracks capture some of the vibrancy of that Summer's Tour. We would like to thank Chris Kalcov of Hanger Hill for his excellent recording, and St Michael's Church, Stockwell, for generously hosting the recording sessions.

Opera Galas

We gave two performances of an opera gala with emerging opera singers, organised with help from Mezzo Soprano Emma Jungling, Stockwell resident. The programme focussed on French and Italian music, with a mix of arias, ensembles and instrumental excerpts. One was hosted by Brixton BID in Trinity Gardens. This is a new venue for us, and a delightful spot near the heart of Brixton but without too much noise. We gave an unamplified performance to a very enthusiastic crowd of 150. A second performance was given in St Paul's Churchyard in Clapham to 100 people the following day. We fielded a chamber orchestra of 35 players, calling up our volunteers to join professional players. Emma was joined by Jacob Phillips, Emma Jungling, Kathleen McDermott and Dominic Felix. The concert was funded by money from Brixton BID and its counterpart in Clapham.

Film Orchestrated: Halloween

Another exciting new project this year was the launch of Film Orchestrated, with a halloween edition. We had been keen to perform at the Ritzy for some time as it is such a big player on the local cultural map. We were very happy to present a unique halloween programme featuring Dreyer's Die Vampyr and Disney's Skeleton Dance, accompanied live by a 15-piece orchestra. The score for Vampyr was composed by our MD Matthew O'Keeffe and Bassist Misha Mullov-Abbado, and included lots of collective improvisation. We gave a schools' matinee to 250 children from Lambeth primaries, which included participatory singing to an It's Music song 'Trick or Treating'. Thanks go to It's Music for sponsoring the event. We gave an evening performance to 340 people. Thanks also go to Disney for providing the materials and rights for 'Skeleton Dance' as support in kind.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

Christmas Estates Tour

Our Christmas tour gave 12 performances, returning to 9 housing estates, and visiting 2 estates and St Vincent's Community Centre on Talma Road for the first time. This was musically the strongest Tour we had done. We again used dedicated sound engineering, and the playing and arrangements continue to improve. The centre-piece of the programme was Dukas' Sorcerer's Apprentice - certainly the hardest piece we have attempted to play together. 800 attended across 2 weekends. Below are some of the statements we received in feedback.

- Unexpected delight: beautiful music in the community. Diversity of players and audience - age, ethnicity etc.
- "Those arrangements were stunning, bravo to the whole team!"
- "I wish my sons had been here, more people need this in their lives!"
- "This is so good for my soul! My entire being feels alive!"
- "We absolutely loved it, my kids were dancing at the front having the best time! Thank you"
- "They got my mum up dancing with her fake knee!"
- "The energy in the room was incredible!"
- "I loved it so much, thank you for making me feel young again!"
- "Fabulous concert! We were there in the front with our little girls dancing - they LOVED it!"
- "You're doing amazing things for the community, don't ever stop!"

8 Community Fairs (Street Band)

On top of our own projects, we are also available for other community events organised by others. We launched a fund with our sponsor Brixton Brewery to subsidise the cost of small bands of BCO musicians to local community groups by 50%. This fund was worth £5k and was used across 8 events.

BCO Extend

In addition to charitable projects, BCO put out chamber groups and orchestras for private events all over London and some further afield, all of which turned a profit which contributed to our overhead costs. In 2022 this included Grime Orchestrated at Glastonbury festival and performances for Meta. We gave over 12 performances and generated £6.5k profit.

Public benefit

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra's work benefits the general public through sustaining, promoting & developing the art of live music in public and private performances.

The trustees have considered the charity's public benefit and concluded:

1. That the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
2. That the aims and the work done give identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both indirectly and directly to individuals in need;
3. That the benefits are for the public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by ability to pay;
4. That there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

In 2022, the BCO gave over sixty performances to over 7000 people. The following achievements are organised in relation to our strategic aims.

To reach new audiences

Through two estates tours we were able to reach thousands of residents, the vast majority of whom were not regular classical concert-goers.. Inclusion of rap and pop genres alongside classical music continues to attract and engage audiences who do not consider themselves classical music fans, but who report that they enjoy the programme in its entirety. From formal and informal feedback, we continue to estimate that one in ten members of our audience had never seen an orchestra perform live before. All respondents said they would recommend BCO performances to friends and family, a claim reflected in the fact that one third of our audience had found out about the BCO through word of mouth. Through festivals like the Lambeth Country Show and Glastonbury we were able to reach thousands more who, while music fans, are not likely to have encountered live classical orchestral music. In our Jubilee project we were able to provide live music for many more residents around Lambeth, most of whom had not yet heard of the BCO.

To provide a platform

In 2022 we had 2 youth players in the orchestra who played with us in most performances. They were given dedicated 1-to-1 sessions and on-the-job training. These youth positions are beginning to provide a valuable platform to hone and demonstrate orchestral skill. Through our estates tours we provided a valuable platform for emerging singers and rappers to gain exposure and experience. We welcome rappers Yezzi Yezzir & D Wills, and singers Cartell Green-Brown and Georgia Jade. Through open mic sessions at the end of each performance we also gave a platform for dozens of resident musicians, all of whom received live orchestral accompaniment. Through our performances at festivals we gave valuable exposure opportunities to rappers including Duppy, Choze, Megamikes and many more. For our classical performances we invited talented amateurs to join our young professional players. These are mainly local people with a passion for orchestra playing. Our opera galas and the Lambeth country show performance provided them with a platform to share their skill with their local community.

To innovate new orchestral experiences

Our Film Orchestrated project certainly took an innovative approach to programming, and created a unique experience. Grime and Disco Orchestrated too are innovative in that they place an orchestrated front and centre of a nightclub stage.

To embed in the community

2022 was a good year for embedding. The launch of the subsidy fund meant that we made many new community connections, which we will be using in our growth plan in the coming years. We are glad to have visited some new estates over the year, and that we are developing better relationships with residents and community leaders. Our productive partnerships with Brixton BID and Brixton Brewery contribute to our embedding in the local cultural ecosystem.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

Financial review

Income for the year amounted to £189,631 (2021 £106,870), including performance fees £40,105 (2021 £38,187), grants £70,584 (2021 £53,329), sponsorship £20,969 (2021 £8500) and donations £27,533 (2021 £6855). Expenditure on Charitable Activities amounted to £153,278 (2021 £72,204), and Expenditure on the raising of funds was £21,594 (2021 £19,848). Net surplus was £14,759 (2021 £14,818), with a total of £32,581 (2021 £17,822) carried forward into 2023.

All project proposals are judged against our strategic aims before being signed off by trustees, to ensure that resources are directed appropriately. The Trustees have considered the financial position of the charity, reviewed plans for the year 2023 and have concluded that Brixton Chamber Orchestra can continue to trade viably for the next twelve months from the date of signature of these accounts.

Fundraising

As a charity, BCO is reliant on fundraising to enable us to achieve our charitable outcomes.

Trustees review the delivery of our fundraising targets against budget at each quarterly Board meeting. Trustees pay close attention to ensure that the costs of our fundraising are accurately explained and managed.

Trustees would like to express their thanks to all our supporters who donated to BCO during the year.

Future plans

The BCO will maintain the strategic aims outlined above in this document and will deliver projects which further those aims.

We will focus on developing our projects, with further instalments of Grime, Disco & Film Orchestrated, two more estates tours, and opera galas. We will also develop our symphonic playing with a classical concert.

We will develop our commercial arm, BCO Extend, the profits from which will contribute to overhead costs.

Organisational Development

Over the coming years, the BCO plans to develop into a sustainable arts organisation, which can serve the people of Brixton and beyond for many years to come. We will appoint an administrator and a bookkeeper. We will apply for core overhead funding from a number of trusts and foundations. We will also develop relationships with cultural and commercial partners.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra (BCO) is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with a constitution as its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The trustees are nominated & appointed by the Board of Trustees. Information about trustee responsibilities are made available to all trustees in a shared drive. New guidance and information from the Commission is regularly circulated.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

Structure, governance and management

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees sets the broad strategy for how the BCO will achieve its charitable objects. The Board determines financial and organisational priorities, which include scrutinising and approving all performance projects and spending plans. Trustees regularly offer their time and expertise to build and develop the organisation, including making recommendations as to the artistic direction of the BCO, and effecting the vital introductions which make these ideas possible.

The BCO continues to engage Matthew O'Keeffe as its director, who is responsible for the artistic and logistical leadership of the organisation. The director works with several contracted and freelance staff to deliver the strategy as set by the Board of Trustees. Staff remuneration is set as part of the annual budget. Trustees have looked at the rate of pay for similar posts with other new charities and consider this good value for money. The director is also the Data Protection Officer.

The Board is also responsible for identifying the risks faced by the charity. Risks are identified and assessed with controls established throughout the year. A formal review of the charity's risk management processes are undertaken on an annual basis. Risk is considered with respect to artistic reputation, financial sustainability and project delivery.

In more detail:

Artistic reputation

The BCO's success is built in part on the substance and quality of its performances. We take qualitative and quantitative feedback from audiences whenever possible, analysing the results and responding in future planning. We also regularly review which musicians we engage, and how much rehearsal time we should book with them.

Financial sustainability

Annual budgets are developed and presented to the Board for approval. An analysis of recent and upcoming spending is reported to the Board at each quarterly trustee meeting. As a charity which is very strongly reliant on achieving grants to support its work, we pay particularly close attention to our performance in applications for funding judged against the budget and plan contingency measures to deal with any shortfall.

Project delivery

Projects are planned to a timeline and checklist to ensure nothing is overlooked. Up-to-date information is stored on a shared drive to ensure all staff are working from the same details. Risks to the orchestra's instrumentalists and the public at events are managed through specific risk assessments carried out by project managers under the guidance of the director, with Board oversight).

Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity number

1181169

Principal address

1 Rosedene Avenue
London
SW16 2LS

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

Trustees

H Little

Dr Y Fitzpatrick

G Glennon

H Warner

M Schumann (appointed 14.11.22)

Independent Examiner

Warr & Co Limited

Chartered Accountants

Mynshull House

78 Churchgate

Stockport

Cheshire

SK1 1YJ

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 31 October 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Y Fitzpatrick - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brixton Chamber Orchestra

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brixton Chamber Orchestra (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under Section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 material 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 Trust as required by Section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

Nicola Joyce ACA, FCCA

Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
Mynshull House
78 Churchgate
Stockport
Cheshire
SK1 1YJ

Date: 31 October 2023

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.22 Total funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies	2	27,533	-	27,533	6,854
Charitable activities	4				
Estates tours		-	-	-	53,329
General activities		42,584	28,000	70,584	-
Other trading activities	3	<u>91,514</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91,514</u>	<u>46,687</u>
Total		<u>161,631</u>	<u>28,000</u>	<u>189,631</u>	<u>106,870</u>
Expenditure on					
Raising funds		21,594	-	21,594	19,848
Charitable activities	5				
Estates tours		-	-	-	67,631
General activities		135,923	9,742	145,665	4,573
Community Fairs		<u>7,613</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,613</u>	<u>-</u>
Total		<u>165,130</u>	<u>9,742</u>	<u>174,872</u>	<u>92,052</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(3,499)	18,258	14,759	14,818
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		17,822	-	17,822	3,004
Total funds carried forward		<u>14,323</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>32,581</u>	<u>17,822</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Balance Sheet
31 December 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.22 Total funds £	31.12.21 Total funds £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	9	343	-	343	403
Current assets					
Debtors	10	54,413	-	54,413	24,050
Cash at bank		<u>-</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>4,472</u>
		54,413	18,258	72,671	28,522
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	11	(40,433)	-	(40,433)	(11,103)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net current assets		<u>13,980</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>32,238</u>	<u>17,419</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>14,323</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>32,581</u>	<u>17,822</u>
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		<u>14,323</u>	<u>18,258</u>	<u>32,581</u>	<u>17,822</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2022

Funds	13		
Unrestricted funds		14,323	17,822
Restricted funds		<u>18,258</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds		<u>32,581</u>	<u>17,822</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 31 October 2023 and were signed on its behalf by:

Y Fitzpatrick - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements **for the Year Ended 31 December 2022**

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 15% on cost
-----------------------	---------------

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The restricted fund is in respect of a grant received from the Q Charitable Trust, this was awarded towards staff costs incurred in marketing and developing the charity for a period of 12 months.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

2.	Donations and legacies		31.12.22	31.12.21
			£	£
	Donations		<u>27,533</u>	<u>6,854</u>
3.	Other trading activities		31.12.22	31.12.21
			£	£
	Fundraising events		27,440	-
	Performance fees		43,105	38,187
	Sponsorships		<u>20,969</u>	<u>8,500</u>
			<u>91,514</u>	<u>46,687</u>
4.	Income from charitable activities		31.12.22	31.12.21
			£	£
	Grants	Activity	-	53,329
		Estates tours		
	Grants	General activities	<u>70,584</u>	<u>-</u>
			70,584	53,329
5.	Charitable activities costs			
		Direct Costs	Support costs	Totals
		£	£	£
	General activities	145,599	66	145,665
	Community fairs	<u>7,613</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,613</u>
		<u>153,212</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>153,278</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

6. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2022 nor for the year ended 31 December 2021.

7. Staff costs

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Wages and salaries	<u>4,533</u>	<u>19,848</u>
	<u><u>4,533</u></u>	<u><u>19,848</u></u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.22	31.12.21
Artistic Director and CEO	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Marketing manager	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u><u>2</u></u>	<u><u>2</u></u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

8. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	6,854	-	6,854
Charitable activities			
Estates tours	-	53,329	53,329
Other trading activities	<u>46,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,687</u>
Total	<u><u>53,541</u></u>	<u><u>53,329</u></u>	<u><u>106,870</u></u>
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	17,448	2,400	19,848
Charitable activities			
Estates tours	16,702	50,929	67,631
General activities	<u>4,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,573</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

8. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Total	<u>38,723</u>	<u>53,329</u>	<u>92,052</u>
NET INCOME	14,818	-	14,818
Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	3,004	-	3,004
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>17,822</u></u>

9. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 January 2022 and 31 December 2022	<u>656</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2022	253
Charge for year	<u>60</u>
At 31 December 2022	<u>313</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2022	<u><u>343</u></u>
At 31 December 2021	<u><u>403</u></u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

10. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Trade debtors	26,800	13,700
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>27,613</u>	<u>10,350</u>
	<u><u>54,413</u></u>	<u><u>24,050</u></u>

11. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 12)	17,700	4,395
Other creditors	<u>22,733</u>	<u>6,708</u>
	<u><u>40,433</u></u>	<u><u>11,103</u></u>

12. Loans

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.12.22	31.12.21
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank overdrafts	<u>17,700</u>	<u>4,395</u>

13. Movement in funds

	At 1.1.22	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.22
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	17,822	(3,499)	14,323
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	-	18,258	18,258
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>14,759</u></u>	<u><u>32,581</u></u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

13. Movement in funds - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	161,631	(165,130)	(3,499)
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	28,000	(9,742)	18,258
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>189,631</u>	<u>(174,872)</u>	<u>14,759</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,004	14,818	17,822
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,004</u>	<u>14,818</u>	<u>17,822</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	53,541	(38,723)	14,818
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	53,329	(53,329)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>106,870</u>	<u>(92,052)</u>	<u>14,818</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

13. Movement in funds - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.21 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.22 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,004	11,319	14,323
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	-	18,258	18,258
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,004</u>	<u>29,577</u>	<u>32,581</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	215,172	(203,853)	11,319
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	81,329	(63,071)	18,258
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>296,501</u>	<u>(266,924)</u>	<u>29,577</u>

The restricted fund represents grant income received from the Q Charitable Trust to fund marketing and development of the charity for a period of 12 months.

14. Related party disclosures

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2022.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	27,533	6,854
Other trading activities		
Fundraising events	27,440	-
Performance fees	43,105	38,187
Sponsorships	<u>20,969</u>	<u>8,500</u>
	91,514	46,687
Charitable activities		
Grants	<u>70,584</u>	<u>53,329</u>
Total incoming resources	189,631	106,870
 Expenditure		
Raising donations and legacies		
Wages	1,270	19,848
Musicians fees	16,928	-
Other delivery costs	2,696	-
Sundries	<u>700</u>	<u>-</u>
	21,594	19,848
Charitable activities		
Wages	3,263	-
Insurance	96	-
Repairs and renewals	1,451	185
Postage and stationery	258	155
Advertising	6,116	4,483
Musician's fees	103,146	58,459
Other delivery costs	38,822	7,851
Fixtures and fittings	<u>60</u>	<u>71</u>
	153,212	71,204
Support costs		
Finance		
Sundries	40	-
Carried forward	40	-

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2022

	31.12.22 £	31.12.21 £
Finance		
Brought forward	40	-
Bank charges	<u>26</u>	<u>-</u>
	66	-
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	<u>-</u>	<u>1,000</u>
Total resources expended	<u>174,872</u>	<u>92,052</u>
Net income	<u>14,759</u>	<u>14,818</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

BRIXTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1181169

Accounts

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021
for
Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
76 Manchester Road
Denton
Manchester
M34 3PS

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

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for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

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Brixton Chamber Orchestra

From the Chair of Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

BCO has continued to broaden the access and appeal of live classical music among people for whom these type of events are often hard to reach and considered 'not for us'. We are also building on our core network of local classically trained musicians, as well as much-valued supporters and volunteers.

Our mission to take orchestral music to new and unexpected areas of Lambeth and its surrounds has been met with considerable local enthusiasm. A combination of free and subsidised formal concerts, as well as opera, jazz, pop and grime music performances has introduced and entertained audiences across Lambeth and opened up council estates, Brixton market and streets, local community group events and Lambeth schools to the joy of live orchestral music. Our collaborations with local young grime artists, opera singers and musicians from other musical genres has created the kind of creative events that showcase the wealth of local talent in new ways and to a high standard. The feedback generated is captured in local television, radio and community news and most importantly, among those who attend our events, or come across them in local streets and shopping areas, many of whom are enjoying live orchestral music for the first time.

The BCO also acts as a spur to many to reacquaint themselves with an instrument they used to play. It has also served to inspire local people - the young and not so young - who see 'people like us' playing classical and other instruments to a high standard, and decide to learn an instrument, get involved in classical music, local bands, or the BCO itself. Having a local orchestra, composed of our best and brightest musicians, also inspires pride in and about the people of Lambeth.

All of this is only possible thanks to the support of the many grant-giving organisations we rely on, such as the Arts Council and Lambeth Council and the generosity of private funders, who see the value of what we do. The economic landscape is not always conducive to providing this kind of collaborative creative endeavour at low or no cost to new and often hard to reach audiences. The BCO management has worked hard to make ends meet and ensure that its musicians, performers and technicians are paid for their work, at a time when many have struggled to find live music venues to perform in.

Thank you to our trustees and our marketing and sponsorship manager for all their work. Our director, Matthew O'Keeffe, deserves a special mention for growing a local orchestra, made up of talented musicians that reflect the multicultural peoples of Lambeth, and for providing a seedbed of aspiring musical talent that benefits from playing alongside professional musicians. The Brixton Chamber Orchestra will work hard to showcase local musical talent in unexpected places and provide its own brand of versatile creativity that breaks new ground. Just as importantly, we want to continue to bring joy to local communities, in ways that make the orchestra a worthy addition to the cultural life of Brixton and beyond.

Trustees: Yasmin Fitzpatrick (Chair), Geraldine Glennon, Henry Little and Hester Warner

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2021. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019).

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

The charitable objectives of the Brixton Chamber Orchestra are to advance the art of music for the public benefit, and to promote, sustain, and increase individual and collective knowledge of music, by providing public concerts and such other ways as the organisation, through its board of trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects:

In 2021 the BCO undertook six performance projects which satisfied one or more of the following strategic aims: to reach new audiences with live orchestral performance; to provide a training and performance platform for local musicians; to innovate new orchestral experiences in less traditional environments; and to embed in the local community as Brixton's own orchestra.

Roving Band

As Lockdown restrictions began to lift in the Spring, we were eager to perform in Brixton to remind people of the joy live music can create and the value in enjoying it together in community. However, back in March, only groups of six or fewer were able to meet, and only outdoors. So we created an ensemble of six which would work well outside, and which by being mobile would allow us to meet the rules regarding live music performances. The Roving Band was born, with a dixieland style line-up, semi-improvised music and an ability to be deployed anywhere. On April 1st we 'roved' all the way down the recently pedestrianised Railton Road at 8am, waking up the neighbourhood and causing an enthusiastic carnival parade of (socially distancing) residents. This band grew in popularity over the rest of the year, providing diverse and upbeat live music for five outdoor community events, and at a reduced cost, compared to a full orchestra.

Some feedback from attendees:

What a wonderful surprise! So needed after being stuck indoors.

Even in bad times, you guys bring the joy! Great music and good vibes.

Lockdown Lifts Pop-ups

When the roadmap out of lockdown was published, we celebrated each milestone with pop-up orchestral performances in central Brixton. We partnered with Brixton BID to deliver three afternoon performances on the High Street and Market on 12-April, 17-May, 21-June (nine performances in total). A 14-piece sinfonietta performed a programme of wide-ranging classical music, from 16th-century German dances to extracts from Appalachian Spring. This project sought to bring joy back to our high street, and some of that pre-pandemic Brixton buzz.

Passers by commented:

Great idea to have live music in the market, created a fun atmosphere

So so good! Very talented performers!

Grime Orchestrated

This project is artistically innovative and provides a unique platform for talented local rappers to work with an orchestra. More than just accompanying MCs, Grime Orchestrated creates new material which foregrounds orchestral sounds and adapts classical music. These performances also allow us to reach audiences who would be unlikely to attend a classical concert. In 2021, we performed with local rap artists at three music festivals and in two community spaces.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

One surprised festival-goer and Lambeth resident said: So crazy to see Brixton Orchestra at Wilderness! Glad these guys are getting bigger and better.

Estates Tours

We performed our now regular biennial musical tours of local housing estates in the Lambeth borough, with twelve performances in July and ten in December (two were cancelled as Covid cases peaked again). Summer performances take place outside, and Christmas events were held in community halls, fielding a 20-25-piece orchestra, with guest vocalists. Performances were an hour long and programmes traversed hundreds of years and multiple continents, including much contemporary music. We always hold a popular open-mic session for singers, rappers, poets at the end of each session. This project furthers all our strategic aims and rightly accounts for over half our expenditure. Christmas Tour 2021 was a challenge as Covid cases were rising fast, with Lambeth having the highest density of cases in the country. Despite a number of players in the orchestra testing positive (at one point, ten players), we were able to adapt and honour all standing invitations. We gave two performances with a chamber group of eight players, doing carols and jazz Christmas songs. This was testament to the versatility and dedication of our players.

Here's what our audience said:

Very Talented, enchanting music

Bloody love Lambeth, impeccable vibes & great music and performers. Shout out Leon on vocals!

Lovely way to bring the community together, real spirit. Music also mirrored- great variety. So glad they kept it on the road!!

Vauxhall Variety

For Vauxhall One, BCO organised a Vauxhall Variety concert in Vauxhall Pleasure Gardens in August. Local musicians applied to perform at the one-day festival, with BCO offering the headline set in which all acts were invited to collaborate. The project aim was to provide a platform for local musicians, as well as reach new audiences in a part of the borough we hadn't visited before.

Here's what some participants said:

Brill! I will follow these guys on insta. Great music.

That's the best our choir has sounded, the orchestra lifted us up

Music Trails

As part of our attempts to innovate new orchestral experiences in less traditional environments, we devised our Music Trail - a 'gamified' concert that took place across a number of venues, with clues and maps distributed to our potential audiences, especially families with children and young people. Small groups or soloists were installed in local independent stores, whilst participants set out to find them and discover what they were playing. Correct answers unlocked clues which pointed toward a final location where all musicians came together to perform a concert. We applied to the Foyle Foundation and were awarded £4000. Together with Brixton BID (Business Industrial District) and Streatham BID we delivered two fun Music Trail events on Brixton High Street in November and Streatham High Street in December.

We all loved taking part, the kids were entranced by the musicians. Thank you for a lovely day!

Cool idea, me and my sister had fun with the clues

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

BCO Extend

In addition to charitable projects, BCO put out chamber groups and orchestras for private events all over London and some further afield, all of which turned a profit which contributed to our overhead costs.

Public benefit

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra's work benefits the general public through sustaining, promoting & developing the art of live music in public and private performances.

The trustees have considered the charity's public benefit and concluded:

1. That the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
2. That the aims and the work done give identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both indirectly and directly to individuals in need;
3. That the benefits are for the public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by ability to pay;
4. That there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

Summary of the main achievements of the charity during the year:

In 2021, the BCO gave over fifty performances to over 5000 people. The following achievements are organised in relation to our strategic aims.

To reach new audiences

Through two estates tours we were able to reach over one thousand residents, most of whom were not regular classical concert-goers. Inclusion of rap and pop genres alongside classical music continues to attract and engage audiences who do not consider themselves classical music fans, but who report that they enjoy the programme in its entirety. From formal and informal feedback, we estimate that one in ten members of our audience had never seen an orchestra perform live before. All respondents said they would recommend BCO performances to friends and family, a claim reflected in the fact that one third of our audience had found out about the BCO through word of mouth.

Our Lockdown Lifts project allowed us to reach more people who do not necessarily live in the estates we visit - people just going about their daily routine in the market and the high street. Rough head-counts show that nearly 500 people stopped to listen to the orchestra for 10 minutes or more in Electric Avenue, Brixton Station Road and Tunstall Square.

About 300 people participated in our Music Trail in Brixton, with 120 making it to the final performance. The majority were families with small children, who loved the informal but atmospheric final concert. Across all performances, estimates suggest that around 50% of our audiences were of BME heritage, 50% were from lower socio-economic quintiles and 30% were aged 18-30. These are all under-represented groups in audiences for orchestral music.

To provide a platform

The Brixton Music Trail concert, given by a 35-piece tiered orchestra (with professionals and volunteers) was our first such outing since October 2019. This provided a much-relished opportunity for our voluntary players to perform with us again. We continue to recruit excellent volunteer and student players and to provide opportunities to perform at a level most would struggle to find elsewhere.

The open-mic sessions in our estates tours resulted in over twenty local performers seizing the mic to entertain their communities with the orchestra - experiences we know are treasured and anticipated with great excitement.

Vauxhall Variety was successful in attracting applications from sixteen acts, six of which were selected to take part with their own set, and then in the orchestral finale, including singers, a rock band, a pianist, a guitarist, a choir, a poet, and a dance troupe. This proved to us again that our orchestra can provide an excellent vehicle for mass-participation, and can assimilate almost any instrument or performance skill.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

To innovate new orchestral experiences

The best example of this was our Music Trail events. We will continue to develop and roll this out to new spaces. Much is said in the arts of the need to provide a more all-encompassing event rather than just a straight-forward concert. We agree that many people want to be more intellectually or sensorily involved in arts events. This format allows for that, whilst not sacrificing artistic quality. It also encourages people to explore more of their local area, visiting independent retailers and shared community spaces they may have overlooked. Our thanks goes to the Foyle Foundation and Brixton & Streatham BIDS for helping us make this project happen.

The Grime Orchestrated project continues. The symbiosis between the rappers and orchestral players continues to develop, elevating this project well above novelty act. Most notably, we are starting to see more rappers use live instrumentalists in their shows around South London - something we are proud to have played some part in.

To embed in the community

In 2021, we were called on by many community groups and charities to perform at their events. Some called for a quartet or quintet, others a small orchestra, others were well served with the new Roving Band, which allowed us to provide live music much more affordably. To some extent we were reaping the rewards for having remained visibly active throughout the Covid pandemic.

We visited five new estates this year, and went back to many who were extremely welcoming. Our increasingly productive relationships with estate resident associations, playgrounds, charities and Lambeth Council's resident engagement team are cementing our position as a serious provider of live music for Lambeth residents.

As part of our Music Trails, we met sixteen small business owners, many of whom we will continue to develop relationships with for support with future endeavours. Several have shown interest in booking musicians to enliven their stores again. Lambeth's BIDs have again been invaluable connectors and funders - this year partnering with us on four projects.

In December we provided a brass quintet for seven small community Christmas events. The performance was offered at 10-50% subsidy, funded by profits from commercial bookings.

The BCO is very grateful to the trusts, partners, donors and all those who have supported our work throughout this year.

Financial review

Income for the year amounted to £106,870, representing performance fees (£38,187), grants (£53,329), sponsorship (£8500) and donations (£6855). Expenditure on Charitable Activities amounted to £68,893, and Expenditure on the raising of funds was £23,160. Net surplus was £14,818, with a total of £17,822 carried forward into 2022.

All project proposals are judged against our strategic aims before being signed off by trustees, to ensure that resources are directed appropriately. The Trustees have considered the financial position of the charity, reviewed plans for the year 2022 and have concluded that Brixton Chamber Orchestra can continue to trade viably for the next twelve months from the date of signature of these accounts.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Future plans

Plans for 2022

The BCO will maintain the strategic aims outlined above in this document and will deliver projects which further those aims.

We will continue to develop our estates tours, improving the production and increasing impact to communities of residents.

We will continue to develop Grime Orchestrated with a headline show at Hootananny in March, and further festivals throughout the year, including Glastonbury Festival.

In furtherance of our aim to innovate new orchestral experiences in Lambeth, we will perform a live soundtrack to a silent movie in The Ritzy cinema.

In the summer, we will perform an opera gala in Brixton, with local opera singers.

We will develop our commercial arm, BCO Extend, the profits from which will contribute to overhead costs.

Organisational Development

Over the coming years, the BCO plans to develop into a sustainable arts organisation, which can serve the people of Brixton and beyond for many years to come. We will apply for core overhead funding from a number of trusts and foundations. We will also develop relationships with ongoing sponsors, most notably Brixton Brewery, to maximise revenue which can fund live music at community events.

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra (BCO) is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with a constitution as its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The trustees are nominated & appointed by the Board of Trustees. Information about trustee responsibilities are made available to all trustees in a shared drive. New guidance and information from the Commission is regularly circulated.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

Structure, governance and management

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees sets the broad strategy for how the BCO will achieve its charitable objects. The Board determines financial and organisational priorities, which include scrutinising and approving all performance projects and spending plans. Trustees regularly offer their time and expertise to build and develop the organisation, including making recommendations as to the artistic direction of the BCO, and effecting the vital introductions which make these ideas possible.

The BCO engages Matthew O'Keeffe as its director, who is responsible for the artistic and logistical leadership of the organisation. The director works with several contracted and freelance staff to deliver the strategy as set by the Board of Trustees. Staff remuneration is set as part of the annual budget. Trustees have looked at the rate of pay for similar posts with other new charities and consider this good value for money. The director is also the Data Protection Officer.

The Board is also responsible for identifying the risks faced by the charity. Risks are identified and assessed with controls established throughout the year. A formal review of the charity's risk management processes are undertaken on an annual basis. Risk is considered with respect to artistic reputation, financial sustainability, and project delivery. In more detail:

Artistic reputation

The BCO's success is built in part on the substance and quality of its performances. We take qualitative and quantitative feedback from audiences whenever possible, analysing the results and responding in future planning. We also regularly review which musicians we engage, and how much rehearsal time we should book with them.

Financial sustainability

Annual budgets are developed and presented to the Board for approval. An analysis of recent and upcoming spending is reported to the Board at each quarterly trustee meeting. As a charity which is very strongly reliant on achieving grants to support its work, we pay particularly close attention to our performance in applications for funding judged against the budget and plan contingency measures to deal with any shortfall.

Project delivery

Projects are planned to a timeline and checklist to ensure nothing is overlooked. Up-to-date information is stored on a shared drive to ensure all staff are working from the same details. Risks to the orchestra's instrumentalists and the public at events are managed through specific risk assessments carried out by project managers under the guidance of the director, with Board oversight).

Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity number

1181169

Principal address

1 Rosedene Avenue
London
SW16 2LS

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

Trustees

H Little

Dr Y Fitzpatrick

G Glennon

H Warner

Independent Examiner

Warr & Co Limited

Chartered Accountants

76 Manchester Road

Denton

Manchester

M34 3PS

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 27 October 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Y Fitzpatrick - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Brixton Chamber Orchestra

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Brixton Chamber Orchestra (the Trust) for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust 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 Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all 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 material 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 Trust as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a true and fair view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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.

N J Joyce ACA, FCCA
The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales
Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
76 Manchester Road
Denton
Manchester
M34 3PS

31 October 2022

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.21 Total funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and legacies		6,854	-	6,854	5,661
Charitable activities					
Estates tours		-	53,329	53,329	24,240
Other trading activities	2	<u>46,687</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,687</u>	<u>10,450</u>
Total		<u>53,541</u>	<u>53,329</u>	<u>106,870</u>	<u>40,351</u>
 Expenditure on					
Raising funds		17,448	2,400	19,848	7,761
Charitable activities					
Estates tours		16,702	50,929	67,631	25,108
General activities		<u>4,573</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,573</u>	<u>5,265</u>
Total		<u>38,723</u>	<u>53,329</u>	<u>92,052</u>	<u>38,134</u>
 NET INCOME		14,818	-	14,818	2,217
 Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>3,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>787</u>
 Total funds carried forward		<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>3,004</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Balance Sheet
31 December 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.21 Total funds £	31.12.20 Total funds £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	6	403	-	403	474
Current assets					
Debtors	7	15,550	8,500	24,050	9,050
Cash at bank		<u>4,472</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,472</u>	<u>260</u>
		20,022	8,500	28,522	9,310
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	8	(2,603)	(8,500)	(11,103)	(6,780)
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net current assets		<u>17,419</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,419</u>	<u>2,530</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		17,822	-	17,822	3,004
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)		<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>3,004</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Balance Sheet - continued
31 December 2021

Funds	10		
Unrestricted funds		<u>17,822</u>	<u>3,004</u>
Total funds		<u><u>17,822</u></u>	<u><u>3,004</u></u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 27 October 2022 and were signed on its behalf by:

Y Fitzpatrick - Trustee

G Glennon - Trustee

H Little - Trustee

H Warner - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements **for the Year Ended 31 December 2021**

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charity, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings - 15% on cost

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The restricted fund is in respect of the Estates tours.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

2. Other trading activities

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Performance fees	38,187	10,450
Sponsorships	<u>8,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>46,687</u></u>	<u><u>10,450</u></u>

3. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2021 nor for the year ended 31 December 2020.

4. Staff costs

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	31.12.21	31.12.20
Artistic Director and CEO	1	1
Project manager	-	1
Marketing manager	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>2</u></u>	<u><u>2</u></u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

5. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from			
Donations and legacies	661	5,000	5,661
Charitable activities			
Estates tours	-	24,240	24,240
Other trading activities	<u>10,450</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,450</u>
Total	<u><u>11,111</u></u>	<u><u>29,240</u></u>	<u><u>40,351</u></u>
Expenditure on			
Raising funds	5,111	2,650	7,761

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

5. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £
Charitable activities			
Estates tours	868	24,240	25,108
General activities			
	<u>2,915</u>	<u>2,350</u>	<u>5,265</u>
Total	<u>8,894</u>	<u>29,240</u>	<u>38,134</u>
 NET INCOME	 2,217	 -	 2,217
 Reconciliation of funds			
Total funds brought forward	787	-	787
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>3,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,004</u>

6. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 January 2021 and 31 December 2021	<u>656</u>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2021	182
Charge for year	<u>71</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>253</u>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2021	<u>403</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>474</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

7. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Trade debtors	13,700	4,450
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>10,350</u>	<u>4,600</u>
	<u>24,050</u>	<u>9,050</u>

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Bank loans and overdrafts (see note 9)	4,395	-
Other creditors	<u>6,708</u>	<u>6,780</u>
	<u>11,103</u>	<u>6,780</u>

9. Loans

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.12.21	31.12.20
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Bank overdrafts	<u>4,395</u>	<u>-</u>

10. Movement in funds

	At 1.1.21	Net movement in funds	At 31.12.21
	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	3,004	14,818	17,822
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,004</u>	<u>14,818</u>	<u>17,822</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

10. Movement in funds - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	53,541	(38,723)	14,818
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	53,329	(53,329)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>106,870</u>	<u>(92,052)</u>	<u>14,818</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	787	2,217	3,004
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>787</u>	<u>2,217</u>	<u>3,004</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	11,111	(8,894)	2,217
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	29,240	(29,240)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>40,351</u>	<u>(38,134)</u>	<u>2,217</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

10. Movement in funds - continued

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.21 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	787	17,035	17,822
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>787</u>	<u>17,035</u>	<u>17,822</u>

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	64,652	(47,617)	17,035
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	82,569	(82,569)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>147,221</u>	<u>(130,186)</u>	<u>17,035</u>

11. Related party disclosures

There were no related party transactions for the year ended 31 December 2021.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	31.12.21 £	31.12.20 £
Income and endowments		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	6,854	661
Grants	<u>-</u>	<u>5,000</u>
	6,854	5,661
Other trading activities		
Performance fees	38,187	10,450
Sponsorships	<u>8,500</u>	<u>-</u>
	46,687	10,450
Charitable activities		
Grants	<u>53,329</u>	<u>24,240</u>
Total incoming resources	106,870	40,351
Expenditure		
Raising donations and legacies		
Wages	19,848	7,761
Charitable activities		
Insurance	-	89
Repairs and renewals	185	214
Postage and stationery	155	-
Advertising	4,483	2,961
Musician's fees	58,459	25,108
Other delivery costs	7,851	415
Fixtures and fittings	<u>71</u>	<u>84</u>
	71,204	28,871
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	-	2
Governance costs		
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	1,000	1,500

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2021

	31.12.21 £	31.12.20 £
Total resources expended	<u>92,052</u>	<u>38,134</u>
Net income	<u>14,818</u>	<u>2,217</u>

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

BRIXTON CHAMBER ORCHESTRA

England & Wales - Charity number 1181169

Accounts

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REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1181169

Report of the Trustees and
Unaudited Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2020
for
Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
76 Manchester Road
Denton
Manchester
M34 3PS

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Contents of the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

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Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Chairman's Report **for the Year Ended 31 December 2020**

The strictures imposed upon us all by the Covid pandemic and ensuing public health measures took a heavy toll on the Brixton Chamber Orchestra. The challenge was to make it through. Time away from performance was used to ensure that the orchestra would emerge from lockdown ready to relaunch its public activities.

Despite everything, the BCO managed to deliver twenty-four public performances between August and December, strengthening our roots in local communities as we helped to welcome people back into public spaces and provide some much-needed musical joy.

Looking forward, we anticipate the need to develop a sustainable organisational structure capable of supporting the BCO's burgeoning public role in providing high quality live musical performances in unexpected spaces and to new audiences.

We remain thankful to Music Director Matthew O'Keeffe, for continuing to deliver the musicianship, esprit de corps and unpredictable and inclusive performances. His and the orchestra's hard work and determination to keep performing was rewarded by the reactions of all those who encountered the BCO in a housing estate or on the streets of Brixton - some of whom also ended up joining in with one of their many performances during the latter half of 2020.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

The trustees present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2020. The trustees have adopted the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in March 2005.

Reference and administrative details

Registered Charity number

1181169

Principal address

1 Rosedene Avenue
London
SW16 2LS

Trustees

H Little
Dr Y Fitzpatrick
G Glennon
H Warner

Independent examiner

Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
76 Manchester Road
Denton
Manchester
M34 3PS

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes an unincorporated charity.

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra (BCO) is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, with a constitution as its governing document.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The trustees are nominated & appointed by the Board of Trustees. Information about trustee responsibilities are made available to all trustees in a shared drive. New guidance and information from the Commission is regularly circulated.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Structure, governance and management

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees sets the broad strategy for how the BCO will achieve its charitable objects. The Board determines financial and organisational priorities, which includes scrutinising and approving all performance projects and spending plans. Trustees regularly offer their time and expertise to build and develop the organisation, including making recommendations as to the artistic direction of the BCO, and effecting the vital introductions which make these ideas possible.

The BCO engages Matthew O'Keeffe as its director, who is a non-voting member of the Board and is responsible for the artistic and logistical leadership of the organisation. The director works with several contracted and freelance staff to deliver the strategy as set by the Board of Trustees. Staff remuneration is set as part of the annual budget. Trustees have looked at the rate of pay for similar posts with other new charities and consider this good value for money. The director is also the Data Protection Officer.

The Board is also responsible for the overseeing of the risks faced by the charity. Risks are identified and assessed with controls established throughout the year. A formal review of the charity's risk management processes are undertaken on an annual basis. Risk is considered with respect to artistic reputation, financial sustainability, and project delivery. In more detail:

Artistic reputation

The BCO's success is built in part on the substance and quality of its performances. We manage the risk of a decline in artistic quality in two ways. Firstly, we take qualitative and quantitative feedback from audiences whenever possible, analysing the results and responding in future planning. Secondly, we regularly review which musicians we engage, and how much rehearsal time we should book with them.

Financial sustainability

Annual budgets are developed and presented to the Board for approval. An analysis of recent and upcoming spending is reported to the Board at each quarterly trustee meeting. As a charity which is very strongly reliant on achieving grants to support its work, we pay particularly close attention to our performance in applications for funding judged against the budget and plan contingency measures to deal with any shortfall.

Project delivery

Projects are planned to a timeline and checklist to ensure nothing is overlooked. Up-to-date information is stored on a shared drive to ensure all staff are working from the same details. Risks to the orchestra's instrumentalists and the public at events are mitigated through specific risk assessments carried out by project managers. Proposals for larger projects are shown to the trustees for approval before time and financial resources are put into delivery.

Risk management

The trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

The charitable objectives of the Brixton Chamber Orchestra are to advance the art of music for the public benefit, and to promote, sustain, and increase individual and collective knowledge of music, by providing public concerts and such other ways as the organisation, through its board of trustees, shall determine from time to time.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Objectives and activities

Significant activities

In 2020 the BCO undertook twenty-four performances which satisfy one or more of the following strategic aims: to reach new audiences with live orchestral performance; to provide a training and performance platform for local musicians; to innovate new orchestral experiences in less traditional environments; to embed in the local community as Brixton's own orchestra.

The BCO had decided to focus on fundraising in January and February before launching a busy season in March, with large and small projects lined up throughout the year. We gave two performances in March - entertaining students and guests at the Lambeth Made Awards in Lambeth College, and performing with developing young vocalists at School Grounds Sounds' five year celebration in Brixton's Hootananny. When the lockdown was announced, the Board called an emergency meeting at which the implications of the Coronavirus pandemic were discussed. Almost all projects for the remainder of the year were cancelled and we took the decision to terminate the contract with our project manager due to shortage of funds and an absence of work. It was decided that this period without performance activities could be valuable to BCO to develop the organisation. As there were few reserves, the director offered to take a pay cut, donating his time between April and July in order to undertake development work which included the creation of a new website. The Board agreed to meet monthly to review Covid restrictions and consider the risks that BCO faced during the pandemic and to ensure that we emerged from successive lockdowns and performance restrictions in a stable and resilient state, able to serve the Brixton community with high quality and innovative orchestral projects. We were grateful to be awarded £5k by Arts Council England from the Emergency Covid Fund which was fundamental to our survival over the course of the pandemic.

Trustees decided that we should focus on delivering a tour of community venues as soon as restrictions were lifted. We adapted our Christmas Estates Tour project for delivery outdoors across Lambeth as soon as was feasible. From 13 to 16 August, the BCO performed seven one-hour concerts in outside communal areas on seven different housing estates. A group of twenty-one professional musicians and singer Georgia Jade, rapper EM x M3 and conductor/compere Matthew O'Keeffe performed eclectic sets, featuring music spanning three centuries and four continents. A rough headcount identified 325 listeners, of whom about one-fifth were children. All of the concerts were free to the public, with advertising limited to the estates themselves to ensure audiences had space to be socially distanced. This project was funded by the Q Charitable Trust and Lambeth Council.

Here's what people said:

- It was so accessible - I've never seen an orchestra play before. I imagine it as being something that happens in expensive venues like the Albert Hall. I went because it was so close and free so had nothing to lose and it was amazing!
- Loved the range of music. Sheer joy and unexpectedness of it! The fact that so many people of so many backgrounds, ages etc were sat enjoying it. My 6 year old was transfixed!
- The conductor, soloists, programme choices - it was all so far beyond what I expected from a free gig. We loved the fluid mixing of genres: my husband adored the rap and your rendition of the Intermezzo from Cavalleria Rusticana had tears running down my face. Thank you for stirring all our hearts this afternoon.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Objectives and activities

Significant activities

The BCO has performed a concert at the St Michael's Arts Festival (Stockwell) since the festival's inception in 2017. Whilst it looked unlikely that large events would be possible in 2020, we were approached by the festival to provide a series of videos which could serve as the central offering of a digital festival. We spent two days recording five performance videos in St Michael's Church in mid-October, featuring music by Bach, Puccini, Gabrieli, Farrenc and Ravel, played by socially-distanced chamber groups of between nine and thirteen players. Recordings were released daily over the festival week and gained over 700 views locally.

After the positive response to our Summer Tour, we decided that the BCO should commit to returning for Christmas, despite the difficulties, to bring some much-needed festive joy to our public spaces. We adapted the tour again to work outdoors in December by fielding a Concert Band of wind and brass instruments, to better withstand the cold and project well outdoors. We planned twelve performances from 11-20 December in outside communal areas on ten housing estates, one youth centre and one park. A group of thirty-eight musicians - twenty-one professionals and seventeen volunteers, plus singer Georgia Jade and rapper SBK - performed an hour-long programme which included seasonal songs, Broadway hits, Band classics, Shostakovich's Festive Overture and a newly commissioned medley of Disco music. Unfortunately, London entered a tier 3 lockdown soon after the first weekend of performances and the remainder of the tour was cancelled.

Despite this, audiences exceeded 600. The project was funded by Lambeth Council and Arts Council England.

Here is some feedback from our hosts:

- Great communication, they were able to set up outside with minimal fuss...music itself was excellent. No negative comments whatsoever, we would love for you to perform at our events again in the future and would 100% recommend you!
- We loved having you at Myatt's Field... It is one of our priorities to engage young people more in the park and so it was wonderful to have such a diverse group of talented musicians performing there. We also noted that it attracted a younger audience which was great.
- I had a great time and everybody else seemed to enjoy it too. Quite a lot of people came from the China Walk Estate too, which I was really pleased about, and from the hotel over the road which currently caters for [people with] special needs, as well as from the church. A true community event! It was very well organized, proactive, and created community benefit, which is rare.

The BCO also made itself available outside of lockdown for hire by organisations in Lambeth. We performed carols in Brixton Market hosted by Brixton Bid, and gave a Christmas party for members at The Department Store in central Brixton.

We confirm that the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit when approving these activities.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Objectives and activities

Public benefit

The Brixton Chamber Orchestra's work benefits the general public through sustaining, promoting & developing the art of live music in public and private performances.

The trustees have considered the charity's public benefit and concluded:

1. That the aims of the organisation continue to be charitable;
2. That the aims and the work done give identifiable benefits to the charitable sector and both indirectly and directly to individuals in need;
3. That the benefits are for the public, are not unreasonably restricted in any way and certainly not by ability to pay;
4. That there is no detriment or harm arising from the aims or activities.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

In 2020, the BCO delivered seven projects to combined audiences of over 1500. The following achievements are organised in relation to our strategic aims.

To reach new audiences

Through two Estates Tours, we were able to reach over six hundred residents, the majority of whom were not regular classical concert-goers. Inclusion of rap and pop genres alongside classical music continues to attract and engage audiences who do not consider themselves classical music fans, but profess to enjoy the programme in its entirety. Feedback collected during our Summer Tour suggests that one in ten members of our audience had never seen an orchestra perform live before, and nearly a third say they do not regularly attend live music events of any kind. All respondents said they would recommend BCO performances to friends and family, a claim reflected in the fact that one third of our audience had found out about the BCO through word of mouth. Across all performances, approximately forty percent were from visible ethnic minorities. Audiences at our Estates Tours continue to increase substantially with each visit.

To provide a platform

For our Christmas Tour, we recruited seventeen volunteer instrumentalists (from students to pensioners) to rehearse and perform alongside our professionals. Most were from South London and all stated a desire to perform with us again. The tours provided opportunities for two young professional rappers to work with a live orchestra for the first time. We also introduced more resident participation, collaborating with dancers, rappers and singers at Angell Town and Stockwell Park Estates. Music videos recorded for St Michael's Arts Festival gave chamber music and solo platforms to our principals, which were otherwise a rarity in 2020.

To innovate new orchestral experiences

Projects that included new orchestral performance formats and programmes were largely cancelled or postponed in 2020. However, bold commissions of new arrangements for orchestra and concert band demonstrated a continued commitment to musical innovation. Estates Tours continue to innovate by establishing large housing estates as natural locations for professional live music.

To embed in the community

In 2020, we succeeded in providing live music for local communities at a time when very few live arts events were taking place. This was clearly appreciated, and was reflected in audience numbers and feedback. Our increasingly productive relationships with estate tenants' associations, as well as new connections with Homes for Lambeth and Metropolitan and Thames Valley Housing, are cementing our position as a serious provider of live music for Lambeth residents. For our Christmas estates tour, we recruited six volunteers to act as ushers, to increase community organisational involvement. We established a new relationship with the Marcus Lipton Community Centre (bordering the Loughborough and Angell Town Estates), where we rehearsed and developed plans for workshops and a festival, and also with Lambeth Made, which supports and celebrates community work across the borough.

The BCO is very grateful to the trusts, partners, donors and all those who have supported our work throughout this difficult year.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra
Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

Achievement and performance
Charitable activities

Financial review

Income for the year amounted to £40,351, representing performance fees £10,450 grants £29,240 and donations £661.

Expenditure on Charitable Activities amounted to £28,873. The resultant net surplus for the year amounted to £2,217.

All project proposals are judged against our strategic aims before being signed off by trustees, thus we ensure that resources are directed appropriately. The Trustees have considered the financial position of the charity, reviewed plans for the year 2021 and have concluded that Brixton Chamber Orchestra can continue to trade viably for the next twelve months from the date of signature of these accounts.

Future plans

The BCO will maintain the strategic aims outlined above in this document and will deliver projects which further those aims. There will be substantial challenges in 2021, with ongoing Covid restrictions restricting our ability to perform and a contracted national economy jeopardising our capacity to fundraise.

We will prepare to deliver as much live music in Brixton as is possible when Covid restrictions lift and respond to the inevitable thirst for live arts experiences. We aim to be a regular fixture in and around Brixton Market from late Spring onwards. We will deliver larger scale Estates Tours in the Summer and at Christmas, with more performances to more people on more housing estates where possible. We are also developing a few innovative music events with commercial partners to help bring the public back into restaurants, clubs and pubs.

Public health measures permitting, we hope to hold at least one full-scale symphonic concert with our volunteer musicians, and at least one bespoke rap music event in a Brixton venue.

Schools will need to prioritise academic catch-up, so our plans to further music education will shift to working with youth and community centre partners. A Musical Storytime project, in collaboration with Skewbald Theatre, to be delivered in schools and libraries, will be postponed.

We will continue to be available for hire in various configurations to other organisations in Brixton. This will allow us to extend our local reach and impact.

Organisational Development

Over the coming years, the BCO plans to develop into a sustainable arts organisation, which can serve the people of Brixton and beyond for many years to come. To this end, we have secured funding from the Q Charitable Trust to hire a dedicated marketing and development manager. We also plan to establish a Supporters' Scheme of regular giving, and form relationships with new funding bodies and commercial organisations

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 15 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr Y Fitzpatrick - Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Brixton Chamber Orchestra

I report on the accounts for the year ended 31 December 2020, which are set out on pages ten to sixteen.

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 have examined your charity's accounts as required under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the Act'). In carrying out my examination I have followed the Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. that accounting records were not kept as required by section 130 of the Act; or
2. that the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. that the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; or
4. that there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Nicola Joyce ACA, FCCA
The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
Warr & Co Limited
Chartered Accountants
76 Manchester Road
Denton
Manchester
M34 3PS

15 November 2021

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

				Year ended 31.12.20	Period 14.12.18 to 31.12.19
	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Incoming resources					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income		661	5,000	5,661	7,483
Activities for generating funds	2	10,450	-	10,450	18,616
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Estates tours		-	24,240	24,240	9,160
Total incoming resources		11,111	29,240	40,351	35,259
 Resources expended					
Costs of generating funds					
Performance costs		5,111	2,650	7,761	5,043
Charitable activities					
Estates tours		868	24,240	25,108	24,299
General activities		2,165	1,600	3,765	4,230
Governance costs		750	750	1,500	900
Total resources expended		8,894	29,240	38,134	34,472
 Net incoming resources		2,217	-	2,217	787
 Reconciliation of funds					
 Total funds brought forward		787	-	787	-
 Total funds carried forward		3,004	-	3,004	787

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Balance Sheet **At 31 December 2020**

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fund £	31.12.20 Total funds £	31.12.19 Total funds £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	5	474	-	474	558
Current assets					
Debtors	6	4,450	4,600	9,050	2,680
Cash at bank		640	(380)	260	9,901
		<u>5,090</u>	<u>4,220</u>	<u>9,310</u>	<u>12,581</u>
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	7	(2,560)	(4,220)	(6,780)	(12,352)
Net current assets		<u>2,530</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,530</u>	<u>229</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>3,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>787</u>
Net assets		<u>3,004</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,004</u>	<u>787</u>
Funds	8				
Unrestricted funds				3,004	787
Restricted funds				-	-
Total funds				<u>3,004</u>	<u>787</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Balance Sheet - continued
At 31 December 2020

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 15 November 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

Dr Y Fitzpatrick -Trustee

G Glennon -Trustee

H Little -Trustee

H Warner -Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

1. Accounting policies

Accounting convention

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard for Smaller Entities (effective April 2008), the Charities Act 2011 and the requirements of the Statement of Recommended Practice, Accounting and Reporting by Charities.

Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included on the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Resources expended

Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Fixtures and fittings	- 15% on cost
-----------------------	---------------

Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

The restricted fund is in respect of the Estates tours.

2. Activities for generating funds

	Year ended 31.12.20	Period 14.12.18 to 31.12.19
	£	£
Performance fees	10,450	17,775
Ticket sales	-	841
	<u>10,450</u>	<u>18,616</u>

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

3. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the period ended 31 December 2019.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 December 2020 nor for the period ended 31 December 2019.

4. Staff costs

	Year ended 31.12.20 £	Period 14.12.18 to 31.12.19 £
Wages and salaries	<u>7,761</u>	<u>5,043</u>

The average monthly number of employees during the year was as follows:

	Year ended 31.12.20	Period 14.12.18 to 31.12.19
Artistic Director and CEO	1	1
Project manager	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

No employees received emoluments in excess of £60,000.

A sum of £1,400 (2019 £3,862) was paid to the Artistic Director and CEO.

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

5. Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures and fittings £
Cost	
At 1 January 2020 and 31 December 2020	656
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2020	98
Charge for year	84
At 31 December 2020	182
Net book value	
At 31 December 2020	474
At 31 December 2019	558

6. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	31.12.20 £	31.12.19 £
Trade debtors	4,450	2,680
Other debtors	4,600	-
	9,050	2,680

7. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31.12.20 £	31.12.19 £
Other creditors	6,780	12,352

8. Movement in funds

	At 1.1.20 £	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.20 £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	787	2,217	3,004
TOTAL FUNDS	787	2,217	3,004

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

8. Movement in funds - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	11,111	(8,894)	2,217
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	29,240	(29,240)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	40,351	(38,134)	2,217

Comparatives for movement in funds

	Net movement in funds £	At 31.12.19 £
Unrestricted Funds		
General fund	787	787
TOTAL FUNDS	787	787

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	8,324	(7,537)	787
Restricted funds			
Restricted fund	26,935	(26,935)	-
TOTAL FUNDS	35,259	(34,472)	787

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Year ended 31.12.20 £	Period 14.12.18 to 31.12.19 £
Incoming resources		
Voluntary income		
Donations	661	7,483
Grants	5,000	-
	5,661	7,483
Activities for generating funds		
Performance fees	10,450	17,775
Ticket sales	-	841
	10,450	18,616
Incoming resources from charitable activities		
Grants	24,240	9,160
	24,240	9,160
Total incoming resources	40,351	35,259
Resources expended		
Performance costs		
Wages	7,761	5,043
Charitable activities		
Insurance	89	-
Repairs and renewals	214	-
Advertising	2,961	1,130
Musician's fees	25,108	24,299
Other delivery costs	415	3,002
Fixtures and fittings	84	98
	28,871	28,529

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Brixton Chamber Orchestra

Detailed Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 December 2020

	Year ended 31.12.20 £	Period 14.12.18 to 31.12.19 £
Governance costs		
Accountancy	1,500	900
Support costs		
Finance		
Bank charges	2	-
Total resources expended	38,134	34,472
Net income	2,217	787

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements