

Trustees' Annual Report for the period								
From		Period start date			To		Period end date	
		04	06	2020			04	06

## Section A

## Reference and administration details

<b>Charity name</b>	USURP ART
<b>Other names charity is known by</b>	Usurp, Usurp Art Space, Usurp Art Gallery & Studios
<b>Registered charity number (if any)</b>	1183720
<b>Charity's principal address</b>	62 Wilson Gardens
	Harrow
<b>Postcode</b>	HA1 4DZ

### Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to appoint trustee (if any)
1	Poulomi Desai	Trustee		
2	Simon Underwood	Trustee		
3	Denesh Bhabuta	Chair		
4	Margaret Trotter	Trustee		
5	Manjit Rooprah	Trustee		
6				
7				
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

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

Name	Dates acted if not for whole year

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

Type of adviser	Name	Address

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

--

## Section B Structure, governance and management

### Description of the charity's trusts

Type of governing document  
(eg. trust deed, constitution)

Foundation

How the charity is constituted  
(eg. trust, association, company)

Charitable Incorporated Organisation

Trustee selection methods  
(eg. appointed by, elected by)

Appointed by a resolution passed at trustees meeting

### Additional governance issues (Optional information)

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant, about:

- policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees;
- the charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works;
- relationship with any related parties;
- trustees' consideration of major risks and the system and procedures to manage them.

## Section C Objectives and activities

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

For public benefit to promote and foster the understanding and appreciation of diverse, multi - media art, and creativity. To advance education and learning in creative practices, in particular but not exclusively, by providing programmes, events, training, tours, residencies, talks, exhibitions, performances, publications, screenings and collaborative projects. To further such other purposes which may be charitable according to the law of England and Wales as the trustees see fit from time to time.

**Summary of the main activities undertaken for the public benefit in relation to these objects (include within this section the statutory declaration that trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit)**

The year continued to be full of challenges, changes and developments due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic that exposed the inequalities and fragility in our communities. Many of our Usurp community have lost loved ones, jobs and their creative livelihoods. With the various in and out of lockdowns, we prepared and implemented measures across our programmes to prevent the spread of infection and to ensure the health and safety of our volunteers, artists and participants, shifting from in person projects to online participation, mentoring and funded commissions. We continued to review and respond to the situation, with delivery of food and supplies to some of the most vulnerable BAME LGBTQ+. We confirm the trustees have had regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

### **Main activities and Projects:**

**"The New Normal Memorial"** Commissions – beyond a plinth and a headstone.

Our major project responded directly to the pandemic, globalisation and decolonisation debates. Eight new funded commissions with mentoring, supported over 20 QTPOC artists / collectives. It explored the ideas and ecologies of future change - Where is the "we" and who are our communities? How do we create these to have an action of agency, justice, persistent will, power and sustainable resources? How might we be together as a community in the future?

Commissioned artworks: [www.usurp.org.uk/commissions](http://www.usurp.org.uk/commissions)

Black Venus: New video art project and designed t-shirts, tote bags with information booklet.

Daniel Braithwaite Shirley: A set of 10 x 3D sculptural artworks - Black Trans memorials.

Lyall Hakaria and Momoe Tasker: Hand block printed material created and made into a Poutama dress, four hand printed textile pieces.

Raju Rage and Nad Ma: 46 hand silk screened folded poster prints in English, 46 hand silk screened folded poster prints in Spanish, a metal engraving, 10 art prints, 10 x Fabriano prints.

Say It Loud Club - community group for LGBTQ asylum seekers and refugees: Workshops with 10 participants produced six large scale hand painted banners to use for their events.

Tanoa Sasraku: A1 Lino print - unique artwork.

The Mollusc Dimension: pencil and pen poetry zine, spoken word and music video, seven experimental poems, four digital artworks.

Umber Ghauri: Short story, photographic project, postcards.

"I've never had this type of support before, to discuss ideas and being sign posting for technical advice and ways of thinking. It's been a very difficult time for me for a while and also being in hospital. Normally, I just have to produce something to order so this project has opened up new ideas about my own creativity, given me confidence about future possibilities and my relationship to communities". Umber Ghauri.

**Further outcomes:**

Cultural Communities – supporting Usurp Art to survive and thrive as an organisation that fosters cultural exchanges in communities, improving lives. This project inspired us to further the model of directly supporting creatives to make and reflect for public benefit. It also initiated new networks for intergenerational and skills exchange. A new relationship was created with The Bartlett College of Architecture who produced the 3D sculptures under COVID lockdown.

A Creative & Cultural Country - Sustaining communities. The Usurp Art community supports BAME LGBTQ+ creatives and people – as marginalised and invisibilised voices are still undermined unless they fit with a dominant narrative of what culture is. Usurp Art will continue to contribute and expand the sustenance of these communities by progressing the project to include an online portal for the outcomes produced and will use this project as a future model to support cultural activities in a meaningful way.

**Together Project**

Our initial community project that began last year expanded further, partnering with Harrow Arts Centre, highlighting a crisis that hit minority communities hardest of all. We worked with South Asian LGBTQIA+ communities and commissioned artists to produce a brand new film featuring a vibrant, reflective and joyous mix of performances from a variety of artistic disciplines, including comedy, dance, songs, storytelling and poetry. The film celebrates the power of the human spirit to overcome hardship and shines a spotlight on communities most affected by COVID-19. We have been supporting Black and Asian LGBTQIA+ communities since Covid-19 struck through food, advice, and mental health support since the start and this is one of the outcomes through bringing people together. The film premiered online with a live audience. Artists commissioned: Andy Kumar, Teenasai Balamu, Raheem Mir, Sabah Choudrey, Abhijeet Rane, Neelu Bhuman, Seema Mattu. More information and watch the film: [www.usurp.org.uk](http://www.usurp.org.uk)

**Consultation and academic partnerships.****University of Greenwich, Royal Borough of Greenwich and in partnership with The Greenwich Hospital, Museum of Walking and School of Noise.**

Usurp Art participated in the Greenwich SOUND/IMAGE festival, a series of exhibitions, workshops, talks and activities showcasing leading audio-visual art that investigated relationships between sound and image. The University's School of Design has hosted a SOUND/IMAGE conference since 2015, inviting international world-leading artists to share their work and practice, in an open and accessible environment. Usurp Art participated in interviews, and created audio-visual installations, transforming the windows of a shop unit within historic Greenwich Market into a contemporary, outdoor exhibition, that explored the interplay of sound and light.

**Studio Voltaire Art Space – Desperate Living C-19**

Usurp Art was invited to lead an online mentoring workshop as part of a Studio Voltaire project hosted by the artist and activist, Raju Rage. The project was part of a series of five focused research, conversation and sharing sessions working in collaboration with a group of fifteen people found through an open call. These constructive sessions unpacked the context and intersections of 'community', explored the history of queer movements, Black Lives Matter, and planned positively for the present and future.

**Tate Britain Winter Commission and archive**

We were delighted that the celebrated artist, Chila Kumari Singh Burman was awarded the Tate Britain Winter commission. Her celebrated, magnificent, illuminated installation 'remembering a brave new world' lit up the dark days and nights. Usurp Art curated her first retrospective in 2010 at our art space and we are very pleased that our posters and leaflets produced for the exhibition are now part of her archive at Tate Britain.

**Associate artists and support group.** Our artists associates and group continued in their own successes, and raised funds to support two black women's groups that support women who face domestic violence: Sistah Space and Southall Black Sisters.

We supported volunteers economically during this time to enable them to continue their work for small charities and continued our participation in the Greater London Authority's Civic Futures Programme, sharing strategic knowledge and guidance.

As an active and vibrant arts organisation Usurp Art continues to create opportunities for artists and communities. We encourage volunteering opportunities and network with community groups and arts organisations to increase arts provision and public participation. We also continue our partnerships with a variety of strategic bodies and agencies engaged in direct provision in the arts and education, to provide activities that promote diverse, experimental artistic and cultural practices.

**Additional details of objectives and activities (Optional information)**

We thank our volunteers, grant funders and our communities for their ongoing support.

You **may choose** to include further statements, where relevant, about:

- policy on grantmaking;
- policy programme related investment;
- contribution made by volunteers.

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

## Section D

## Achievements and performance

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

In spite of the ongoing tumultuous times, the team at Usurp Art continued to provide essential, practical support to artists, creatives and communities, and share ways of mentoring and peer support networks. Through direct commissions and working with partners, we were able to extend our broadcasting methods to share new works with audiences and foster collaborations.

The feedback we have received from participants, artists, creatives, funding bodies, institutions and audiences has been very positive and places us in a stronger position for the future.

## Section E Financial review

**Brief statement of the charity's policy on reserves**

Usurp Art has a reserves policy to maintain a prudent level of reserves to protect it's future and in case of closure, ensuring that wind up costs are covered.

**Details of any funds materially in deficit**

**Further financial review details (Optional information)**

You **may choose** to include additional information, where relevant about:

- the charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising);
- how expenditure has supported the key objectives of the charity;
- investment policy and objectives including any ethical investment policy adopted.

## Section F Other optional information

## Section G Declaration

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

**Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees**

**Signature(s)**



**Full name(s)**

Poulomi Desai

**Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)**

Trustee

**Date**

1 / 04 / 2022







CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Charity Name  
USURP ART

No (if any)  
1183720

## Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period from	Period start date 05/06/20	To	Period end date 04/06/21
------------------------	-------------------------------	----	-----------------------------


### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Project grant		20,200	-	20,200	-
Investment income	-	8	-	8	-
Activities for generating funds	500	-	-	500	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>20,208</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,708</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>20,208</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,708</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Charitable activities		7,380		7,380	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,380</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>12,828</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,328</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>2,664</b>	<b>24,643</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>27,307</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>3,164</b>	<b>37,471</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>40,635</b>	<b>-</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B1 Cash funds</b>	Cash at bank	3,164	37,471	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>3,164</b>	<b>37,471</b>	<b>-</b>
	(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))	OK	OK	OK
		Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
<b>B2 Other monetary assets</b>	Details	-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
<b>B3 Investment assets</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use</b>	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
<b>B5 Liabilities</b>	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees	Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
		POULOMI DESAI	01/04/22