

ECHO VOCAL ENSEMBLE

Registered Charity number 1186162

TRUSTEE ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the period 5th November 2019 to 31st March 2021

Registered Address

2 Ellesmere Close
Caversham
Reading
RG4 5HG

Trustees

Sarah Ralphs	(chair)	From 5 November 2019
Nick Jackman		From 5 November 2019
Matthew Neudegg	(treasurer)	From 5 November 2019
Daniel Sargeant		From 5 November 2019
Naomi Taylor		From 5 November 2019

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the period ending 31st March 2021

Our Objectives

Echo is a professional vocal ensemble that aims for both excellence and accessibility, presenting the highest quality music in the least pretentious way possible. We aim to inform, entertain, and inspire audiences across the UK, while getting every audience singing. We want to explore the full range of what ensemble singing can achieve, including improvisation and multi-disciplinary collaborations, while aiming for musical excellence at all times, and are committed to reaching a varied and extensive demographic with our work.

Our aims are to:

1. Innovate within the sector of ensemble singing
2. Reach a diverse audience and break down barriers within this art form
3. Achieve artistic and musical excellence

In particular, we are keen to challenge the preconceptions and traditions that can sometimes be associated with choral music in the UK - the fixed association with the church, the 'seriousness' of western classical repertoire and its presentation, and a critical approach to the idea of a 'fixed' historical canon. By doing so, we aim to reach the widest possible audience and allow them to engage in a meaningful way with music through inclusive experiences.

Our measure of success is gauged by the audience, participant and artist reaction to each event, and the number of new audiences and participants we can reach each year.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the period ending 31st March 2021

Review of Performance

Echo Vocal Ensemble was established as a charitable incorporated organisation on 5th November 2019. The first year end was 31st March 2021.

In the period before March 2020, Echo were artist-in-residence at Ryedale Festival, performed at the Southbank Centre's Queen Elizabeth Hall alongside the London Philharmonic Orchestra and toured their programme 'Meet you in the Maze'. The ensemble also set up its first public improvisation workshops and reached new audiences in person (c.1,500) and online (over 10,000).

From March 2020 onwards there was less possibility of live activities due to the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent UK lockdown prohibiting concert performances. However, several events and performances still took place. Echo received Emergency funding from Arts Council, which helped to create the theatre piece 'Listening to Lassus' with collaborators Miriam Sherwood and Aminita Francis, as well as funding online workshops for singers to take part in from home (which reached over 3,000 people). The group also ran their 'Kitchen Sessions' series of performances and discussions, and launched the much loved '12 Days' Christmas online series of performances, which was a commercial and critical success and was described by The Times as "a wonderful collection of music".

Going forward into 21/22 Echo will continue to monitor the latest public health guidelines and make full risk assessments for all planned activities, creating innovative and high quality live experiences for audiences while keeping safety at the forefront of planning.

Financial Review

Over the course of the period, the charity had a surplus of £10,530.

At the end of the period, the charity has unrestricted funds of £10,530, and zero restricted funds.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

For the period ending 31st March 2021

Governance

Echo Vocal Ensemble is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered on 5th November 2019. The Trustees approved the Echo Vocal Ensemble Constitution, which serves as the governing document of the charity.

Trustees

Trustees are appointed to the board of the charity to manage the affairs of the CIO. The board must comprise no fewer than three trustees.

New trustees must be appointed by a resolution of the existing trustees for a term of two years. Any new trustee will be judged on the basis of their skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the charity.

Management

Responsibility for the day-to-day management of the charity is held by two co-artistic directors, who report on performance to the board.

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF ECHO VOCAL ENSEMBLE

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Echo Vocal Ensemble (the charity) for the 17 months ended 31 March 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 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no 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.



Nicolas Matus Rivera

ACA

01 / 23 / 2022

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

For the 17 months ending 31st March 2021

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	Notes	£	£	£
Income from:				
Donations	2	17,904	-	17,904
Charitable activities	2	12,790	-	12,790
Other		-	-	-
Total Income		30,694	-	30,694
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds		-	-	-
Charitable activities		(18,818)	-	(18,818)
Administration expenses		(1,345)	-	(1,345)
Other		-	-	-
Total Expenditure		(20,163)	-	(20,163)
Net surplus/(deficit) for the period		10,530	-	10,530
Reconciliation of funds:				
Total funds brought forward		-	-	-
Total funds carried forward		10,530	-	10,530

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As at 31st March 2021

As at 31 March 2021

	Notes	Total £
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents		12,211
Debtors	3	-
Total Assets		12,211
Current liabilities		
Creditors	4	(1,408)
Deferred income	5	(273)
Total Liabilities		(1,681)
Funds of the Charity		
Unrestricted Funds		10,530
Restricted Funds		-
Total Funds		10,530

APPROVED BY


Sarah Ralphs

Chair of Trustees

On behalf of all of the trustees

01 / 25 / 2022

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the 17 months ending 31st March 2021

1 Accounting policies

Basis for preparation

These accounts are prepared on an accruals basis in compliance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), and with the Charities Act 2011. We consider the charity to be a going concern and the accounts have been presented accordingly.

Given that this is the first year of activity for the charity, no comparative year is disclosed in these accounts.

2 Recognition of income

Income is recognised when the charity becomes entitled to the resource and it is likely that the charity will receive the income.

Echo Vocal Ensemble recognises two main types of income:

Charities Activities	Income related to specific events, performances or services (for example ticket sales)
Donations	Income related to general support for the charity and its operations, including 'Friends' memberships.

Any income outside of these parameters is considered 'Other Income'.

Restricted funds are Income committed to the performance of a particular event or series of events. Currently Echo does not have any restricted income.

'Friends' memberships are recognised over the life of the membership.

3 Debtors

At 31st March 2021, Echo Vocal Ensemble had £0 of debtors related to charitable activities.

4 Creditors

At 31st March 2021, Echo Vocal Ensemble had £1,408 of creditors related to day-to-day expenses.

5 Deferred Income

Deferred income refers to one-year memberships issued under the 'Friends' scheme. £273 was deferred at 31st March 2021.