

Registered Charity Number: 1190010

**OPERA ON LOCATION
(CHARITABLE INCORPORATED ORGANISATION)**

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

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LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

Status

Opera on Location is governed by a constitution and is registered under the Charities Act 2011 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity Registration Number: 1190010) from 19 June 2020.

Trustees

David Allen
Sallianne Foster-Major
Daniel Leitch (appointed 26 April 2022)
Jim Steinke (appointed 26 April 2022)
Kate Thompson

Charity Address

7 Victoria Park Road
Brimington
Chesterfield
S43 1QP

Bankers

NatWest
5 Market Place
Chesterfield
S40 1TW

Independent Examiners

Faye Hazlehurst FMAAT
FH Accountancy Services
Hawkshead Crescent
Anston
Sheffield
S25 4JU

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The objectives of Opera on Location are to advance public education, appreciation and understanding of the arts, particularly the art of opera in all its aspects, by the production and presentation of public operatic performances.

To reach its objectives, Opera on Location innovatively stage affordable high-quality opera in unconventional performance spaces sung in English by young performers in the early stages of their careers/professional singers requiring further stage experience.

Public benefit

The aims and benefits of Opera on Location are contained within the body of this Report. We have considered the key principles of the Charity Commission's general guidance about public benefit and have concluded that Opera on Location meets all the requirements.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Following the success of Opera on Location's previous season and the production of Debussy's *The Prodigal Son* and the collaboration with Hallam Sinfonia, the company was delighted to be once again planning for a return to live, indoor performances as they did before the pandemic.

Opera on Location was thrilled to receive funding from Arts Council England for a new and innovative production of Mascagni's *Cavalleria rusticana* and Leoncavallo's *Pagliacci*. For the first time, Opera on Location offered 'wellbeing through singing' workshops to community groups in Sheffield who then had the opportunity to come and see the opera free of charge.

Alongside funding from Arts Council England, Opera on Location was delighted to also have received funding from Sheffield Town Trust, The Golsoncott Foundation and The Arnold Clark Community Fund.

A return to indoor theatre production brought with it challenges and highlighted a lasting impact from the Covid-19 pandemic. Opera on Location's producers planned for this and managed the budget accordingly by only predicting 50% of available tickets being sold. The overall audience figures were 270 of an available 540 seats. This shows that audiences were still hesitant to attend live, indoor theatre, but things were moving in the right direction. Tickets were sold via the Opera on Location website at £21/19 (concessions) including a booking fee.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Trustees are satisfied with the result for the year ended 31 March 2023, being a surplus of £7,005 (2022: deficit of £192).

Total income in the year ended 31 March 2023 amounted to £42,068 (2022: £22,525). This consisted of grant income of £33,652 (2022: £14,999), income from charitable activities of £5,501 (2022: £6,580), donations from individuals of £2,908 (2022: £946) and income from investments of £7 (2022: £nil).

Total expenditure in the year ended 31 March 2023 amounted to £35,063 (2022: £35,063).

At 31 March 2023, the charity held total funds of £9,928 (2022: £2,923), consisting of £3,678 (2022: £2,923) of unrestricted funds and £6,250 (2022: £nil) of restricted funds.

Reserves Policy

It is the Trustees' policy to maintain a level of free reserves which provides a stable base for their continuing activities, whilst at the same time ensuring excessive funds are not accumulated. As at 31 March 2023, the charity held free reserves of £3,678 (2022: £2,923). Opera on Location aims to hold unrestricted reserves of 6 to 12 months of annual expenditure, and so will continue to build its reserves to meet this target.

STRUCTURE AND GOVERNANCE

Structure

Opera on Location is governed by a constitution and is registered under the Charities Act 2011 as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (Charity Registration Number: 1190010) from 19 June 2020.

Governance

New trustees are appointed at duly convened meetings, on the approval of the current trustees. The Board of Trustees comprises a minimum of three trustees with no maximum limit. The trustees meet regularly to review the strategy and performance of the charity.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The principal risks facing the charity, as considered by the Trustees, include:

1. Not receiving external funding grants

Opera on Location were extremely grateful for the funding received during the financial year. If, however, Opera on Location were to be unsuccessful in receiving external funding, the programme of activity would be altered to suit an achievable budget whilst trying to maintain our high production values.

2. Poor quality of performance and loss of audience

Opera on Location has gained a fantastic reputation with each project adding to this. The Co-artistic Directors have processes in place when recruiting freelancers to ensure they are of the highest quality available. Opera on Location regularly collects audience feedback after performances to help monitor how productions have been received, this in some extent informs what aspects to expand on with future productions. Furthermore, Opera on Location invites external and peer reviewers to performances for an objective and critical eye.

3. Loss of key personnel

Opera on Location is currently a small organisation and so loss of key personnel could have a detrimental impact on the charity. Any such loss of key personnel would be looked into immediately and an action plan drawn up to ensure that the charity would be able to continue to operate smoothly.

4. Global pandemic

Fortunately for Opera on Location, its overheads are low. This allows it to curate a programme which is affordable and achievable depending on the budget available at the time whilst maintaining a creative flair to our programming. Should there be a future pandemic Opera on Location would apply the learnings from during the Covid-19 pandemic.

FUTURE PLANS

Following a lack of funding across the Arts in 2023, Opera on Location's 2023 plans will be carried forward to 2024.

2024 will celebrate the previous ten years of Opera on Location with the return of an exciting August opera, Opera on Location honours the ten years of activity with a thrilling and somewhat immersive production of Verdi's A Masked Ball. Director and librettist, Ashley Pearson, is creating a bespoke version of the score and will direct the show to echo the party atmosphere of the piece. Audience members will be encouraged to wear masks, circus acts will set the scene before the performance begins, and with food and drink available to purchase during an extended interval, the year will be kicked off in great fashion.

For the first time Opera on Location will utilise a community chorus made up of amateur singers from across the region. Two choirs have agreed to partner with the charity for this production: Vivacity Community Choir and the Adult Autistic Choir. The remaining chorus roles will be opened up to other amateur singers from across South Yorkshire via an open call. Opera on Location is thrilled to be working with the local community in this way.

A Masked Ball will also feature a 17 piece orchestra which is the largest ensemble Opera on Location have employed to date.

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards).

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

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

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charity's transactions, disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 and the provisions of the charity's constitution. 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' Annual Report was approved by the Board of Trustees on 22 January 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



DAVID ALLEN
Trustee

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF OPERA ON LOCATION

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of Opera on Location ("the Charity") for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed all the application Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 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 Charity 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.

Signed: 

Date: 29 January 2024

Faye Hazlehurst FMAAT
FH Accountancy Services
Hawkshead Crescent
Anston
Sheffield
S25 4JU

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
for the year ended 31 March 2023

	Note	Unrestricted funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Restricted funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Year ended 31 March 2023 £	Total funds Year ended 31 March 2022 £
Income from:					
Donations and grants	2	4,908	31,652	36,560	15,945
Charitable activities	3	5,501	-	5,501	6,580
Investments	4	7	-	7	-
Total income		10,416	31,652	42,068	22,525
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	5	2,133	1,154	3,287	766
Charitable activities	6	7,528	24,248	31,776	21,951
Total expenditure		9,661	25,402	35,063	22,717
Net income / (expenditure)		755	6,250	7,005	(192)
Transfers between funds		-	-	-	-
Net movement in funds		755	6,250	7,005	(192)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward		2,923	-	2,923	3,115
Net movement in funds		755	6,250	7,005	(192)
Total funds carried forward		3,678	6,250	9,928	2,923

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of the financial statements.

BALANCE SHEET
as at 31 March 2023

	Note	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
Current assets					
Stocks		384		384	
Debtors	9	314		1,790	
Cash at bank and in hand		10,341		2,623	
		<u>11,039</u>		<u>4,797</u>	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	10	(1,111)		(1,874)	
Net current assets			9,928		2,923
Total net assets			<u>9,928</u>		<u>2,923</u>
Charity funds					
Restricted funds	11		6,250		-
Unrestricted funds	11		3,678		2,923
Total funds			<u>9,928</u>		<u>2,923</u>

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the Board of Trustees on 22 January 2024.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees by:



DAVID ALLEN
Trustee

The notes on pages 11 to 20 form part of the financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 March 2023**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Charity information**

Opera on Location is registered as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation in England and Wales. It was formed on 19 June 2020 and its charity number is 1190010. Its registered office address is 7 Victoria Park Road, Brimington, Chesterfield, S43 1QP.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with 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) (Charities SORP 2019) and with the Charities Act 2011.

Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

The functional currency of the charity is considered to be pound sterling because that is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the charity operates.

The charity constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going concern

Having reviewed the financial position of Opera on Location, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the charity has adequate resources to continue its activities for the foreseeable future. Accordingly, they adopt a going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Income

Income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity becomes entitled to the income, it is probable that the income will be received, and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants are received for specific projects/costs and are recognised in accordance with their individual terms and conditions. Income is recognised when the charity has entitlement to the funds, which is when any performance conditions attached are met, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be reliably measured. Grant income will be deferred if received in advance of meeting performance conditions.

Donations represent amounts received in the year, including gift aid.

Expenditure

Expenditure comprises expenditure directly relating to the activities of the charity. Costs are either specifically identified or apportioned between expenditure headings for the purposes of charitable activities and costs of raising funds. All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

Charitable activities includes both direct costs and support costs relating to the activity.

Costs of raising funds are those costs incurred in attracting donations.

Allocation of support costs

Costs are directly attributable to specific activities.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

Debtors

Short term debtors are initially measured at transaction price, less any impairment.

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash in hand and deposits held with banks.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where it is more likely than not that there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay out resources and the amount of the obligation can be measured with reasonable certainty.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds comprise donations and grants earmarked by the donors, or the terms of the grant, for specific purposes and are detailed in the notes to the financial statements.

Unrestricted funds can be used at the discretion of the Trustees to further the charitable objectives.

Financial instruments

Opera on Location only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their amortised cost.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the charity's accounting policies, Trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and underlying assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates.

The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects current and future periods.

In the view of the Trustees, no assumptions concerning the future or estimation uncertainty affecting assets or liabilities at the balance sheet date are likely to result in a material adjustments to their carrying amounts in the next financial year.

Taxation

Opera on Location is a registered charity and as such is entitled to tax exemption on all its income and gains, properly applied for its charitable purposes.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Individual donations	2,908	-	2,908
Arts Council England	-	23,652	23,652
Sheffield Town Trust	2,000	3,000	5,000
Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust	-	2,000	2,000
The Golonscott Foundation	-	1,000	1,000
Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	750	750
Sheffield Bluecoat and Mount Pleasant Educational Foundation	-	750	750
The Sarah Nulty Power of Music Foundation	-	500	500
	<u>4,908</u>	<u>31,652</u>	<u>36,560</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Individual donations	946	-	946
Arts Council England grant	-	14,999	14,999
	<u>946</u>	<u>14,999</u>	<u>15,945</u>

3. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Ticket sales	5,501	-	5,501
	<u>5,501</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,501</u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Ticket sales	5,205	-	5,205
Performance fees	1,375	-	1,375
	<u>6,580</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,580</u>

4. INCOME FROM INVESTMENTS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Bank interest	7	-	7
	<u>7</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7</u>

There was investment income received during the year ended 31 March 2022.

5. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Website and marketing costs	901	-	901
Friends Scheme costs	811	-	811
Fundraiser fees	272	978	1,250
Independent examination fee	49	176	225
Tax return fee	100	-	100
	<u>2,133</u>	<u>1,154</u>	<u>3,287</u>

This includes £1,033 (year ended 31 March 2022: £371) of support costs, including governance costs of £325 (2022: £nil).

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Website and marketing costs	610	-	610
Friends Scheme costs	156	-	156
	<u>766</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>766</u>

6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Artists, performers and creative teams	4,451	16,023	20,474
Production costs	1,852	6,667	8,519
Website and marketing costs	352	845	1,197
Insurance	32	114	146
Ticket processing fees	134	-	134
General expenditure	707	599	1,306
	<u>7,528</u>	<u>24,248</u>	<u>31,776</u>

General expenditure includes £602 (2022: £450) of support costs. No governance costs were incurred in the current year and previous period in respect of expenditure on charitable activities.

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Artists, performers and creative teams	1,975	9,780	11,755
Production costs	429	7,219	7,648
Website and marketing costs	1,561	-	1,561
Insurance	49	-	49
Ticket processing fees	230	-	230
General expenditure	708	-	708
	<u>4,952</u>	<u>16,999</u>	<u>21,951</u>

7. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The trustees were not remunerated during the current year and previous period. 1 trustee (2022: 0) was reimbursed expenditure amounting to £7 (2022: £nil).

There were no further related party transactions during the current year.

In the prior year, a leaving gift, amounting to £35, was purchased as a small gift for a leaving trustee; the value of the gift was considered to be minimal, and the trustees agreed that such a purchase was in the charity's best interest.

8. STAFF COSTS AND NUMBERS

No staff have been employed during the current year and previous period.

9. DEBTORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Prepayments and accrued income	314	1,790
	<u>314</u>	<u>1,790</u>

10. CREDITORS

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Accruals and deferred income	1,111	1,874
	<u>1,111</u>	<u>1,874</u>

OPERA ON LOCATION

YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

11. FUNDS

	Balance at 1 April 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Balance at 31 March 2023 £
Unrestricted funds	<u>2,923</u>	<u>10,416</u>	<u>(9,661)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,678</u>
Restricted funds					
Arts Council England	-	23,652	(23,652)	-	-
<i>Verismo</i> production – The Golonscott Foundation	-	1,000	(1,000)	-	-
<i>Verismo</i> production – Arnold Clark Community Fund	-	750	(750)	-	-
Educational workshops – Sheffield Town Trust	-	2,665	-	-	2,665
Educational workshops – Sheffield Bluecoat and Mount Pleasant Educational Foundation	-	750	-	-	750
Educational workshops – The Sarah Nulty Power of Music Foundation	-	500	-	-	500
2023 Summer concert – Earl Fitzwilliam Charitable Trust	-	2,000	-	-	2,000
2023 Summer concert – Sheffield Town Trust	-	335	-	-	335
	<u>-</u>	<u>31,652</u>	<u>(25,402)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,250</u>
Total of funds	<u>2,923</u>	<u>42,068</u>	<u>(35,063)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,928</u>

11. FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	Balance at 1 April 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/(out) £	Balance at 31 March 2022 £
Unrestricted funds	1,115	7,526	(5,718)	-	2,923
Restricted funds					
Arts Council England	-	14,999	(14,999)	-	-
Sheffield Town Trust	2,000	-	(2,000)	-	-
	2,000	14,999	(16,999)	-	-
Total of funds	3,115	22,525	(22,717)	-	2,923

Arts Council England

A grant was received during the year ended 31 March 2023 from Arts Council England to fund the *Verismo* production. During the year ended 31 March 2022, a grant was received from Arts Council England to fund the *Prodigal Son* production.

Verismo production

Monies were received from a number of organisations to fund the *Verismo* production.

Educational workshops

Monies were received from a number of organisations to fund educational workshops.

2023 Summer concert

Monies were received from a number of organisations to fund the 2023 Summer concert.

Sheffield Town Trust

A grant was received in the year ended 31 March 2022 from Sheffield Town Trust to be utilised for the *Prodigal Son* production.

12. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Current assets	3,678	6,250	9,928
Total	3,678	6,250	9,928
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Current assets	2,923	-	2,923
Total	2,923	-	2,923

13. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 April 2022	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	£ 2,623	7,718	10,341
	<u>191</u>	<u>2,432</u>	<u>2,623</u>
	At 1 April 2021	Cash flows £	At 31 March 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	£ 191	2,432	2,623
	<u>191</u>	<u>2,432</u>	<u>2,623</u>