

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 05243558 (England and Wales)
REGISTERED CHARITY NUMBER: 1194001

Report of the trustees and
Unaudited financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023
For
Gecko Theatre

Louise Rogers Limited
Columba House
Adastral Park
Martlesham Heath
IP5 3RE

Contents of the financial statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Page
Introduction from the Chair of Trustees	1
Report of the Trustees	2 to 10
Independent Examiner's Report	11
Statement of Financial Activities	12
Balance Sheet	13
Cash Flow Statement	14
Notes to the Cash Flow Statement	15
Notes to the Financial Statements	16 to 23
Detailed Statement of Financial Activities	24 to 25

Gecko Theatre

Introduction from the chair of trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Much of the focus for this year has been on our newest production, Kin. The show explores the themes of migration, racism, family and home and made its debut at HOME (Manchester) in October 2022. It has since continued to tour across the UK to enthusiastic and responsive audiences.

"It shows human resilience in the face of heartbreak, in the face of danger. It made me feel utterly heartbroken and utterly lost but also so thankful that we are humans and that we are there for each other. And that there is always hope."

Audience Member (via post show interview)

During autumn 2023 the show will tour five UK venues, with support from an Arts Council England Project Grant, which will allow the company to engage with refugee groups and displaced communities at each touring venue, inviting these groups to explore their own migration stories, Gecko's work and methodology through in-person workshops, films and attendance at a performance of the show.

In January 2024, Kin and Gecko will make their debut at the National Theatre (London), something we are all incredibly excited about.

Working in the cultural sector is still a challenge; the cost-of-living crisis continues to impact on how and where people spend their money, resulting in venues battling increasing costs against reduced attendance. We are therefore grateful to Arts Council England for continuing their support of Gecko as a National Portfolio Organisation during 2023-2026, along with further support for our capital project, the Creation Space, our new devising studio and headquarters.

Following a review of the Creation Space project, funding has been secured from ACE, Ipswich Borough Council and the Garfield Weston Foundation to build the project across several phases. The first phase will see a state-of-the-art creation studio and multifunction office space.. Construction work will begin in mid-2024, with handover and opening expected late 2025. The Creation Space will transform how Gecko makes work, how we reach and engage with our local community, and how we can support artists and companies across the UK and internationally.

During the last year, trustees approved Gecko's Creative Engagement Strategy which will provide direction for investment and activity. The company will focus on challenging the structural inequalities across arts and cultural organisations, prioritising three groups: Young People and Education, Artist and Talent Development, and Community and Audience Engagement. Projects and activity will be focussed on the themes of Immigration and Mental Health, themes that are core to our artistic programme and central to our work and values.

This year, after almost ten years of service, we said goodbye to our Executive Producer Rosalind Wynn, who has taken time out to explore the world and travel. The Trustees are incredibly grateful for everything she has achieved with Gecko during her time with the company, and we wish her safe travels and a wonderful future.

As a result of this and a review of our staffing structure, the company has appointed a Freelance Producer, a Producing Assistant (Creative Engagement) and a Fundraising and Development Manager to the team, providing additional support across all of our activity.

The trustees thank the team at Gecko for their incredible hard work over the last year and express our thanks to our funders, audiences and participants across the UK and the world who support us and enjoy our work.

Jon Neal, Chair

Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. 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).

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

Gecko is an award-winning and critically acclaimed physical theatre company, founded in 2001 by Artistic Director Amit Lahav. Our vision is to deepen human connection through physical, visual, visceral and ambitious performance and participation.

We're dedicated to providing experiences of the highest quality possible for the benefit of the public; for audience members coming to see one of our shows or watching one of our films, for school and college students taking part in a workshop delivered by one of our world-class performers, for our local communities taking part in our Creative Engagement programme and for artists developing their own practice. These experiences take place in our hometown of Ipswich, across the UK and around the world.

The objects for which the charity is established, as set out in our governing document, and for the public benefit are to:

- advance the arts through the creation and performance of artistic works
- advance education in the subject of artistic performance, in particular but not exclusively by the delivery of educational workshops, masterclasses, and residential courses

In everything we do, we want to create the opportunity for people to connect to our work and to each other.

We create performance that explores contemporary themes relevant to the society in which we live, performance that is inspiring and provocative. We blend choreography, sound, lighting and set design to create our worlds and use breath, emotion, multiple languages and metaphor to tell our stories. Our audience engage with our work in various ways (visually, sonically, and emotionally) giving it a broad appeal across diverse age groups, nationalities and backgrounds. This approach encourages our audience to deepen their connection with the company and each other and to create and share their own interpretation of our work.

We take the same approach with our Creative Engagement programme. Working with our highly experienced facilitators, we create a safe and supported environment that allows creative practitioners, local community groups and students to be bold and experimental, inviting them to push beyond the boundaries of their previous experience, develop new skills and a new understanding of the world around them.

Gecko Theatre

Report of the trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Objectives and activities

Significant activities

Achievements and Performance

- 8,920 live theatre audience members
- 6 free post-show discussions, with BSL interpretation
- 72 in-person or digital workshop sessions for 1,313 people
- 83 professional artists on Gecko Residencies
- 88,597 followers across our social media channels
- 57,017 views of our online videos
- 136,000 page views of our website by 47,000 unique visitors

Kin

In 1932, Leah and her family escaped persecution and embarked on a journey from Yemen to Palestine. Ninety years later, her grandson Amit Lahav (Artistic Director of Gecko) reflects on the lifechanging decision his family made to flee and build a better life. Kin is a powerful and emotional piece of physical theatre and a provocative story of desperation, compassion, and acceptance, inspired by the migration stories of Gecko's international performers and the extraordinary voyage Leah undertook as a young child.

Gecko's eighth stage production, Kin, premiered at HOME (Manchester) in October 2022, commissioned by the National Theatre and supported by HOME Manchester, Lighthouse Poole and London International Mime Festival. The production continues to tour nationally taking in venues at Warwick, Poole, Newcastle, Norwich, Chester, Doncaster, Oxford, Nottingham and Brighton, where it was chosen as the opening production for the newly refurbished Brighton Corn Exchange Theatre.

"Just arrived back home after seeing the extraordinary @GeckoTheatre 'Kin' at @HOME_mcr . Absolutely breath-taking! A truly visceral journey of epic portions. You must catch this show wherever you can!"

Maxine Peake (via Twitter/X)

Artists' Residencies in Care Homes

2022 saw the release of our short film STILL, the culmination of 4 years of work with the residents and carers at Lime Court Care Home in Essex (Exelcare UK), part of the Artists' Residencies in Care Homes project led by leading intergenerational arts charity Magic Me and supported by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation.

Inspired by physical interactions with the residents and carers of the care home, and personal stories elicited in one-to-one conversations, this beautiful and emotional film celebrates the amazing residents of Lime Court through Gecko's unique style and visuals.

Led by Gecko's Helen Baggett (Associate Director) and Paul Smethurst (Creative Engagement Producer) the film takes viewers on an emotional journey through different worlds inspired by the residents. These ideas were brought to life within a film studio built within one of the rooms at Lime Court, where it was transformed into different scenes and environments for the residents to experience, explore and respond to through the use of movement and music.

The Residents and staff of Lime Court were treated to a sneak peek of the final film at a special red-carpet event within the home itself before it was premiered as part of the Harwich Festival. STILL was publicly launched in September 2022, on the National Day of Arts in Care Homes. The film has been viewed in over 56 countries, was longlisted for Arts Council England's Digital Culture Awards, and has been chosen for the Lowestoft Film Festival and Greenwich Film Festival. It has also been screened publicly at HOME (Manchester), Ipswich Central Library and King's Street Cinema (Ipswich).

"I'm in tears. Thank you for what you're doing. I'm feeling incredibly emotional. We have lovely people in our homes. Life in a care home is not a bus stop. People are living. They have energy. They give us energy everyday".

Simona Petrehus (Exelcare UK)

Objectives and activities

The Wedding returns to the Barbican Centre

The Wedding returned to the Barbican Centre since its first performances at the venue in January 2019 as part of London International Mime Festival. Across five performances during June 2022, we welcomed an incredible 3,715 people to this much-loved production. The response from the audience during the rousing closing scenes was incredible; Gecko's Artistic Director Amit Lahav and cast reported that the cheers and applause they received at the end of the show was louder than anything that they have ever experienced before, a collective outpouring of emotion and a celebration of being truly united together again following the pandemic.

"Truly amazing night @BarbicanCentre watching @GeckoTheatre #TheWedding who belong in this incredible building achieving things on a stage I didn't think were even possible. Director @AmitLahavGecko mind bogglingly creative, ensemble out of this world."

Omid Djalili (via Twitter/X)

Gecko Creation Space

The Gecko Creation Space is our planned devising studio and HQ to be built in Ipswich. The full scheme includes a large devising studio, a creative engagement studio, offices, green room facilities and a workshop, and will be delivered in phases to minimise risk, with funding confirmed to deliver phase one, made up of the devising studio and a hybrid office/green room.

The project, to be led by Ipswich Borough Council (IBC), is overseen by a Project Board made up of IBC, ACE and Gecko representatives, with the first phase of the project costing £2.3m (£1.41m IBC, £740k ACE and a pledge from Garfield Weston of £150k).

Architects and a multi-disciplinary consultant have been appointed, with designs to be developed during 2023 and 2024.

Design of the building will be fully accessible and will meet environmental BREEAM standards of Very Good.

The Creation Space will transform how Gecko makes work, how we reach and engage with our local community, and how we can support artists and companies across the UK and internationally.

Gecko Theatre

Report of the trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Strategic report

Financial review

The company is funded by Arts Council England (ACE) and is a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) with funding provided across a three-year period April 2023 to March 2026. The company reports to ACE through quarterly monitoring, and an annual statistical survey and report. We also receive yearly funding from Ipswich Borough Council, linked to maintaining our National Portfolio Organisation status with ACE.

Our remaining funding is generated through Trusts and Foundations, individual donations/crowdfunding, and income from international and national touring, creative engagement activity with schools and colleges, professional training and through commercial engagements.

Financial results

The Company made a deficit of £114k in the year. This was entirely as planned with reserves built in previous years being spent on the final development of Kin. Total reserves levels remain healthy at £417k with unspent reserves for the Creation Space at £180k. It is important to note that a large proportion of the remaining reserves are in the form of Theatre Tax Relief receivable from HMRC (see below for further information).

Going Concern

Gecko have been embroiled in a long-term dispute with HMRC regarding a Theatre Tax Relief claim covering the accounting period 2021/2022. Gecko submitted Theatre Tax Relief based on a claim for production expenses at 80% of 50% (a temporary rate introduced as part of the Government's response to the challenges the sector faces following COVID). HMRC argued that the claim should be awarded at 80% of 25% = 20%, the standard rate for Theatre Tax Relief claims in 2021/2022.

Gecko were informed of HMRC's inquiry in February 2023, with a settlement finally agreed by HMRC over 12 months later, following extensive counter arguments and legal advice/representation by Larking Gowen Accountants. The length of this inquiry and subsequent uncertainty about its outcome resulted in a request to Companies House to submit our 2022/2023 accounts by 31 March 2024 instead of 31 December 2023, which was accepted. However, because of delaying submission of our accounts to Companies House, Gecko was unable to upload financial information to our records on the Charity Commission Website by their 31 December 2023 deadline, with our Charity reporting being shown for 2022/2023 as overdue.

Following HMRC's decision regarding Theatre Tax Relief, Trustees having reviewed the settlement offered by HMRC and having reviewed the circumstances of the company consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the company for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Principal funding sources

The company is funded by Arts Council England (ACE) and is a National Portfolio Organisation. The company reports to ACE through quarterly monitoring, an annual statistical survey and report. We also receive yearly funding from Ipswich Borough Council, linked to maintaining our National Portfolio Organisation status with ACE.

Our remaining funding is generated through Trust and Foundations, and income from international and national touring, creative engagement activity with schools and colleges, professional training and through commercial engagements.

Investment policy

The majority of the company's available cash reserves are required to finance its ongoing charitable objectives and therefore the amount of spare reserves to invest is minimal. Any spare reserves and all restricted reserves are placed in an instant access deposit account with our existing banking provider. The interest earned on these deposits remains low due to low market rates and is reinvested into delivery of the company's core activities. Once the TTR situation is resolved, longer term but very low risk investments may be considered for funds not required for the day-to-day operations. Any such moves would be subject to Board approval.

Strategic report

Financial review

Reserves

Gecko's policy is currently to maintain reserves of

- Cash reserves £40k at all times
- General reserves target (net current assets excluding Theatre Tax Credit, Total Fixed Assets and Restricted Funds) is £60k as of 31 March each year.

Given the significant delay caused by HMRC's challenge to the Theatre Tax Relief (TTR) calculation, the Board voted at the 12 December 2022 board meeting to suspend this policy until the matter of TTR is resolved. The basis for this decision was that £67k of the TTR was not in dispute and is merely being held up by the discussion on the remaining proportion. As a result of this, the reserves calculation as stated in the policy made limited sense and has been suspended. While the TTR situation continues, cashflow has become a key focus for management of the business day to day.

The policy will be reinstated on resolution of the Theatre Tax Relief dispute. Given the settlement recently reached with HMRC, this reinstatement should be by May 2024.

Designated Funds

Reserves may be designated by the Board to cover part or all expenditure for future specific projects. Once designated, only the Board may release this designation for any purpose other than the project for which it was designated. An example of future spend for which designation is appropriate may include the development of a new show or the future purchase of a large asset.

At this time, Gecko does not hold any Designated Funds.

Restricted Funds

Restricted Reserves will be held where funds raised for specific purposes have not yet been expended. Restricted funds were used for costs incurred during the development of the Gecko Creation Space warehouse site, with design work completed during this period transferred to designs for the new site recently identified, following a decision to switch from converting the warehouse to building from new, which is expected to be more cost effective.

At end of year, Gecko holds the following Restricted Funds:

- £250,983 restricted funds for use on the Gecko Creation Space project,
- £1,589 restricted funds for the final elements of the work in Care Homes.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The majority of the company's available cash reserves are required to finance its ongoing charitable objectives and therefore the amount of spare reserves to invest is minimal. Any spare reserves and all restricted reserves are placed in an instant access deposit account with our banking provider. The interest earned on these deposits is very low due to low market rates and is reinvested into delivery of the company's core activities.

Gecko Theatre

Report of the trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Strategic report

Future plans

Kin at the National Theatre

During January 2024, Kin and Gecko will debut on the Lyttleton Stage at London's National Theatre. The run over three weeks and 19 performances will also see a full-day student conference featuring a masterclass from a critically acclaimed theatre critic, as well as talks and interactive workshops with the Gecko team, exploring our devising methodology and creative process. Assisted performances include a specially commissioned Audio Described and Captioned performances, developed in association with the National Theatre's Access Department.

Running alongside our performances will be several masterclasses for early career artists, along with a returners residency for artists who have already completed residencies with Gecko previously.

Creative Engagement Strategy

Our focus for 2023/2024 will be the implementation of the Creative Engagement Strategy following Trustee approval in March 2023. The Strategy will provide direction for fundraising and activity around the themes of Immigration and Mental Health, focussing on our priority groups of Young People and Education, Artist and Talent Development, and Community and Audience Engagement.

Projects this year will include Professional Development Residencies for artists/practitioners, continuing professional development for teachers, workshops for schools, workshops residencies in Thailand, Malaysia and China, and a project working with Suffolk refugees, supported by funding from Suffolk County Council.

The company are also collaborating with the Thomas Wolsey 550 project – an Ipswich town wide celebration that recognises and celebrates the 550th anniversary of the birth of Cardinal Thomas Wolsey. As part of those celebrations, Gecko will deliver our highly praised Tell Your Story immersive workshops, taster days for Key Stage 2 students, and empowering CPD sessions for teachers exploring culture, heritage, belonging and aspiration.

Additionally, higher education devising projects with students at East15 and Northern School of Contemporary Dance provide Gecko with the opportunity to embed students within our devising methodology as part of their studies/training, whilst also exploring potential show ideas for future productions and new audiences.

Touring and International Touring

The cost-of-living crisis, war in Ukraine, the after-effects of the pandemic and the climate emergency are still impacting the touring landscape. UK touring of our large-scale productions Institute, The Wedding and Kin is only possible if subsidised. European touring of these productions (in their current form) is unlikely due to the scale of these shows – with most European venues preferring very quick get-in/get-out periods and split week contracts.

Reflecting on this, Gecko has identified an opportunity to create a Director's Cut of The Wedding, with props, performers, technical crew and lighting/sound stripped back to the bare essentials. The resulting production can tour within a Luton van and can be loaded/unloaded within hours at each venue, allowing for split weeks – popular within Europe and supporting reduced weekly fee guarantees within the UK.

The concept was successfully developed, resulting in a production that really showcases the skill, aesthetic, movement and emotion of the performers on stage. Future plans are to complete the project and to look at options for touring during 2024/2025.

International Touring (outside of Europe) is still doubtful, although we are hopeful that there may be a small handful of opportunities to tour our existing productions Institute and The Wedding, alongside our newest show Kin. Gecko will continue to build relationships with our international partners to strengthen future opportunities and to re-engage with our international supporters and audiences.

Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The company is a charity limited by guarantee, incorporated on 28 September 2004, amended by special resolution adopting new Articles of Association on 1 April 2021, and was entered on the Register of Charities on 6 April 2021. The Memorandum of Association established the objectives and powers of the charitable company and is governed under its Articles of Association. In the event of the company being wound up, members are required to contribute an amount not exceeding £1. A full review of the Memorandum and Articles of Association was undertaken during 2021 by solicitors Birketts LLP, ensuring that the Governing document continues to be fit for purpose.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The skills of the Board of Trustees are reviewed regularly.

With Giles Kerkham and Jeanette Siddall standing down in March 2023, Gecko appointed Helen Lannaghan and Amy Vaughan as Trustees to the charity. Both come with a wealth of experience and expertise within the sector, Helen as Director of MIME London (formerly London International Mime Festival), and Amy as Executive Director & Deputy CEO of Battersea Arts Centre (and previously Director of Change Programmes and Touring at ACE).

New Trustees are recruited via Trustee and Senior Management Team recommendations, with the Artistic Director and at least one Trustee meeting the potential candidate prior to being invited to shadow board meetings. Following this, all candidates are voted upon by current Trustees. On appointment, new Trustees are given the Company Memorandum and Articles of Association, the most recent business plan, minutes, and management accounts, along with access to recorded performances of our work. New Trustees are also invited to meet all the core Gecko team.

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees meet on average every quarter and is currently made of 5 members. The quorum for Trustees' meetings cannot be less than three trustees present in person, or via digital conferencing or proxy. All Trustees give their time voluntarily and receive no remuneration or other benefit from the charity.

Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction of the company, along with its policies and for reviewing its financial affairs. The day-to-day operation of the company is delegated to the Senior Management Team, who are responsible for ensuring the charity successfully delivers its charitable objectives and meets key performance indicators. All artistic planning decisions are made by the Artistic Director.

Each year the company invites applications from our freelance team for a paid role observing at our board meetings to gain experience of how a board works and to represent the importance of our freelance team at the highest level of our company governance. The freelance board observer has no voting right and is appointed for a yearly term, attending trustees' meetings and away day meetings as well.

The pay of all staff (core and freelance) is reviewed annually in line with the company's policy, which is designed to ensure that staff retain the full purchasing value of their salaries over time. Any salary increment is voted upon by Trustees based on affordability and financial risk to the company.

Gecko Theatre

Report of the trustees for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Structure, governance and management

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.

Gecko's Risk Management Policy details the processes in which risk is identified, assessed, and mitigated. It also identifies how risk is monitored, communicated throughout the company, and reported, including the role of Trustees in ensuring the governance of risk and the adequacy of the risk management framework.

A Risk Register is used to identify and rank risk, detailing actions to be taken in mitigation. This, along with KPIs, are reviewed at every board meeting to ensure the company is managing its organisational risk to achieve its charitable objectives, to protect beneficiaries, staff and business assets, and to ensure business operations and financial sustainability.

Trustees have assessed the major risks to which Gecko is exposed and are satisfied that there are systems in place to mitigate these. Where appropriate, systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the charity faces. Procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety legislation for core staff, freelance staff, and participants. Internal financial risks are minimised using procedures for all transactions and project budgeting. Funding/commission agreements with partners establish a framework in which to minimise risk and prepare annual budgets.

Reference and administrative details

Registered Company number

05243558 (England and Wales)

Registered Charity number

1194001

Registered office

Ivry House
23 Henley Road,
Ipswich
IP1 3TF

Trustees

G Kerkham (resigned 23.3.23)
P Mutumburi
J Neal
J Siddall (resigned 23.3.23)
S Smith
H Lannaghan (appointed 23.3.23)
A Vaughn (appointed 23.3.23)

Independent Examiner

Louise Rogers Limited
Columba House
Adastral Park
Martlesham Heath
IP5 3RE

Senior Management Team

Amit Lahav, Artistic Director
Rosalind Wynn, Executive Producer
Steve Allman, Head of Operations and Development
Andy Brumwell, Finance Manager

Events since the end of the year

Information relating to events since the end of the year is given in the notes to the financial statements.

Gecko Theatre

Report of the trustees
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 26-3-2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:



.....
J Neal - Trustee

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of
Gecko theatre

Independent examiner's report to the trustees of Gecko Theatre ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Responsibilities and basis of report

As the charity's trustees of the Company (and also its directors for the purposes of company law) you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 ('the 2006 Act').

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under Section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 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.

Independent examiner's statement

Since your charity's gross income exceeded £250,000 your examiner must be a member of a listed body. I can confirm that I am qualified to undertake the examination because I am a member of the ****ERROR - relevant professional body must be completed****, which is one of the listed bodies.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination giving me cause to believe:

1. accounting records were not kept in respect of the Company as required by Section 386 of the 2006 Act; or
2. the accounts do not accord with those records; or
3. the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of Section 396 of the 2006 Act 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; or
4. the accounts have not been prepared in accordance with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice for accounting and reporting by charities (applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)).

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.



Louise Rogers

Louise Rogers Limited
Columba House
Adastral Park
Martlesham Heath
IP5 3RE

Date:

26.3.2024

Statement of financial activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	31.3.23 Total funds £	31.3.22 Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and legacies	2	257,467	3,000	260,467	757,943
Charitable activities	4				
Production and participation costs		390,420	-	390,420	145,048
Investment income	3	966	-	966	-
Other income		144,672	-	144,672	84,848
Total		<u>793,525</u>	<u>3,000</u>	<u>796,525</u>	<u>987,839</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	5	7	-	7	3,870
Charitable activities	6				
Production and participation costs		907,984	2,493	910,477	705,169
Total		<u>907,991</u>	<u>2,493</u>	<u>910,484</u>	<u>709,039</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		(114,466)	507	(113,959)	278,800
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		278,598	252,065	530,663	251,863
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		<u><u>164,132</u></u>	<u><u>252,572</u></u>	<u><u>416,704</u></u>	<u><u>530,663</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Gecko Theatre

Balance sheet
31 March 2023

	Notes	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	12	90,010	86,402
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	13	282,414	162,994
Cash at bank		198,028	363,510
		<u>480,442</u>	<u>526,504</u>
CREDITORS			
Amounts falling due within one year	14	(153,748)	(82,243)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>326,694</u>	<u>444,261</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		416,704	530,663
NET ASSETS		<u>416,704</u>	<u>530,663</u>
FUNDS	17		
Unrestricted funds		164,132	278,598
Restricted funds		252,572	252,065
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>416,704</u>	<u>530,663</u>

The charitable company is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 31 March 2023.

The members have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2023 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for

- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company as at the end of each financial year and of its surplus or deficit for each financial year in accordance with the requirements of Sections 394 and 395 and which otherwise comply with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 relating to financial statements, so far as applicable to the charitable company.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 26-3-2024 and were signed on its behalf by:



J Neal - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Gecko Theatre

Cash flow statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	Notes	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(189,157)	234,034
Tax paid		(5,048)	-
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(194,205)</u>	<u>234,034</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(12,780)	(33,182)
Sale of tangible fixed assets		537	-
Interest received		966	-
Net cash used in investing activities		<u>(11,277)</u>	<u>(33,182)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
New loans in year		40,000	-
Net cash provided by financing activities		<u>40,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>(165,482)</u>	<u>200,852</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>363,510</u>	<u>162,658</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>198,028</u></u>	<u><u>363,510</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the cash flow statement
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(113,959)	278,800
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	8,635	8,728
Interest received	(966)	-
Increase in debtors	(114,372)	(88,094)
Increase in creditors	31,505	34,600
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(189,157)</u>	<u>234,034</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.4.22 £	Cash flow £	At 31.3.23 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>363,510</u>	<u>(165,482)</u>	<u>198,028</u>
	<u>363,510</u>	<u>(165,482)</u>	<u>198,028</u>
Debt			
Debts falling due within 1 year	<u>-</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>
Total	<u>363,510</u>	<u>(205,482)</u>	<u>158,028</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the financial statements
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, 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 Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Going Concern

The Trustees have considered the charity's position at the time of signing the financial statements. The charity challenged a decision by HMRC in February 2023 on the Theatre Tax Relief claim for the 2021-2022 year which also impacts the 2022-2023 year. A settlement has been reached in relation to the HMRC decision.

Following this agreement the trustees have carried out an assessment of the financial position of the charity and have forecast future cash and reserves and are confident that the charity will have adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, being no less than twelve months from the date of approving these accounts.

On this basis, the trustees still consider that the preparation of the financial statements on the going concern basis is still appropriate.

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.

Allocation and apportionment of costs

Support costs are those functions that assist the work of the charity but do not directly undertake charitable activities. Support costs include back office costs, finance, personnel, payroll and governance costs which support the Trusts artistic programmes and activities. These costs have been allocated in note 6.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Plant and machinery	- 25% on cost
Computer equipment	- 25% on cost

Creation Space has not been depreciated as these are costs in the course of development.

Taxation

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

Fund accounting

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

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Fund accounting

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.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Hire purchase and leasing commitments

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

The charitable company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. Contributions payable to the charitable company's pension scheme are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

2. DONATIONS AND LEGACIES

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Donations	2,080	39,694
Grants	258,387	718,249
	<u>260,467</u>	<u>757,943</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Arts Council England East	224,457	472,023
Architectural Heritage Fund	-	25,000
Garfield Weston	-	150,000
Ipswich Borough Council	12,334	14,507
Magic Me	21,596	22,029
HMRC - Coronavirus Job Recovery Scheme	-	1,509
Other grants	-	33,181
	<u>258,387</u>	<u>718,249</u>

3. INVESTMENT INCOME

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Interest receivable - trading	<u>966</u>	<u>-</u>

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

4. INCOME FROM CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

		31.3.23	31.3.22
	Activity	£	£
Fees	Production and participation costs	231,420	95,048
Commissions receivable	Production and participation costs	159,000	50,000
		<u>390,420</u>	<u>145,048</u>

5. RAISING FUNDS

Raising donations and legacies

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Donation costs	<u>7</u>	<u>3,870</u>

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES COSTS

	Direct Costs	Support costs (see note 7)	Totals
	£	£	£
Production and participation costs	<u>835,940</u>	<u>74,537</u>	<u>910,477</u>

7. SUPPORT COSTS

	Other	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Production and participation costs	<u>24,505</u>	<u>50,032</u>	<u>74,537</u>

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	8,635	8,729
Other operating leases	3,600	3,600
Independent examiner's fee	<u>-</u>	<u>750</u>

9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 March 2023 nor for the year ended 31 March 2022.

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

10. STAFF COSTS

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Wages and salaries	197,237	208,297
Social security costs	17,869	15,036
Other pension costs	5,912	5,254
	<u>221,018</u>	<u>228,587</u>

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

	31.3.23	31.3.22
Creative	2	2
Support	2	2
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM			
Donations and legacies	277,859	480,084	757,943
Charitable activities			
Production and participation costs	145,048	-	145,048
Other income	84,848	-	84,848
Total	<u>507,755</u>	<u>480,084</u>	<u>987,839</u>
EXPENDITURE ON			
Raising funds	3,870	-	3,870
Charitable activities			
Production and participation costs	414,752	290,417	705,169
Total	<u>418,622</u>	<u>290,417</u>	<u>709,039</u>
NET INCOME	89,133	189,667	278,800
Transfers between funds	(62,398)	62,398	-
Net movement in funds	<u>26,735</u>	<u>252,065</u>	<u>278,800</u>
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS			
Total funds brought forward	251,863	-	251,863

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	278,598	252,065	530,663

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Creation Space £	Plant and machinery £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
Cost				
At 1 April 2022	61,668	23,956	10,954	96,578
Additions	10,780	-	2,000	12,780
Disposals	-	-	(1,566)	(1,566)
At 31 March 2023	72,448	23,956	11,388	107,792
Depreciation				
At 1 April 2022	-	6,236	3,940	10,176
Charge for year	-	5,990	2,645	8,635
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	(1,029)	(1,029)
At 31 March 2023	-	12,226	5,556	17,782
Net book value				
At 31 March 2023	72,448	11,730	5,832	90,010
At 31 March 2022	61,668	17,720	7,014	86,402

Creation Space comprises capitalised costs towards the development of a new creation space as described in the Trustees' Report.

13. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
Trade debtors	30,887	30,351
Other debtors	676	168
Theatre tax relief	229,520	117,437
Tax	5,048	-
VAT	2,831	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,537	5,741
Accruals	11,915	9,297
	282,414	162,994

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

14. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other loans (see note 15)	40,000	-
Trade creditors	94,241	32,806
VAT	-	8,162
Accruals and deferred income	19,507	41,275
	<u>153,748</u>	<u>82,243</u>

15. LOANS

An analysis of the maturity of loans is given below:

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year on demand:		
Other loans	<u>40,000</u>	<u>-</u>

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	31.3.23 Total funds	31.3.22 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	18,998	71,012	90,010	86,402
Current assets	298,882	181,560	480,442	526,504
Current liabilities	(153,748)	-	(153,748)	(82,243)
	<u>164,132</u>	<u>252,572</u>	<u>416,704</u>	<u>530,663</u>

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.4.22	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.3.23
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	278,598	(114,466)	-	164,132
Restricted funds				
Creation Space	190,749	-	(10,780)	179,969
ACE Capital Grants for Creation Space	37,268	-	-	37,268
AHF Capital Grant	3,164	(1,082)	-	2,082
AHF/Crowdfunder for Creation Space Capital	20,884	-	10,780	31,664
Magic Me - PHF	-	1,589	-	1,589
	<u>252,065</u>	<u>507</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>252,572</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>530,663</u>	<u>(113,959)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>416,704</u>

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. 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	793,525	(907,991)	(114,466)
Restricted funds			
AHF Capital Grant	-	(1,082)	(1,082)
Magic Me - PHF	3,000	(1,411)	1,589
	<u>3,000</u>	<u>(2,493)</u>	<u>507</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>796,525</u>	<u>(910,484)</u>	<u>(113,959)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.4.21 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.3.22 £
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	251,863	89,133	(62,398)	278,598
Restricted funds				
Creation Space	-	157,567	33,182	190,749
ACE Capital Grants for Creation Space	-	12,298	24,970	37,268
AHF Capital Grant	-	(1,082)	4,246	3,164
AHF/Crowdfunder for Creation Space Capital	-	20,884	-	20,884
	<u>-</u>	<u>189,667</u>	<u>62,398</u>	<u>252,065</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>251,863</u>	<u>278,800</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>530,663</u>

Notes to the financial statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds			
General fund	507,755	(418,622)	89,133
Restricted funds			
Creation Space	211,634	(54,067)	157,567
Cultural Recovery	161,650	(161,650)	-
Touring	73,618	(73,618)	-
ACE Capital Grants for Creation Space	12,298	-	12,298
AHF Capital Grant	-	(1,082)	(1,082)
AHF/Crowdfunder for Creation Space Capital	20,884	-	20,884
	<u>480,084</u>	<u>(290,417)</u>	<u>189,667</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>987,839</u>	<u>(709,039)</u>	<u>278,800</u>

18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

Helen Baggett (Associate Director of Gecko and paid on a freelance basis, partner of the AD): Paid £9,710 for services in workshops and meetings

19. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

In February 2023, Gecko challenged a decision by HMRC to award Theatre Tax Relief at a lower percentage than expected for 2021/2022 submission. This decision also impacted the Theatre Tax Relief claim for the 2022/2023 year. Legal advice and representation has been sought from professional tax advisers who supported challenging HMRC's decision, given the work they have performed on the calculations submitted to HMRC.

In March 2024, a settlement was finally offered by HMRC and the trustees, having reviewed the settlement offer by HMRC and having reviewed the circumstances of the charity, consider that adequate resources continue to be available to fund the activities of the company for the foreseeable future. From this review and for this reason, the Trustees consider the going concern basis is appropriate for the preparation of these financial statements.

Gecko Theatre

Detailed statement of financial activities for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23 £	31.3.22 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS		
Donations and legacies		
Donations	2,080	39,694
Grants	258,387	718,249
	260,467	757,943
Investment income		
Interest receivable - trading	966	-
Charitable activities		
Fees	231,420	95,048
Commissions receivable	159,000	50,000
	390,420	145,048
Other income		
Theatre tax relief	144,672	84,848
	144,672	84,848
Total incoming resources	796,525	987,839
EXPENDITURE		
Raising donations and legacies		
Donation costs	7	3,870
Charitable activities		
Wages and salaries	197,237	208,297
Social security	17,869	15,036
Pensions	5,912	5,254
Rent	3,600	3,600
Training	404	1,154
Recruitment	1,548	3,992
Entertaining	1,549	180
Production costs	202,915	64,330
Subcontractor costs	248,632	213,919
Set freight	14,062	6,572
Royalties	5,635	2,200
Travel and subsistence	129,378	119,028
Show marketing	7,199	7,809
	835,940	651,371
Support costs		
Other		
Insurance	6,606	4,535
Telephone	1,218	1,138
Carried forward	7,824	5,673

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements

Gecko Theatre

Detailed statement of financial activities
for the Year Ended 31 March 2023

	31.3.23	31.3.22
	£	£
Other		
Brought forward	7,824	5,673
Postage	49	10
Sundries	147	1,154
Stationery and printing	13	-
Computer expenses	2,586	3,716
Subscriptions	315	2,356
Bank charges	477	103
Office equipment and maintenance	1,066	798
Office administration	2,978	1,015
Bad debts	415	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	8,635	8,728
	24,505	23,553
Governance costs		
Accountancy fees	21,650	11,779
Professional fees	558	3,768
Advertising and PR	27,824	14,698
	50,032	30,245
Total resources expended	910,484	709,039
Net (expenditure)/income	(113,959)	278,800

This page does not form part of the statutory financial statements