



Charity Incorporated Organisation: 1198031
Registered number: CE0284271198031

Trustees Annual Report & Financial Statements
For the year 1 January 2023– 31 March 2024

Southpaw Dance Productions

Southpaw Dance Productions
Charity Incorporated Organisation: 1198031

Trustees

Jill McKinney (Chair)
Robert Lawson
Tresor Bukasa
Michelle Hudson
Alex Brabbs
Professor John Girkin
Lois Stonock
Huey Nhan O'Reilly (appointed 1 December 2023)
Ella Belsham (appointed 1 December 2023)
Paul Long (appointed 22 November 2023)
Katherine Pearson (appointed 8 November 2023)
Greshauna Hannabiell Sanders (appointed 27 June 2023)

Charity Number 1198031

Registered number CE028427

Registered Office and Principal Address

Sheepfolds Stables
Easington Street
Sunderland
SR5 1BA

Independent Examiner

TR Dixon & Co Ltd
Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditors
1 Dinsdale Place
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE2 1BD

Country of Incorporation

England

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Trustees Report For Year ended 31 March 2024

The Trustees present their report and financial statements for the year 1 January 2023- 31 March 2024.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies of Southpaw Dance Productions and to comply with the CIO's governing document and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: "Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102)".

Structure, governance and management

The Charity is constituted as a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, registered with the Charities Commission on 22 February 2022.

Trustees are legally responsible for governance of the Charity.

Objectives and Activities

The charity's objects (the 'Objects') are to promote, maintain, improve and advance education by the encouragement of the arts through research, design, creation, production and delivery of performing, visual, street and digital arts and associated activity.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirements of section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales.

Vision, Purpose, Mission

Connecting Communities through dance and mass movement

- > We create work that is representative of the communities we serve through authentic collaboration and co-creation:
- > we inspire, build confidence, and empower our audiences and participants:
- > We raise the bar in participatory practice through meaningful processes of engagement:
- > We create empathy and connection by celebrating diverse cultural voices across the UK:
- > we provide pathways to experiences that promote a rich cultural country:
- > We create excellence by aspiring to the highest standards of quality and collaboration:
- > We align heartbeats in shared cultural experiences that dazzle & excite the imagination through spectacle, virtuosity, technology, & storytelling.

Our purpose is to:

Establish Southpaw Dance as the place where everyone can experience, participate and enjoy world class dance which connects with communities across the UK and beyond.

Our mission is:

- to create work that is representative of the communities we serve through authentic collaboration and co-creation:
- to inspire, build confidence, & empower our audiences and participants:
- to raise the bar in participatory practice through meaningful processes of engagement:

- to create empathy & connection by celebrating diverse cultural voices across the UK:
- to provide pathways to experiences that promote a rich cultural country:
- to create excellence by aspiring to the highest standards of quality and collaboration:
- to align heartbeats in shared cultural experiences that dazzle & excite the imagination through spectacle, virtuosity, technology, & storytelling.

About us

SDP has developed an outstanding reputation for co-creating large scale productions with the communities they serve, with 9 such productions in the past 7 years, including:

- RUSH (2015) Co-created with communities across South Tyneside: informed South Tyneside's Cultural Strategy: Subsequently restaged with communities of Hull in 2017 & Blackpool in 2018.
- WordPlay (2017): Opened the National Centre for the Written word in South Tyneside
- Future of Things Past (2018): Opening ceremony for the Castlemaine State Festival in Melbourne.
- RISE (2020) Opening event for Brent: London Borough of Culture at Wembley Park, feat 230 participants celebrating the most diverse Borough in the UK.

Southpaw Dance Productions deliver 3 core areas of work:

1. Creation & Touring Programme

a. Large Scale Community Engagement Productions

Community engagement is central to our creation & touring programme^f & includes working with communities from the least culturally engaged areas through the creation of our large scale productions. We will create accessible, high quality, co-created productions, developed by & presented within the communities we serve. We will train & develop our team to ensure the opportunities we offer to communities remove barriers to inclusion through an inclusive & accessible practice for all. Through our iterative process of feedback, evaluation, & creation we will ensure the communities we serve meaningfully contribute & shape our onward programme in the coming years.

b. Touring Work (Outdoor/Indoor)

We will refine our model of operations, adding capacity, resilience, & ambition, by adopting a seasonal model of creation & touring. Beginning with the touring of the new mid-scale indoor production, Speakeasy, & including the creation of a new mid-scale outdoor touring production for 2023/2024, we will strive to develop our brand as a national leader in dance known for high quality, innovative, & accessible touring work.

2. Digital Innovation

We will develop our Digital Offer (virtual production, motion capture, responsive projection) to create new work, partnering with specialist collaborators to

1. Extend reach & impact of artistic programme
2. Innovate new mediums of storytelling using emerging technologies &
3. achieve understanding through research, capacity through collaboration, & excellence through adoption.

3. Education & training

We will build on our current opportunities for vocational training & routes towards careers in the dance industry in the North East, training the next generation of young creatives & developing the north east as a centre for excellence in diverse styles of dance.

Main activities undertaken to further the charity's purpose for public benefit

Main activities undertaken, 1 January 2023- 31 March 2024

Speakeasy tour

Welcome to Speakeasy. All is not as it seems and if you happen upon it, best walk the other way. Southpaw Dance Company presents Speakeasy: a reinterpretation of the classic tale of Faust, where Faust enters a seemingly normal prohibition era bar, unaware that the bar is owned by the devil and populated by his demons, including the charismatic barman, Mephistopheles.

Speakeasy featured a spectacular 1920's themed set, world-class projection visuals, a cinematic soundtrack comprising big band classics and contemporary hits, alongside the distinctive Southpaw movement vocabulary that has been called, "atmospheric, vigorous, and breathtaking" (Sarah Crompton, Daily Telegraph).

Speakeasy toured to 7 venues across the UK in September & October 2023. 1120 tickets were sold across the tour, with average audiences of 250 at each show. 93% of audiences stated that the show was good/very good. 48 community cast workshops took place, with average 20 at each workshop. Community cast performers totalled 250.

Digital Development

Working with Proto (digital production, Gateshead), we trialled different concepts using Virtual Production, Responsive Projection, Motion Capture, AI Content production alongside Animated content provided with Arcus Animation Studio and using Touch designer to unify these platforms. We selected the best tools from these and focussed on creating a proof of concept model. As part of this process we adapted some outcomes to meet our developing targets. We have developed:

- A 10 minute proof of concept for a new Broadcast / live performance production using Virtual Production.
- Developed a model that allows for live touring of that same production to mid-scale theatres
- Developed a new process – Live Storyboarding– that allows the animators to draw scenes in real time alongside performers.
- Worked with a blend of AI and Arcus Studios (Arcus studios are an animation company based in Gateshead) animated content
- Tested Mocap (motion capture) capacity but chose to instead work with animated characters

These skills and methods will be used in the development of new work in 2024-2026.

NSCD placements

Southpaw hosted 2 students from MA in Contemporary Dance Performance from Northern School of Contemporary Dance on their postgraduate placement scheme during 2023-2024. Participation within the activities of a professional company is a significant learning experience for the students. During their placements, our 2 students worked on Speakeasy tour, Aura for Light Night Worcester, community workshops and digital work with Proto.

Capa- Icarus

Icarus, an outdoor show create in 2018 was restaged with students from CAPA college for their end of year show. Featuring an impressively mythic set of wings, with blistering lifting and contact work alongside Southpaw's distinctive mix of intense physicality and narrative, Icarus is a dance theatre interpretation of the classic Greek myth. Icarus exists as both a promenade performance with a unique lifting mechanism that allows Icarus to soar above audience members, and a static 30 minute dance theatre production that relates the narrative of Icarus's encounter with the Sun. over 30 students took part in the performance to an audience of 500+.

Centre for Advanced Training (CAT)

Workshops and development work with various CAT programme students (11-18 years old) were delivered throughout 2023-24. These are high quality contemporary techniques classes which support young people with exceptional potential. Southpaw has delivered classes for CAT students at FABRIC Dance in Birmingham and Nottingham and Dance City, Newcastle.

Light Night Worcester

Southpaw were commissioned by Dance Fest to develop a new piece for Light Night Worcester. Aura combines projection mapping, movement and narrative/audio to explore the heart's magnetic field and unseen connections. The work merges music/narrative and visuals, creating a captivating story that illuminates the invisible energies around us, encouraging audiences to reflect on the subtle forces that connect us all. For Light Night Worcester, Southpaw worked with 25 dancers to create a performance which explored connectivity and movement. The public can interact with the piece; their movements changing and switching the projection patterns to explore interconnectedness and unseen energies.

Risk Review

A comprehensive risk register is reviewed at each quarterly Board meeting, covering financial, artistic, governance/leadership, health & safety and personnel/wellbeing.

As with most charities, this process exposes risk, with systems identified and established to mitigate them. External risks have been managed through a robust business plan that is flexible and adaptable, yet still ambitious. Internal risks were minimised by adherence to Southpaw's policies and procedures, along with updates to HR policy and financial policy.

Key risks that the charity is actively managing include:

- Cost of inflation leads to increased cost, and impact on activity, operations and cashflow
- Fundraising and earned income targets may not be met
- Loss of personnel, which can impact delivery, partnerships and finance/operations of a small organisation

The charity's trustees have considered the major risks to which the charity is exposed and have reviewed potential risks. Systems and procedures have been put in place to manage the risks and mitigate any adverse outcomes.

Financial Summary

Southpaw Dance Productions was successful in securing Arts Council England National Portfolio Funding (NPO) between 2023-2026.

Turnover: £323,178

Principal sources of income for the charity were:

Arts Council England, £230,000 per annum

Sport England, £9,520

Digital Productions, £14,925

Earned income: £68,733

Future Plans

With the securing of Arts Council England NPO funding in 2023, Southpaw has been able to recruit a small staff team to enable us to embed and consolidate our work. Between 2024-2026, our focus will be on:

- Embedding our work with communities, with a focus on Sunderland
- Building our digital work and capacity (motion capture, virtual reality, augmented reality and projection mapping)

- Research and development for a number of new shows
- Taking on a new studio at Sheepfolds in Sunderland
- Further deepening and developing our partnerships
- Consolidating our financial position

Trustee Recruitment, Induction and Training

Trustees are recruited through a formal process that includes open invitation to apply and with due recognition of the charity's requirements for skills and experience and of its diversity balance. The recruitment process includes dissemination of a trustee recruitment pack, interview, and initial opportunity to attend a board meeting as an observer.

An induction is provided for new trustees through the Co-CEO's, alongside opportunities for training in matters as needed, e.g. safeguarding.

Southpaw Dance Productions is led by a diverse Board of Trustees representing breadth and depth of skills and experience from across a range of sectors to support the development of the charity and the achievement of its objectives.

Organisational Structure and Decision Making

The Trustees meet formally on a quarterly basis and attend Southpaw activities and events when possible and at least one annual strategic planning away day. The Co-CEO's report to the Chair of Trustees in addition to attending and reporting at Trustee meetings. Decision making includes defined delegated authority. The Co-CEO's manage the implementation of the strategic direction and day to day operations of the charity.

Policy on Reserves

The calculation of free reserves is based on the definition included in the charity statement of recommended practice (SORP), which provides recommendations for accounting and reporting for charities. The trustees have examined the requirements of the charity to hold free reserves - those reserves not invested in tangible fixed assets, excluding long term liabilities, or designated for a particular purpose.

As a charity established in 2022, the Trustees aim to build the equivalent of 3 months operating costs in reserves by April 2026. By April 2024, we will have built 1 months operating costs, by April 2025, 2 months operating costs, By April 2026, 3 months operating costs. At the year end, reserves were at £17,287, the equivalent to 1 months operating costs.

Pay Policy

All Trustees give their time freely.

The Board reviews pay and remuneration annually in March-April. Decisions on levels of remuneration consider performance reviews, benchmarking against other local cultural organisations and salary levels, and in line with any change to scope of duties.

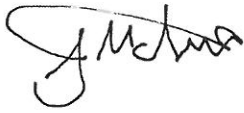
Staff and key management

The charity has classified there to be 2 key management personnel in line with the requirements of SORP. They are:

Co-CEO-Executive Director: L Fulton

Co-CEO-Artistic Director: R Graham

This report was approved by the Trustees on 24 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jill McKinney". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jill" and last name "McKinney" clearly distinguishable.

Jill McKinney
Chair

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 Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales required 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 the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that year.

In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements 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; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity will continue in operation.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping sufficient accounting records that 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 Charity (Accounts and Reports) regulations 2008 and the provisions of the trust deed. 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.

Independent Examiners Report

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees On the accounts of Southpaw Dance Productions

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the charity for the 15 month period ended 31 March 2024

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the rules and regulations of The Charities Commission.

Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Charity are not required to be audited under the rules and regulations of the Charity Commission 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

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:

- accounting records have not been kept in accordance The rules and regulations of the Charity Commission
- the accounts do not accord with such records;
- 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 (FRS102)).

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.

A. A. O'Toole
.....

T R Dixon & Co Ltd
Chartered Certified
Accountants
1 Dinsdale Place
Jesmond
Tyne & Wear
NE2 1BD

Date: 4.10.24.....

Accounts

Southpaw Dance Productions Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 March 2024

	Unrestricted Funds 2024 £	Restricted Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2024 £	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Income from						
Grants	230,000	24,445	254,445	-	-	-
Performances	68,733	-	68,733	-	-	-
Total Income	298,733	24,445	323,178			
Expenditure						
Charitable Activities	291,654	14,925	306,579	-	-	-
Net Income	7,079	9,520	16,599	-	-	-
Gross Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	-
Movement	7,079	9,520	16,599	-	-	-
Fund Balance BF	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fund Balance CF	7,079	9,520	16,599	-	-	-

Southpaw Dance Productions
Registered number: CE028427
Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2024

Notes

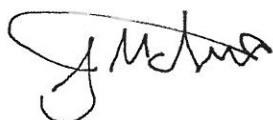
	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed Assets		
Tangible Assets	3,269	-
Current Assets		
Debtors	2,695	-
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>16,808</u>	<u>-</u>
	19,503	-
Creditors-amounts falling due within one year	<u>(6,173)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net current assets	13,330	-
Total net assets	<u>16,599</u>	<u>-</u>
Capital and funds of the charity		
Unrestricted income funds	16,599	-
Restricted funds	-	-
Total charity Capital Account	<u>16,599</u>	<u>-</u>

The trustees are satisfied that the Charity is entitled to exemption from the requirement to obtain an audit under the rules and regulations of the Charity Commission

The members have not required the Charity to obtain an audit.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Charity Commission with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The accounts have been prepared and delivered in accordance with the special provisions applicable to Charities by the Charity Commission



.....
Jill McKinney
Chair

Southpaw Dance Productions
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

1 Accounting policies

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 (FRS 102) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Income and recognition policies

Income derives from performance income

- The charity has entitlement to the funds.
- Any performance conditions attached to the items of income have been met are fully within the control of the charity.
- There is sufficient certainty that receipt of the income is considered probable.
- The amount can be measured reliably.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds are available to spend on activities that further any of the purposes of the charity. Restricted funds are funds which the donor has specified are to be solely used for particular areas of the charity's work.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to make a payment to a third party, it is probable that settlement will be required, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are measured at cost less accumulative depreciation and any accumulative impairment losses. Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets at a rate calculated to write off the cost, less estimated residual value, of each asset evenly over its expected useful life, as follows:

Property, plant and machinery	15% Straight line basis
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Stocks

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

Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with immediate access.

Southpaw Dance Productions
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

Debtors

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price (which is usually the invoice price), less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts. Loans and other financial assets are initially recognised at transaction price including any transaction costs and subsequently measured at amortised cost determined using the effective interest method, less any impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

Creditors

Creditors are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably.

	2024 £	2023 £	
2 Number of Employees			
Average number of employees during the financial period	3	4	
	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	
3 Operating Profit			
This is stated after charging:			
Depreciation of owned fixed assets	<u>365</u>	<u>-</u>	
		Premises, plant and equipment £	
4 Tangible Fixed Assets			
Cost			
At 1 April 2023		-	
Additions		-	
Surplus on revaluation		3,634	
Disposals		<u>-</u>	
At 31 March 2024		<u>3,634</u>	
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023		-	
Charge for the year		365	
On Disposals		<u>-</u>	
At 31 March 2024		<u>365</u>	
Net book value			
At 31 March 2024		<u>3,269</u>	
At 31 March 2023		<u>-</u>	
	2024 £	2023 £	
5 Debtors	2,793	-	
Southpaw Dance Company Ltd	<u>602</u>	<u>-</u>	
VAT	<u>2,695</u>	<u>7,256</u>	
6 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			
Trade Creditors	2,793	-	
Accruals	<u>3,380</u>	<u>-</u>	
	£	£	2024 £
Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	
7 Analysis of movement in funds			
as at 1 April 2023	298,733	24,445	328178
Net income (expenditure)	(291,654)	(14,925)	(306,579)
As at 31 March 2024	<u>7,079</u>	<u>9,520</u>	<u>16599</u>

Southpaw Dance Productions
Notes to the Accounts
for the year ended 31 March 2024

8 Related party transactions

During the year the charity charged £34,114 by way of expense loans to Southpaw Dance Company Limited

During the year the charity received contributions of £32,021 towards repayments of expenses from Dance Company Limited

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from the charity or a related entity.

9 Capital Commitments

At the year end the charity had no capital commitments.

10 Corporation Taxation

The charity is exempt from tax on income and gains falling within section 505 of the Taxes Act 1988 or section 252 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992 to the extent that these are applied to its charitable objects.