

Oxford Symphony Orchestra - Annual report for the season 2021/2022

The society performed as follows this season:

13th November 2021

Beethoven	Leonora Overture no.3
Walton	Violin Concerto (Eunsley Park)
Dvorak	Symphony no.9 "From the New World"

12th March 2022

Goldmark	Vi	olin Concerto (Freya Goldmark)
Mahler		Symphony no.6

18th June 2022

Stravinsky	Divertimento from <i>Le Baiser de la Fée</i>
Strauss	Horn Concerto no.2 (Richard Watkins)
Brahms	Symphony no.1

TRUCK FESTIVAL 23rd July 2022

The Beatles	Songs from <i>A Hard Day's Night</i> and <i>Help!</i>
Alan Silverstri	Back to the Future
Queen	Crazy Little Thing Called Love
Bowie	Starman
Abba	Gimme, Gimme, Gimme
Elton John	Crocodile Rock
Eric Coates	Knightsbridge March (London Suite)
Strauss	Tritsch Tratsch Polka op214
Gounod	Faust Ballet music: Dance de Phryne
Tchaikovsky	Dance of the Cygnets from Swan Lake
(Suite)	
Brahms	Hungarian Dance no.5 (arr E.Diz) (Chloe Prins)
Prins)	
Vivaldi	Presto from Summer (Chloe Prins)

The season saw the Oxford Symphony Orchestra return to a regular programme of rehearsing and performing following the Covid pandemic. It was readily apparent that we shared the sheer joy of making music together again and felt reinvigorated. That the orchestra remains in such good shape musically, numerically, financially and socially reflects the positive "can-do" approach of the committee. While wishing to minimise losses that might have resulted from cancellations, it took the view that the orchestra must return to its core activities at the earliest opportunity. I'm pleased to note we have now performed all four programmes that we had planned for 2020 and 2021, the only alterations being the changes of soloist for Strauss and Bruch concertos.

Our opening programme last season was indeed fortuitously selected: an overture celebrating freedom from oppression and a symphony breathing the air of another world. In between were the considerable but fascinating challenges of accompanying Walton's soulful violin concerto with Eunsley Park as our excellent soloist.

Mahler and Goldmark were colleagues in Vienna in the last part of the 19th century and we invited Freya Goldmark, a distant relative of the composer, to perform his now partially neglected Violin Concerto alongside the younger composer's colossal 6th Symphony. There were discussions behind the scenes as to whether it was prudent to perform this gargantuan work at this time, but

having worked out that cancelling this project would lose roughly the same amount as cancelling a more modest project, the committee boldly agreed to continue as planned. What a thrill this gave us all! Quintuple woodwinds, 8 horns, a huge array of percussion and an assistant conductor. It was very exciting starting work in January and the excitement only increased as the rehearsals progressed, each additional group of players providing new sonic elements. We are especially grateful to Chris Fletcher-Campbell for masterminding the supply of percussion instruments that included, memorably, a hammer purchased specially for the occasion and some beautifully sonorous cowbells. When future generations read the archives of our orchestra (which now span more than 120 years) they will want to know that, rightly or wrongly, the conductor decided that we would play the slow movement before the scherzo.

Our third concert was given in the Sheldonian and we were able to engage world-renowned horn player Richard Watkins to replace the indisposed Pip Eastop. Richard wowed us all with his beautiful quality of tone, his effortless technique and his encouraging charm. The Stravinsky proved to be an unusual and ultimately satisfying opener to the programme and the orchestra gave an individual and memorable performance of Brahms' well-loved 1st Symphony, a work it hadn't performed since 1997.

We rounded off the season with a fourth performance at the Truck Festival, which was enthusiastically received by several thousand real-live festival goers and several million TikTok viewers. The surreal twirling ballet-dancing mosh-pit during Gounod's Faust was one of many highlights. Our glamorous young soloist Chloe Prins kept her nerve playing Vivaldi and Brahms before the chanting audience, afterwards writing to the conductor:

I cannot thank you enough for such an amazing opportunity, it was an absolute pleasure to play with the orchestra, Sophie and yourself. You really pulled the orchestra together with your fab conducting skills and enthusiasm towards the audience. Surprisingly, it made me really realise how young people can enjoy classical music in such a crazy setting and I felt welcomed by the friendly atmosphere...No Rock Festivals I have been to have had such a crazy but friendly atmosphere.

We were grateful that Sophie Lockett could stand in for an indisposed Mariette on the day. Thanks to Grace, Joel and Sally for the extra effort they put in to make this work so smoothly and enjoyably.

Your committee puts in a huge amount of effort with great enthusiasm throughout the year and I am very grateful to all its members for the kind and supportive way they help me bring our various plans to fruition. Sally has taken over from Grace as our chair and I have greatly appreciated her thoughtful advice. This year Stephen has helped plan the conducting masterclass, in addition to all the other work he does for the orchestra. Among many other things, he has been writing amusingly erudite minutes of the committee meetings for many years but now feels that the time is ripe for him to hand over such tasks. Thank you Stephen! Matthias continues to keep tabs on the orchestra's finances, as a result these are currently enviably secure, which is as much a testament of his sound management as it is of HMRC's largesse in generously handing back to the orchestra a couple of thousand pounds each year that the orchestra hadn't given them in the first place. Sally dispatches the Librarian's considerable activities with enthusiasm and efficiency. Dominic and Jill see that our rehearsal and performance venues are sorted for us; Helen

works with Sharon to keep our publicity on track and again we are grateful to Paul for the excellent programmes he produces three times a year. We are so pleased that Diana, who keeps tabs on the membership, is now back in her regular seat in the 1st violins. Joel's and Jill's visits to pubs post-rehearsal or at the end of the season respectively have added a welcome building-block to the orchestra's social fabric. All our thanks go to Mariette for her dedicated leading week in, week out, and for her stylish violin solos in between.

Part of our mission is to encourage young soloists by giving them the opportunity to rehearse and perform with us. It is thrilling that after some of them have won prizes at the Leeds Piano Competition they are happy to come and perform with us again. 5th prize-winner Thomas Kelly will play Rach 2 with us next term and we are hoping that the winner Alim Beisembayev will play a Prokofiev concerto with us next season.

At long last we are organising the much discussed Conducting Masterclass next week and we have exciting plans to commission a new work for the orchestra to perform next season from a local young composer, Sarah Frances Jenkins, who has already distinguished herself with performances of her music by the BBC Concert Orchestra at the Proms at the Royal Albert Hall and with commissions from the Vale of Glamorgan, Presteigne and Corbridge Festivals.

Robert concluded by thanking all members for their engaged playing, consistent attendance at rehearsal, understanding when things don't quite go to plan, their interest, their encouragement and their enthusiasm for all things OSO

OXORD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA Registered Charity No 284339

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SECTION A STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

		31-Aug-22	31-Aug-21
		£	£
Incoming resources:		F01=F04	F05
Donations	S01	15,821.44	5,148.04
Charitable activities	S02	15,354.29	-
Investments	S04	3.86	3.86
Total	S07	31,179.59	5,151.90
Resources expended:			
Raising funds	S08	3,143.39	407.00
Charitable activities	S09	19,879.45	2,613.42
Other	S11	-	-
Total	S12	23,022.84	3,020.42
Net income/(expenditure)	S15	8,156.75	2,131.48
Total funds brought forward	S21	38,083.88	35,952.40
Total funds carried forward	S22	46,240.63	38,083.88

SECTION B BALANCE SHEET

Fixed assets	B05	-	-
Current assets			
Debtors	B07	25,000.00	6,000.00
Cash at bank and in hand	B09	36,977.85	32,161.88
Total current assets	B10	61,977.85	38,161.88
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	B11	15,737.22	78.00
Total net assets or liabilities	B16	46,240.63	38,083.88
Funds of the Charity			
Unrestricted funds	B19	46,240.63	38,083.88
Total funds	B21	46,240.63	38,083.88

SECTION C Notes to the Accounts

Note 3 Analysis of income

Donations and legacies			
Donations and gifts		-	-
Gift Aid		2,136.44	768.04
General grants		-	500.00
Membership subs and sponsorship		13,685.00	3,880.00
Total		15,821.44	5,148.04
Charitable activities			
Ticket sales		9,875.00	-
Programme sales		439.29	-
Music hire		40.00	-
Engagement Receipts		5,000.00	-
Total		15,354.29	-
Income from investments			
Interest income		3.86	3.86
Total		3.86	3.86
TOTAL INCOME		31,179.59	5,151.90

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YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SECTION C Notes to the Accounts (cont)

Note 6 Analysis of expenditure

Expenditure on raising funds		
Operating a trading company	-	-
Marketing and publicity	2,605.92	-
Administration cost	537.47	407.00
Total	3,143.39	407.00
Expenditure on charitable activities		
OSOP Ltd commission fee (after OTR)	15,534.98	78.00
Rehearsal payments	-	-
Concert payments	821.14	-
Engagement payments	3,321.09	2,535.42
Total	19,677.21	2,613.42
Other expenditure	-	-
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	22,820.60	3,020.42

Note 19 Debtors and prepayments

Analysis of debtors		
Trade debtors	25,000.00	6,000.00
Prepayment and accrued income	-	-
Other debtors	-	-
Total	25,000.00	6,000.00

Analysis of debtors recoverable in more than one year		
Trade debtors	2,000.00	4,000.00

Note 20 Creditors and accruals

Analysis of creditors		
Trade creditors	15,737.22	78.00
Other creditors	-	-
Total	15,737.22	78.00

Note 22 Other disclosures for debtors and creditors

Information about debtors and creditors		
Trade Debtor: Trading subsidiary OSOP Ltd	25,000.00	6,000.00
Total debtors	25,000.00	6,000.00
Trade creditor: Trading subsidiary OSOP Ltd	15,534.98	78.00
Trade creditor: outstanding PRS payments	202.24	-
Total creditors	15,737.22	78.00



CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Independent examiner's report on the accounts

Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/
members of

Charity Name

Oxford Symphony Orchestra

On accounts for the year
ended

31 August 2022

Charity no
(if any)

284339

Set out on pages

1 only

(remember to include the page numbers of additional sheets)

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above
charity ("the Trust") for the year ended DD / MM / YYYY. 31/08/2022

Responsibilities and
basis of report

As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation
of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act
2011 ("the Act").

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

Independent
examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have
come to my attention (~~other than that disclosed below~~) in connection with
the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material
respect:

- accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of
the Act or
- the accounts do not accord with the accounting records

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection
with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a
proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

* Please delete the words in the brackets if they do not apply.

Signed:

Date:

23/05/2023

Name:

M H REED

Relevant professional
qualification(s) or body
(if any):

ACA (ICAEW) 7802043

Address:

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