

Company registration number: 02325776

Charity registration number: 800638

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

**Robert Hugh Limited
15, Dan-y-Bryn Avenue
Radyr
Cardiff
CF15 8DD**

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

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The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

Trustees	Dr G A Crawley Mrs N Shaw Ms K Burnett Mr D Farley
Secretary, treasurer and book-keeper	Mrs N Shaw, Co-Secretary/Co-Treasurer Mr D Farley, Co-Secretary/Co-Treasurer Mr M Ball (Creative Juice), Book-keeper
Registered Office	Department of Theatre Design Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama Castle Grounds Cardiff CF10 3ER The charity is incorporated in England and Wales.
Company Registration Number	02325776
Charity Registration Number	800638
Independent Examiner	Robert Hugh Limited 15, Dan-y-Bryn Avenue Radyr Cardiff CF15 8DD

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

The trustees, who are directors for the purposes of company law, present the annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 December 2023.

This report is the twenty-eighth since the Society activated its charitable status, the thirty-fifth of the charitable company and the forty-eighth since the Society's inception. It covers the period 1 January to 31 December 2023.

Since the Society qualifies as small under section 383, the strategic report, required of medium and large companies under The Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Report) Regulations 2013, is not required.

Objectives and Activities

Policies and Objectives

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited is registered as a charity, being a non-profit distributing Company limited by Guarantee of its Members. It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The objects for which the Company is registered are to advance education by the encouragement and promotion of the Art of Theatre Design in the British Isles and Commonwealth and elsewhere by British designers and designers working in the British theatre.

Activities for Achieving Objectives

The objectives of the charity are achieved particularly by the provision of education information and advice relating to theatre design, the exhibition of designs and theatrical material, research into the origination, design and use of theatrical equipment, facilities and methods and the publication of literary material and illustrations derived there from. (Article 3a Memorandum of Association, 1988)

Main Activities undertaken to further the Charity's Purposes for the Public Benefit

The directors have had due regard to The Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and are content that the charity's activities provide a public benefit.

Achievements and Performance 1 January - 31 December 2023

Review of Activities

Administration

Subscriptions: Subscriptions for 2023 were held at:

£125 for Professional Plus membership (which includes Public Liability and Product Liability Insurance Cover and Employers' Liability and Professional Indemnity Cover); £78 for Professional membership (which includes Public Liability and Product Liability Insurance Cover); £48 for New Professional membership, applicable for 3 years after graduation (formerly named Graduate membership) and from 12 June 2023 we introduced a new offer to New Professional membership for the first year after graduating to be £20; we began the year with £25 for Student membership and later changed to offer free membership to students; £25 for Retired and UK Associates and £35 for International Associates. £200 for Organisational membership (which includes up to 3 affiliated named members). A new offer was made to Linbury Prize winners giving free membership for 1 year.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

Database and Membership: The Society manages its membership and database in-house allowing for direct communication and financial efficiency in these areas. Membership in December 2023: Professional Plus = 21 (up 10 from 2022); Professional = 245 (down 10 from 2022); New Professional and First year Graduates = 30 & 29 (down 1 from 2022 - this number includes the 12 Linbury prize finalists); Student = 100 (up 71 from 2022); Associate = 17 (remains the same as 2022); International Associate = 9 (down 1 from 2022); Retired = 8 (down 8 from 2022) and Organisations = 14 (up 5 from 2022).

Total membership for December 2023 was 473 (up 66 from 407 in 2022).

Organisations: Middlesex University; Royal Central School of Speech and Drama; Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama; University for the Creative Arts; University of Wales - Trinity St David; Rose Bruford; Wimbledon College of Art; Northern School of Art; Bristol Old Vic Theatre School; Nottingham Trent University; Central St Martins; London College of Fashion; University of Leeds - School of Performance and Culture and Arts University Plymouth.

Administration: The day-to-day administration and other projects were managed by Directors Nicky Shaw and David Farley in liaison with Administrator, Kirsten Farley. The registered address of the SBTDL continues to be The Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama, Cardiff who continue to provide generous support in the form of space, postage and stationery.

Financial Management: Nicky Shaw and David Farley continue as Co Hon. Treasurers and Company Secretaries with additional support from Administrator, Kirsten Farley and independent bookkeeper Martin Ball, Creative Juice.

Society Activities

Committee Meetings: The Society held 4 Committee Meetings through 2023 all co-chaired by Nicky Shaw and David Farley.

CM1: Friday 17 March 2023, 10.30am - 12pm via zoom.

CM2: Thursday 18 May 2023, 6pm - 7.30pm.

CM3: Tuesday 19 September 2023, 7.30pm - 9pm via zoom.

CM4: Saturday 9 December 2023, 4pm - 5.30pm in person at the National Theatre Cottesloe Room and via zoom.

Directors' Meetings: Are arranged and held informally at least twice a year, but often more frequently (as in 2023). These meetings are held via zoom and no minutes are taken.

Annual General Meeting: The Society's AGM took place on Saturday, 9 December 2023, at 5.45pm - 7pm; both in person, in the Cottesloe Room at the National Theatre, and via Zoom.

Kate Burnett stood down as a Director/Trustee. David Farley proposed Kate Burnett for re-election; seconded by Andreas Skourtis.

Designer's Drinks were held after the AGM on 9 December 2023 in the Understudy Bar at the National Theatre.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

Industry Liaison Meetings:

APPTLE: The Alliance of Associations and Professionals in Theatre & Live Events - (started in June 2020 as a response to the Covid-19 pandemic and its effect on the creative industries), continued in 2023 (monthly meetings), sharing information with other professional associations; ALPD, ASD, Stage Managers Association, Costume In Theatre Association, Production Managers Forum and a number of relevant campaigning groups and organisations such as Scenechange, Stage Sight and Parents and Carers in the Performing Arts (PIPA).

Attending in various combinations representing SBTD were primarily David Farley, but also Nicky Shaw, Katie Scott and Louie Whitmore.

Creative Industries Federation: SBTD continued its links.

Equity: Committee Member Louie Whitmore continued on the Equity Directors and Designers Committee (D+D) in 2023 and as Equity Council representative for designers, sharing information directly with SBTD.

Open meetings were attended and run as part of Louie's role on the council.

There were many meetings with Equity to work on the renegotiation of the UK Theatre and SOLT Agreements for designers.

Collaboration continued with Equity on what insurances and member benefits Equity membership should provide for designers.

Exhibition Programme:

hello stranger: SBTD National Exhibition of UK Performance Design 2023

Curated by Katherine Sandys and Lucy Thornett, directing and supporting regional curators and designer teams making up the hello stranger festival; editing the accompanying catalogues and curating the UK Exhibition as part of the 15th Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space in 2023.

The National Exhibition of UK Performance Design 2023 Festival was held from the beginning of 2023 over several months (with each country or region having their own time frame and specific event dates), leading up to the Prague Quadrennial. The 15th Prague Quadrennial of Performance Design and Space (PQ) took place between the 8th and 18th June 2023. During this time PQ exhibition spaces and festival venues attracted nearly 11,000 accredited visitors or one-day ticket holders.

The purpose of the **hello stranger** UK festival was to centre the voices of designers and to emphasise opportunities for gathering, sharing and socialising. It was led by a network of UK-based performance designers, curating public facing events, hosted by venue partners, with support from higher education collaborators across thirteen regions nationwide from all 4 countries of the UK. The designer-curators were tasked with activating public spaces within local theatres and other cultural institutions through events that took stock of the four years of performance design in the UK 2019-2023, and posed questions about where we are headed. These events centred sustainability, with purpose-built event and exhibition spaces created from re-claimed and re-purposed materials: The **hello stranger** Exhibition Festival was funded from core funds and with generous support from the Linbury Trust, with additional contributions from individual designers, also from the ALPD (The Association for Lighting Production and Design) and from the ASD (Association of Sound Designers).

In addition to the festival a three-part series of catalogues was planned, of which Parts 1 and 2 were published in 2023.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

hello stranger catalogue Part 1: was curated to chronicle the diverse ways in which performance design has been realised in and beyond the UK from 2019 to 2023.

hello stranger the festival catalogue Part 2: documents the activity of each region and country through images, curatorial concepts and reflections from some of the designer-curators. The festival included workshops, round-table discussions, exhibitions of artefacts, displays of design process, parades, design jamming, interventions, networking events, panel discussions and Q&A sessions.

hello stranger Festival Countries/Regions, Venues and Higher education partners:

hello stranger East Midlands - Venues: Nottingham Playhouse & Derby Theatre. Higher education partners: University of Derby and Nottingham Trent University.

A collectively made artefact/dwelling was created and open to the public, inviting them to enter the installation and listen to the voices of local designers.

Date - 24 January 2023: On Derby Theatre's Main Stage a playful workshop was held to discuss designers' work and the future of performance design in the region.

Dates - 6-18 March 2023: Designers' work displayed as part of a video, showcasing East Midlands performance design at Nottingham Playhouse.

Date - 16 March 2023: Nottingham Playhouse hosted a drink, talks, a video showcasing regional designers' work, a contribution to our performance design-manifesto-generating.

hello stranger North West - Venues: Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts; The Yard, Manchester; Theatre by the Lake, Keswick. Higher education partner: Liverpool Institute for the Performing Arts.

The North West festival consisted of a touring designers' shed installation and a series of workshops, led by the region's designers.

Date - 3 March 2023: North West design allotment hosted a conversation at Liverpool Institute of Performing Arts.

Scotland - Venue and higher education partner: Edinburgh College of Art (ECA).

hello stranger Scotland was a two-day collaborative event held for theatre designers, practitioners, students and early stage career designers working in Scotland. Costumes were donated by a number of UK theatres, they were then labelled with the production, character, year and designers' names, emphasising the history and life of each piece. They were then drawn, worn and examined by ECA performance costume students, then suspended, tied and placed across the width and depth of the Sculpture Court at ECA. Recycled items were reconstructed to make new physical connections within a constantly changing space. A designer from Curious Seed was asked to gather together performers and musicians, and invited them to respond within the space through movement and sound.

Date - 25 February 2023: the first official **hello stranger** event in Edinburgh.

hello stranger Yorkshire - Venue: Leeds Playhouse. Higher education partner: University of Huddersfield.

An exhibition was made that offered the public a window into the way the creative community responded to the challenges of making live performances from 2019 to 2023 and celebrated the inventive ingenuity that is central to the practice of designers.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

Date - 24 March 2023: Important conversations held about the arts in Yorkshire

hello stranger East of England - Venue: Mercury Theatre, Colchester

An exhibition of regional designers' work along with a programme of events and workshops were held that exposed the often hidden design process. Celebrating the work of the performance designers for an audience of the general public and invited groups from the Mercury Theatre's extensive partner network.

hello stranger Wales/Cymru - Venues: National Theatre Wales, Sherman Theatre, Porter's, The Other Room, Capital Centre, Royal Arcade, Morgan Arcade, Chapter Arts Centre. Higher education partner: Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama.

Utilising empty shop fronts across Cardiff city centre, Wales's exhibition was a celebration of creativity placed in the everyday paths of thousands of people. As-well-as a series of events that provided a platform for key exchanges relevant to the arts in Wales.

hello stranger South West - Venue: Bristol Old Vic Theatre. Higher education partner: Bristol Old Vic Theatre School.

Open to the public, the event at Bristol Old Vic Theatre in March 2023 comprised an exhibition of work from South West based designers that explored the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. Representing a range of shows that were either cut short, or never realised, as well as the hybrid projects that incorporated streaming and online performances, showing the resilience of the performance industry.

hello stranger South London - Venues: The Albany and Deptford Lounge. Higher education partner: Rose Bruford College.

The South London festival was a series of exploratory workshops and an installation at Deptford Lounge. The workshops were a place for designers from all disciplines in live performance to discuss their artistic interests and imagine new ways of working: using concepts around the trans gaze, queer imagination and non-anthropocentric models of collaboration as starting points.

hello stranger North London - Venue: Hoxton Hall. Higher education partner: Royal Central School of Speech and Drama.

Local designers and students worked collaboratively with the local community in a workshop held at Hoxton Hall to create an immersive interactive sound, light and virtual reality exhibition. Culminating with a 'designer drinks', a social networking event for discussion and feedback.

hello stranger East London - Venue: Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch.

An exhibition was held in the Queen's Theatre, Hornchurch foyer running in parallel with the theatre's main house production. Highlighting the important contribution of theatre design to the success of a production and celebrating the work of theatre designers. It featured a curated selection of regional talent and encompassed set, costume, sound and lighting design. A special industry social and networking event was held, called 'Future of Design', which enabled designers, creatives and artists to meet producers, directors and programmers to network and discuss how best to support the local arts ecology.

hello stranger West London - Venue: Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A). Higher education partner: London College of Fashion at University of the Arts London.

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Trustees' Report

The West London festival was held as part of the V&A Museum's yearly Performance Festival. MA fashion curation and cultural programming students from the London College of Fashion developed three interventions and the West London curator a fourth. Under the festival's broad theme of 'voice', the interventions celebrated the voice of costume designers through offering interactive and contemplative experiences that creatively explored costume design.

In 'Dialogues in Costume Design' visitors to the Globe area of the V&A experienced a multi-sensory sound, screen and costume installation and an in-depth examination of the English National Opera's (ENO) 2021 production of La Boheme.

In 'Immersive Costume', visitors could pick costumes from various shows to wear in a real-time virtual reality environment and unearth costume as a powerful identifier in performance from internal (performer) and external (viewer) perspectives.

'Lost Voices' brought to life the 2019 co-production of Hansel and Gretel from ENO and Regent's Park Open Air Theatre and the designer of ENO Breathe led an open, breath-focused warm-up, whilst visitors to the museum sketched as live opera singers performed selected opera arias and later a costume design workshop.

In 'Page to Stage and Song' visitors investigated the process and skills involved in designing and making costumes for The Handmaid's Tale (ENO) 2022) through the work and words of the costume designer.

South East - Venue: The Margate School: Higher education partner: University of Kent and additional in-kind support from Nottingham Trent University.

The South East exhibition and workshop series focused on the design process. By placing the exhibition at The Margate School (an ethical and alternative art school); located in an old Woolworths on the High Street in Margate, the aim was to illustrate the design process to the local community as they passed by. Visitors to the exhibition experienced the fabulous range of local performance design on show, not only through objects displayed in the window and throughout the space, but also through workshops on set and costume design. The event included a panel discussion with contributions from local designers, performers and makers, focused on the current design landscape, post pandemic and in a climate and financial crisis.

Beyond UK - Higher education partner: Backstage Academy.

Date - 19 April 2023: Launch of first event.

Beyond UK was a virtual group exhibition that showcased the work of designers who work beyond the borders of the UK: international designers working in the UK, designers trained in the UK and British Designers working outside the UK. The work of those designers was digitised, modelled and rendered, creating a sustainable digital archive. Consisting of digital scenography maquettes of productions that had been performed over the 2019 to 2023 period, making use of a range of digital resources, including 3D photo-scanning, 3D modelling and rendering software. The 3D digitised scenography was converted into AR models allowing visitors to explore the designs in context using an app.

29 April 2023 was the last event for the **hello stranger** UK festival of performance design at the V&A.

There was a long article/review of **hello stranger** at PQ2023 in the Guardian.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

SBTD Events in 2023:

Graduate Exhibitions: A number of Graduate Shows were attended by Directors and Committee Members.

Graduate Member Show Case: We celebrated a number of Graduate Members work via our social media channels.

ABTT Show: SBTD were represented at the ABTT Show, Alexandre Palace on 7 & 8 June 2023, engaging with potential members, increasing our industry profile and selling exhibition catalogues.

SBTD Summer Talks: There were no Summer Talks held in 2023. Preparations were made at the end of 2023 for talks to be held in 2024.

Members Training: There were no specific training events in 2023.

SBTD Working Group Activities:

SBTD Sustainability Working Group: Meetings for SBTD members and allies are held online approximately once every two months, often with a guest speaker. The email group is 81 people, including allies. The subgroups and the Organisers group are SBTD members only, apart from some guests invited to contribute to the Materials Guide.

Organisers group:

Paul Burgess 'co-ordinator' (also Carbon Literacy Training and Materials subgroup); Jess Curtis; Ruth Stringer; Alison Neighbour (leads the Carbon Literacy Training subgroup); Hamis Muir (leads the material subgroup); Simon Daw (materials subgroup), Andrea Carr (Carbon Literacy Training subgroup) and Will Reynolds (also Carbon Literacy Training subgroup).

Also active: Hannah Schmidt, Nadia Malik, Sarah Booth and Will Hargreaves (connecting the working group to PDEC).

Paul represented the working group at the International Green Tools and Guides Meet-up and at events, including Making Theatre in a Time of Climate Crisis at the National Theatre. Carbon Literacy Training was piloted at the National Theatre on the 5th of April, 2023, and rolled out publically in June.

Carbon Literacy Training for Theatre Designers, Directors, and Creative workshop teams:

Pilot, National Theatre on 5 April 2024 - Paul Burgess and Alison Neighbour

London, Albany Theatre on 20 June 2023 - Paul Burgess and Will Reynolds

Kent, Folkestone Quarterhouse on 31 August 2023 - Alison Neighbour and Sarah Booth

Wales, National Theatre Wales 15 September 2023 - Ruth Stringer and Alison Neighbour

SBTD Mentoring Group:

The Mentoring Group was less active in 2023 with group leaders Christianna Mason and Nicky Shaw having small catch up meetings. Nicky Shaw offered individual mentoring sessions to a few SBTD members.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

Other Activities:

Website: The Society's website – www.theatredesign.org.uk – is the public-facing platform for the Society, providing information on education and training, galleries of members' work and profiling key areas of activity such as exhibitions and catalogues. Maintenance carried out by David Farley

Staging Places Website: Made as part of the 2019 Staging Places exhibition and maintained as a publicly available digital record.

Blog Publications: Hosted on the SBTd website, promoted via social media (FB, Insta and Twitter.)

Blue Pages: Blue Pages has been the Society's journal, publishing articles by artists, curators and designers as well as reviews of exhibitions and publications. No print or digital issues were created in 2023. An archive of back-issues is hosted on the website, in the members area.

SBTD News: In 2023 the society offered a regular monthly e-mail newsletter compiled and laid out by our administrator, Kirsten Farley, delivered via Mailchimp to Members. This is part of the core offer to Members. Commencing with a greeting, a monthly description of the society's activities, up-coming events to look out for, from both within the Society and also the wider theatre community, it offers a place to celebrate members achievements, careers and lives. Further mailouts were sent with special news and events as required.

Social Media: The Society's open Facebook group continues to act as a forum for questions, recommendations, resource-sharing, promoting SBTd events and sharing articles of interest with over 3000 members. A closed Facebook group, set up as a Members' Forum, now acts as a more focused think tank for sharing and engaging with more detailed advocacy activity around contracts, fees and proposed changes to the UK Theatre and SOLT collective agreements.

Twitter and Instagram: Social media output has been delivered by the Communications (Comms) team; specifically David Farley.

Slack: In 2023 Slack ceased to be used as a means of regular communication as e-mails are used more frequently.

SkillsScene: Through its continued involvement with SkillsScene the Society contributes (alongside other industry bodies such as ABTT, ALPD, UK Theatre, SMA, BECTU and PLASA) to the ongoing debate about standards and provision of training and education in technical theatre. Ian Teague represents the Society at SkillsScene meetings.

International Links:

OISTAT: International Organisation of Scenographers, Theatre Architects and Technicians.

SBTD is one of two OISTAT centres for the UK, the other being the ABTT (Association of British Theatre Technicians).

In June 2023 OISTAT held its small Congress and all Commission meetings in Prague during the PQ. Kate Burnett was the voting representative for the SBTd at the relevant elections and debates.

Roles representing the SBTd in OISTAT were filled by SBTd Committee Members: Fiona Watt as UK Performance Design Commissioner; Elizabeth Wright as Publication and Communication Commissioner; Peter Ruthven Hall continues as Architecture Commissioner UK and Vice Chair of the Commission; Kate Burnett stood down on completion of her full term as Chair of the Research Commission; Aby Cohen continues as President of OISTAT.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

WSD 2025: World Stage Design 2025

In February 2023 an initial planning meeting was held by OISTAT in Sharjah, UAE with The Sharjah Performing Arts Academy and local partners who are hosting the 2025 World Stage Design exhibition and festival (an OISTAT quadrennial collaborative event). It was attended by Kate Burnett in her role as Chair of the OISTAT Research Commission and member of the OISTAT Governing Board. SBTB members Aby Cohen and Sean Crowley also attended in their OISTAT President and Executive Council capacities.

Financial Review

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Society has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Accounting Policies.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The board continues to discuss new ways to ensure risk is managed successfully.

Reserves Policy

The directors aim to hold a £5,000 cash reserve to manage the monthly overheads of the charity and also to cover the substantial annual cost of our various insurance policies.

Ultimately, they want to keep surplus funds to a minimum in order to maximise the charitable activities carried out for the benefit of the members and deliverance of the charity's objectives.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Society is registered as a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association in 1988.

The Society is constituted under a Memorandum of Association dated 1988 and is a registered charity number 800638.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Trustees' Report

Method of Appointment or Election of Directors

The Directors of the Company form the Council of Management that is responsible for the overall direction of affairs of the Company and decides all matters of policy. There are currently four Directors elected by and from the membership, with power to co-opt. One third of the Directors must retire each year but each is eligible for re-election. There is no limit to their period of office. The following Directors were in office at 31 December 2023: Kate Burnett, Greer Crawley, David Farley and Nicky Shaw.

In addition, during 2023 the following were serving on the Management Committee:

David Farley and Nicky Shaw (Co-Company Secretaries and Co-Hon Treasurers); Kirsten Farley (Part-time Administrator); Kate Burnett (publication sales coordinator, Chair of the OISTAT Research Commission); David Farley and Katie Scott (Communications Team); Libby Todd (Student, Graduate and Early Career Designers Representative); Nicky Shaw and Christianna Mason (Mentoring Group Co-lead); Christianna Mason (Designers' Mentoring Network Lead); Ian Teague (Skillscene); Paul Burgess (Sustainability Group Lead); Greer Crawley (Editor Blue Pages); David Farley (Website support); Louie Whitmore (Equity Director and Designers Committee representative); plus Nadia Malik, Dana Pinto, Lucy Thornett, Kathrine Sandys, Andreas Skourtis, Donatella Barbieri, May Davies, Kate Lane, Ian Teague and Elizabeth Wright. Joining the Committee in 2023 were Adrian Rees and James Perkins and Ruth Paton attended Committee Meeting 4: 2023.

Policies adopted for the Induction and Training of Directors

New directors are appointed in line with the Memorandum – whereby a simple majority vote can appoint a new director. At all times there must be between 3 and 30 directors.

Upon election, new directors are provided with a copy of the Society's Memorandum and Articles of Association and additionally a copy of CC3 – The Essential Trustee, to provide a background to the duties and responsibilities of being a charity trustee.

Organisational Structure and Decision Making

The Society is led by the Trustee-Directors who are responsible for all decision making.

Future Developments

SBTD will be reviewing structural strategies and role descriptions, with amendments and improvements as required and agreed..

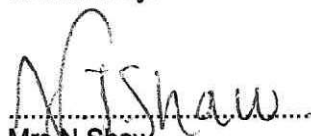
SBTD will be reviewing its digital offer and developing the website.

As the 2023 **hello stranger** national exhibition project reaches its final phase, the SBTD will review its achievements and implications for the forward and financial planning of its 2027 national projects and international participation in WSD 2025 and PQ2027.

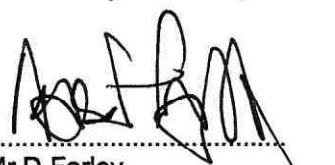
SBTD will continue to work closely with Equity, BECTU, Association for Lighting Production and Design (ALPD), Stage Directors UK (SDUK) and AAPTLE, to inform industrial negotiations with UK Theatre, SOLT and ITC whilst lobbying and campaigning, via bodies such as the Creative Industries Federation and ACE, to make meaningful contributions to professional working conditions and standards and with PDEC (Performance Design Education Collective, formerly ACTD) on relationships and initiatives between professional practice and higher education.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

The annual report was approved by the trustees of the charity on 24 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs N Shaw
Trustee



Mr D Farley
Trustee

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited for the purposes of company law) 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), including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

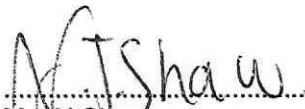
Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. 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, comprising FRS 102 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 charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that can disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by the trustees of the charity on 24 September 2024 and signed on its behalf by:


Mrs N Shaw
Trustee


Mr D Farley
Trustee

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Independent Examiner's Report to the trustees of The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited ('the Company')

I report to the charity trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Company for the year ended 31 December 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').

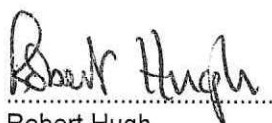
Having satisfied myself that the accounts of the Company are not required to be audited under Part 16 of the 2006 Act and are eligible for independent examination, I report in respect of my examination of your charity's accounts as carried out under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 ('the 2011 Act').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

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 Society of British Theatre Designers Limited 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.



Robert Hugh
Robert Hugh Limited

15, Dan-y-Bryn Avenue
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Cardiff
CF15 8DD

27 September 2024

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	489	-	489
Charitable activities	4	28,212	23,300	51,512
Other trading activities	5	17,734	-	17,734
Investment income	6	31	-	31
Total income		<u>46,466</u>	<u>23,300</u>	<u>69,766</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	7	<u>(38,097)</u>	<u>(41,354)</u>	<u>(79,451)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(38,097)</u>	<u>(41,354)</u>	<u>(79,451)</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		8,369	(18,054)	(9,685)
Transfers between funds		<u>13,406</u>	<u>(13,406)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		21,775	(31,460)	(9,685)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>-</u>	<u>32,110</u>	<u>32,110</u>
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>21,775</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>22,425</u>
	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and Endowments from:				
Donations and legacies	3	389	-	389
Charitable activities	4	28,858	12,000	40,858
Other trading activities	5	175	5,554	5,729
Investment income	6	4	-	4
Total income		<u>29,426</u>	<u>17,554</u>	<u>46,980</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities	7	<u>(21,820)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(21,820)</u>
Total expenditure		<u>(21,820)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(21,820)</u>
Net income		7,606	17,554	25,160
Transfers between funds		<u>(13,406)</u>	<u>13,406</u>	<u>-</u>
Net movement in funds		(5,800)	30,960	25,160
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward		<u>5,800</u>	<u>1,150</u>	<u>6,950</u>

The notes on pages 18 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 December 2023 (Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Total funds carried forward	15	<u>-</u>	<u>32,110</u>	<u>32,110</u>

All of the charity's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two periods.

The notes on pages 18 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

(Registration number: 02325776)
Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Current assets			
Stocks	11	13,707	15,733
Debtors	12	9,852	3,568
Cash at bank and in hand	13	<u>13,822</u>	<u>27,644</u>
		37,381	46,945
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(14,956)</u>	<u>(14,835)</u>
Net assets		<u>22,425</u>	<u>32,110</u>
Funds of the charity:			
Restricted income funds			
Restricted funds		650	32,110
Unrestricted income funds			
Unrestricted funds		<u>21,775</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	15	<u>22,425</u>	<u>32,110</u>

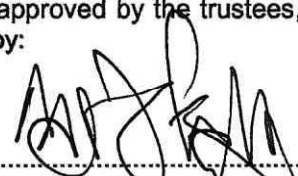
For the financial year ending 31 December 2023 the charity was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

Directors' responsibilities:

- The members have not required the charity to obtain an audit of its accounts for the year in question in accordance with section 476; and
- The directors acknowledge their responsibilities for complying with the requirements of the Act with respect to accounting records and the preparation of accounts.

The financial statements on pages 15 to 29 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 24 September 2024 and signed on their behalf by:


Mrs N Shaw
Trustee


Mr D Farley
Trustee

The notes on pages 18 to 29 form an integral part of these financial statements.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

1 Charity status

The charity is limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales, and consequently does not have share capital. Each of the trustees is liable to contribute an amount not exceeding £1 towards the assets of the charity in the event of liquidation.

The address of its registered office is:

Department of Theatre Design

Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama

Castle Grounds

Cardiff

CF10 3ER

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the trustees on 24 September 2024.

2 Accounting policies

Summary of significant accounting policies and key accounting estimates

The principal accounting policies applied in the preparation of these financial statements are set out below. These policies have been consistently applied to all the years presented, unless otherwise stated.

Statement of compliance

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)) (issued in October 2019) - (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of preparation

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. Assets and liabilities are initially recognised at historical cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant accounting policy notes.

Going concern

The trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the charity's ability to continue as a going concern nor any significant areas of uncertainty that affect the carrying value of assets held by the charity.

Exemption from preparing a cash flow statement

The charity opted to early adopt Bulletin 1 published on 2 February 2016 and have therefore not included a cash flow statement in these financial statements.

Income and endowments

All income is recognised on a receivable basis once the Society has entitlement to the income, there is certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Donations and legacies

Donations are recognised when the charity has been notified in writing of both the amount and settlement date. In the event that a donation is subject to conditions that require a level of performance by the charity before the charity is entitled to the funds, the income is deferred and not recognised until either those conditions are fully met, or the fulfilment of those conditions is wholly within the control of the charity and it is probable that these conditions will be fulfilled in the reporting period.

Deferred income

Deferred income represents amounts received for future periods and is released to incoming resources in the period for which, it has been received. Such income is only deferred when:

- The payer specifies that the amount paid must only be used in future accounting periods; or
- The payer has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to that expenditure, it is probable settlement is required and the amount can be measured reliably. All costs are allocated to the applicable expenditure heading that aggregate similar costs to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Raising funds

These are costs incurred in attracting income and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

Charitable activities

Charitable expenditure comprises those costs incurred by the charity in the delivery of its activities and services for its beneficiaries. It includes both costs that can be allocated directly to such activities and those costs of an indirect nature necessary to support them.

Support costs

Support costs include central functions and have been allocated to activity cost categories on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the charity's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including examination, strategic management and trustees's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Taxation

The charity is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the charity is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and estimated selling price less costs to complete and sell, after due regard for obsolete and slow moving stocks. Cost is determined using the first-in, first-out (FIFO).

Trade debtors

Trade debtors are amounts due from customers for merchandise sold or services performed in the ordinary course of business.

Trade debtors are recognised initially at the transaction price. They are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less provision for impairment. A provision for the impairment of trade debtors is established when there is objective evidence that the charity will not be able to collect all amounts due according to the original terms of the receivables.

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

Trade creditors

Trade creditors are obligations to pay for goods or services that have been acquired in the ordinary course of business from suppliers. Accounts payable are classified as current liabilities if the charity does not have an unconditional right, at the end of the reporting period, to defer settlement of the creditor for at least twelve months after the reporting date. If there is an unconditional right to defer settlement for at least twelve months after the reporting date, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

Trade creditors are recognised initially at the transaction price and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

Fund structure

Unrestricted income funds are general funds that are available for use at the trustees discretion in furtherance of the objectives of the charity.

Restricted income funds are those that are for use in a particular area or for specific purposes, the use of which is restricted to that area or purpose.

Financial instruments

Classification

The Society 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 settlement value with the exception of bank loans which are subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

3 Income from donations and legacies

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations to major appeals	<u>489</u>	<u>489</u>
	<u>489</u>	<u>489</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Donations and legacies;		
Donations to major appeals	<u>389</u>	<u>389</u>
	<u>389</u>	<u>389</u>

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Membership subscriptions	28,212	-	28,212
Linbury Trust grant	-	3,000	3,000
Royal Central School of Speech and Drama grant	-	13,700	13,700
Other grants	-	6,600	6,600
	<u>28,212</u>	<u>23,300</u>	<u>51,512</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £
Membership subscriptions	28,858	-	28,858
Linbury Trust grant	-	12,000	12,000
	<u>28,858</u>	<u>12,000</u>	<u>40,858</u>

5 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Trading income;		
Sales of catalogues	1,532	1,532
Gallery, exhibition and education fees	10,688	10,688
Other income from other trading activities	5,514	5,514
	<u>17,734</u>	<u>17,734</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Trading income;		
Sales of catalogues	63	63
Gallery, exhibition and education fees	-	5,554
Other income from other trading activities	112	112
	<u>175</u>	<u>5,729</u>

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2023 £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>31</u>	<u>31</u>
	<u>31</u>	<u>31</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £	Total 2022 £
Interest receivable and similar income;		
Interest receivable on bank deposits	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

7 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £
Gallery and exhibition project costs	9,860	41,354	51,214
Membership services	6,855	-	6,855
Support costs	20,382	-	20,382
	<u>37,097</u>	<u>41,354</u>	<u>78,451</u>
	Unrestricted funds General £		Total 2022 £
Gallery and exhibition project costs		165	165
Membership services		5,005	5,005
Support costs		15,615	15,615
		<u>20,785</u>	<u>20,785</u>
	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2023 £
Gallery and exhibition project costs	51,214	-	51,214
Membership services	6,855	-	6,855
Support costs	-	20,382	20,382
	<u>58,069</u>	<u>20,382</u>	<u>78,451</u>
	Activity undertaken directly £	Activity support costs £	2022 £
Gallery and exhibition project costs	165	-	165
Membership services	5,005	-	5,005
Support costs	-	15,615	15,615
	<u>5,170</u>	<u>15,615</u>	<u>20,785</u>

In addition to the expenditure analysed above, there are also governance costs of £1,000 (2022 - £1,035) which relate directly to charitable activities. See note 8 for further details.

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

8 Analysis of governance and support costs

Charitable activities expenditure

		Unrestricted funds	Total
	Basis of allocation	General £	2023 £
Administration salary and fees	A	8,680	8,680
Staff training	A	4,006	4,006
Committee expenses	A	824	824
Trade subscriptions	A	452	452
Website	A	609	609
Computer software and maintenance costs	A	761	761
Sundry expenses	A	830	830
Book-keeping and accountancy fees	A	4,220	4,220
Governance	A	1,000	1,000
		<u>21,382</u>	<u>21,382</u>

		Unrestricted funds	Total
	Basis of allocation	General £	2022 £
Administration salary and fees	A	6,970	6,970
Committee expenses	A	22	22
Trade subscriptions	A	704	704
Website	A	2,273	2,273
Computer software and maintenance costs	A	1,057	1,057
Sundry expenses	A	509	509
Book-keeping and accountancy fees	A	4,080	4,080
Governance	A	1,035	1,035
		<u>16,650</u>	<u>16,650</u>

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

Support costs allocated to charitable activities

		Governance costs	Staff costs	Administration costs	Total 2023
	Basis of allocation	£	£	£	£
Art of theatre design	A	<u>1,000</u>	<u>8,680</u>	<u>11,702</u>	<u>21,382</u>
		Governance costs	Staff costs	Administration costs	Total 2022
	Basis of allocation	£	£	£	£
Art of theatre design	A	<u>1,035</u>	<u>6,970</u>	<u>8,645</u>	<u>16,650</u>

Basis of allocation

Reference	Method of allocation
A	Direct attribution

Governance costs

	Unrestricted funds General	Total 2023
	£	£
Allocated support costs	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
	<u>1,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>
	Unrestricted funds General	Total 2022
	£	£
Allocated support costs	<u>1,035</u>	<u>1,035</u>
	<u>1,035</u>	<u>1,035</u>

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

9 Trustees remuneration and expenses

No trustees, nor any persons connected with them, have received any remuneration from the charity during the year.

No trustees have received any reimbursed expenses or any other benefits from the charity during the year.

10 Taxation

The charity is a registered charity and is therefore exempt from taxation.

11 Stock

	2023	2022
	£	£
Stocks	<u>13,707</u>	<u>15,733</u>

12 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	7,868	1,290
Prepayments	<u>1,984</u>	<u>2,278</u>
	<u>9,852</u>	<u>3,568</u>

13 Cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash at bank	<u>13,822</u>	<u>27,644</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	2,822	871
Accruals	1,287	1,940
Deferred income	<u>10,847</u>	<u>12,024</u>
	<u>14,956</u>	<u>14,835</u>

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 January 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2023 £
Unrestricted					
<i>General</i>					
General	-	29,393	(23,691)	-	5,702
<i>Designated</i>					
Exhibition - designated	-	13,629	(13,399)	13,406	13,636
Carbon Literacy Training Fund - designated	-	3,443	(1,006)	-	2,437
	-	17,072	(14,405)	13,406	16,073
Total Unrestricted	-	46,465	(38,096)	13,406	21,775
Restricted					
Linbury Trust	12,000	-	(12,000)	-	-
Exhibition	18,960	20,300	(25,854)	(13,406)	-
Educational Workshop	1,150	-	(500)	-	650
Carbon Literacy Training Fund	-	3,000	(3,000)	-	-
Total restricted	32,110	23,300	(41,354)	(13,406)	650
Total funds	32,110	69,765	(79,450)	-	22,425
	Balance at 1 January 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers £	Balance at 31 December 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
<i>General</i>					
General	5,800	29,426	(21,820)	(13,406)	-
<i>Restricted</i>					
Linbury Trust	-	12,000	-	-	12,000
Exhibition	-	5,554	-	13,406	18,960
Educational Workshop	1,150	-	-	-	1,150
Total restricted funds	1,150	17,554	-	13,406	32,110
Total funds	6,950	46,980	(21,820)	-	32,110

The Society of British Theatre Designers Limited

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2023

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2023 £
Current assets	36,731	650	37,381
Current liabilities	(14,956)	-	(14,956)
Total net assets	<u>21,775</u>	<u>650</u>	<u>22,425</u>

	Unrestricted funds General £	Restricted funds £	Total funds at 31 December 2022 £
Current assets	14,835	32,110	46,945
Current liabilities	(14,835)	-	(14,835)
Total net assets	<u>-</u>	<u>32,110</u>	<u>32,110</u>

17 Analysis of net funds

	At 1 January 2023 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 December 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	27,644	(13,822)	13,822
Net debt	<u>27,644</u>	<u>(13,822)</u>	<u>13,822</u>

	At 1 January 2022 £	Financing cash flows £	At 31 December 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	21,829	5,815	27,644
Net debt	<u>21,829</u>	<u>5,815</u>	<u>27,644</u>