

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland · Charity number 108049

Details

Status Received

Company number [676327](#)

Registered 2021-07-09

Register [View on the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland register](#)

Contact

Address 24 Eglantine Avenue
Belfast
BT9 6dx
BT9 6DX

Phone 07847169383

Email theteam@commediaoferrors.co.uk

Website <https://www.commediaoferrors.co.uk/>

Activities

Purposes: 4. The charity's objects ('Objects') are specifically restricted to the following: 4.1 Commedia of Errors is established predominantly (but not exclusively) to produce performances in the UK and Ireland and in particular to: 4.1.1 Promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public. 4.1.2 Encourage appreciation of and participation in performing arts activities. 4.1.3 Encourage and stimulate artistic creativity by the provision of artistic performances, training, support and facilities for artistic expression. 4.1.4 Present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value, including (but not limited to) dramas, comedies, operas, operettas, burlesques, films, broadcasts, television shows, concerts, musical pieces, puppet shows, ballets, entertainments and exhibitions.

What the charity does: The advancement of the arts, culture, heritage or science

How the charity works: Arts, Education/training

Who the charity helps: Adult training, Carers, Children (5-13 year olds), Ex-offenders and prisoners, General public, Older people, Youth (14-25 year olds)

Finances

Period end	Income	Expenditure	Assets	Employees
2025-04-05	£199,426	£151,739	£0	4

Trustees

Name	Role	Appointed
David Gould		
Mr Mark Francos		
Mr Neill Cauwood		
Mrs Fiona Mcanespie		
Ms Rebecca Mairs		
Ms Sally Campton		

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Accounts

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Report of the trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025



Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 5th April 2025

Period of Accounts

Start Date: 6th April 2024

End Date: 5th April 2025

Company Number: NI676327

Registered Charity Number: NIC108049

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

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Commedia of Errors

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 5 April 2025. The trustees have adopted the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019).

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The company exists for the benefit of the public to: produce performances in the UK and Ireland; promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public; encourage appreciation and participation in performing arts activities, encourage and stimulate artistic creativity and present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value.

Commedia of Errors creates art that responds to, challenges and questions the changing times in which we live. It aims to grow, develop and inform audiences, beneficiaries and the arts sector and to broaden and deepen engagement by overcoming barriers to arts participation.

List of Trustees

Chairperson:
Secretary:
Treasurer:
Member:

Sally Campton
David Gould
Neill Cauwood
Jenny Cooke (*resigned 19/02/2025*)
Fiona McAnespie
Mark Francos
Michael Weir (*resigned 24/07/2024*)
Rebecca Mairs (*joined 29/04/2024*)

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Report of the trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant Activities

In 2024/25 Commedia of Errors continued to showcase its diverse range of creative activities through the production of a new play, the revival of two productions and beginning a major expansion of Plays Aloud. During this time the company also welcomed two new staff members and a move in premises.

This year marked many firsts. In September we premiered *Rose+Bud* at the Dublin Fringe Festival, followed by a successful run in the Lyric Belfast and two shows at the Derry Playhouse. *Rose+Bud* has also secured a place on the Pleasance National Partnership programme, and will enjoy a run at the Pleasance Edinburgh in August 2025. The production marked the first professional work as both playwright and performer for Rose Coogan. A revival of *Shakespeare's Women* also hit the road in November, marking the first time we have programmed two plays in the same season. Following a sold out run at the Grand Opera House Studio, the tour was also the first time working with arts centres in Ireland in Roscommon, Cavan and Mullingar.

Following receipt of funding from the National Lottery Community Fund we brought on board a new staff member in a brand-new position, as Project Coordinator for Plays Aloud. Hitting the ground running, they maintained our usual output of performances but also began our new workshop programme with eight workshops being delivered across ten schemes. Feedback for this new work has been excellent.

Towards the end of the year our Artistic Director and Co-Creative further developed their relationship with the Lyric Theatre, remounting the highly successful 2022 production of *The Gap Year*, selling over 9,000 tickets across three weeks. Finally in March we staged our inaugural Creative Arts in Care settings event as part of Belfast Learning Festival. Offering learning and networking opportunities, artists, care staff and the public enjoyed a day-long event in Clifton House.

2024/25 was a positive year for both funding and output despite the ever more challenging funding climate and the ongoing issues the arts sector faces.

Public Benefit

Commedia of Errors is established predominantly (but not exclusively) to produce performances in the UK and Ireland and in particular to:

- Promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public.
- Encourage appreciation of and participation in performing arts activities.
- Encourage and stimulate artistic creativity by the provision of artistic performances, training, support and facilities for artistic expression. Present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value, including (but not limited to) dramas, comedies, operas, operettas, burlesques, films, broadcasts, television shows, concerts, musical pieces, puppet shows, ballets, procure to be written and printed, published, issued, distributed and circulated, reports or periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or other documents or information.
- Recruit, train and employ volunteers with relevant skills, for the furtherance of the above aims.
- Promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out, research, surveys and investigations provided the useful results are published.
- Co-operate to such an extent as may be necessary with the statutory authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in the furtherance of the above objects or of any of them.
- Raise and accept money by way of grants, donations, bequests, legacies or other lawful method and give, donate or disburse grants and loans to such related organisations or projects as are by law deemed charitable, provided that in the exercise thereof Commedia of Errors shall not engage in any form of permanent, non-primary purpose trading.
- Purchase, take or lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and any rights and privileges necessary for the attainment of the said objects. Subject to such consents that may be required by law to sell, let, mortgage, dispose or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of Commedia of Errors which shall be deemed necessary for the furtherance of Commedia of Errors. All such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects.

COMEDIA OF ERRORS

Report of the trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

FINANCE REVIEW

The Trustees are extremely grateful for the continued financial support provided by the following on general and project funding: DfC-Future Screens NI, ACNI, Halifax Foundation, National Lottery Community Fund, Garfield Weston, Belfast City Council and Radius Housing.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company's assets totalled £90,294 (£40,204 in 2024) with liabilities of £2,986 (£583 in 2024), giving net assets of £87,308, an increase of £47,691 from 2024. As at 5 April 2025 total funds were £87,308 comprising unrestricted funds of £34,505, £11,802 of designated unrestricted funds and general unrestricted funds of £22,703, plus restricted funds of £52,803.

Reserves Policy

The company's Reserves Policy sets out details of the purpose, reasons and management of its Designated Unrestricted Reserves in accordance with the five broad categories specified in the Charity Commission's CC19 document, principally the risk of unforeseen emergency or unexpected need for funds. The balance on the Designated Unrestricted Reserves at 5 April 2025 was £11,802.

Despite the challenges, the company's reserves remain comfortably positive (see above), facilitating an eventual total reserves target equivalent to six months' core outgoings.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The company's paper on Risk Assessment Policy and a sub-group have established a Risk Framework to identify and address major risks.

The Trustees are of the view that financial sustainability is the major risk for the company, in particular:

- The termination of a major source of funding
- A negative change in funding policy on the part of government or any major funding body

Risks of a non-financial nature include:

- Changes in law pertaining to charities or the arts sector
- A substantial decline in demand within the theatrical sector

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees attend an induction session at which they are issued with a "Board Induction Information" brochure setting out detailed data explaining the duties and responsibilities of the Board Member under charity and company law.

Trustees are regularly given the opportunity and are encouraged to attend a variety of external training events relevant to their role.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Report of the trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

Registered Company Number
NI676327

Registered Charity Name
Commedia of Errors

Registered Charity Number
NIC108049

Registered Office
21 Ormeau Avenue, Belfast, BT2 8HD, Northern Ireland

Staff
Benjamin Gould – Artistic Director
Clare McMahon – Co-Creative Director
Carrie Neal – Project Assistant (*joined 29/04/2024*)
Charlotte Smith – Project Coordinator (*joined 09/09/2025*)

Independent Examiner
Daniel McFaul ACA
Chartered Accountants Ireland
41 Castleburn Road
Carrickfergus
BT38 7NY

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on ^{2nd February '26} and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Sally Campton - Chair

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Statement of the Trustees' Responsibilities FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

The trustees (who are also the directors of Commedia of Errors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of
Commedia of Errors

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Commedia of Errors.

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended **5th April 2025**, which are set out in the company accounts.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: *Daniel McFaul A.C.A.*

Relevant professional qualification or body:

Address: *41 CASTLEBURN ROAD, CARRICKFERGUS, BT38 7NY*

Date: *2/2/26*

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2024/25	Total Funds 2023/24
	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND				
ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	-	-	-	22
Charitable Activities				
Governmental Funding				
DfC-Future Screens NI	-	21,039	21,039	21,273
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	-	16,458	16,458	21,059
Belfast City Council	-	500	500	-
HMRC Statutory Payments	9,230	-	9,230	15,245
Trusts and Foundations				
Allen Lane Foundation	-	-	-	5,000
Halifax Foundation	-	24,408	24,408	4,000
Arts Society	-	-	-	3,000
Lord and Lady Lurgan	-	-	-	1,500
Garfield Weston	-	20,000	20,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	56,789	56,789	-
Ticket Sales and Earned Income	51,002	-	51,002	18,296
Total	60,232	139,194	199,426	89,395
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable Activities				
DfC-Future Screens NI	-	23,877	23,877	21,273
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	-	12,760	12,760	21,059
Belfast City Council	-	500	500	-
HMRC Statutory Payments	-	-	-	7,708
Trusts and Foundations				
Allen Lane Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	5,000
Halifax Foundation	-	7,360	7,360	4,000
Arts Society	-	-	-	3,000
Lord and Lady Lurgan	-	-	-	1,500
Garfield Weston	-	20,000	20,000	-
National Lottery Community Fund	-	43,841	43,841	-
General Charitable Activities	38,401	-	38,401	24,963
Total	38,401	113,338	151,739	88,503
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	21,831	25,856	47,687	892
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total Funds brought forward	<u>18,723</u>	<u>20,898</u>	<u>39,621</u>	<u>38,729</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FWD	<u>40,554</u>	<u>46,754</u>	<u>87,308</u>	<u>39,621</u>

Balance Sheet
5 APRIL 2025

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 05/04/2025	Total Funds 05/04/2024
		£	£	£	£
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	5	239	4,736	4,975	4,314
Current Assets					
Cash at bank		31,105	41,552	72,657	18,797
Debtors	6	<u>11,162</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>12,662</u>	<u>17,093</u>
Total Assets		<u>42,506</u>	<u>47,788</u>	<u>90,294</u>	<u>40,204</u>
Current Liabilities					
Creditors payable within one year	7	<u>(1,952)</u>	<u>(1,034)</u>	<u>(2,986)</u>	<u>(583)</u>
Net Assets		<u>40,554</u>	<u>46,754</u>	<u>87,308</u>	<u>39,621</u>
 FUNDS					
Unrestricted Funds:					
Unrestricted				28,751	7,503
Designated Funds				<u>11,803</u>	<u>11,803</u>
				<u>40,554</u>	<u>19,306</u>
Restricted Funds					
				<u>46,754</u>	<u>20,898</u>
TOTAL FUNDS					
				<u>87,308</u>	<u>39,621</u>

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Balance Sheet - continued
5 APRIL 2025

Commedia of Errors is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 5 April 2024.

The directors have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2025 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

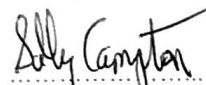
- (a) ensuring that the charitable company keeps accounting records that comply with Sections 386 and 387 of the Companies Act 2006 and
- (b) preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view of the charitable company as at the end of the financial year and of its surplus or deficit for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

The notes form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on

2nd February 2026



Sally Campton
Chairperson

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Notes to the Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis under the historical cost convention. Revenues and expenditures have been recognised in the year in which the transactions occurred.

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', including the provisions of Section 1a "Small Entities" and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity's registered number is NIC108049.

Going Concern

Having considered the state of the performing arts industry in Northern Ireland, the company's resources and current financial position, the Directors consider it appropriate to continue to prepare the financial statements under the going concern convention.

Income

Grant income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once there is substantial certainty of receipt and the income can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure

Expenditures are recognised at the point at which the company has become legally committed to the transaction. All resources are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Tangible Fixed Assets

The company's equipment, furniture and fittings are capitalised at cost and depreciated on a straight-line basis of 20% per annum calculated to reduce them to their estimated net realisable value over the course of their useful economic lives.

Taxation

The company is exempt from Corporation Tax on the basis of its charitable status. It does however submit a tax return as a company limited by guarantee in order to facilitate a claim for Theatre Tax Relief. An application for Theatre Tax Relief was submitted in 2024/25; the income was received after the year end and has been recognised in the financial statements.

In the financial year 2024/25 the company voluntarily registered for Value Added Tax.

2. FUND ACCOUNTING

Particular restricted purposes can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Notes to the Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

3. NET EXPENDITURE

Net expenditure is stated after charging:	2025	2024
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible assets	1,950	2,023

4.

a. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration, benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 5 April 2025.

b. Staff Numbers and Costs

No member of staff received emoluments (excluding pension contributions) in excess of £60,000. The average number of staff during the year was 4 (2023/24: 3). Staff costs for the year were as follows:

	2024/25	2023/24
	£	£
Salaries	69,910	51,241
Employer's National Insurance	5,439	3,794
Employer's Pension Contributions	<u>1,885</u>	<u>1,537</u>
	<u>77,233</u>	<u>56,572</u>

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Equipment, Fixtures and Fittings

Cost	Equipment 2024/25 £
At 6 April 2024	12,394
Purchases for the Year	2,614
Disposals for the Year	<u>(2,094)</u>
At 5 April 2025	<u>12,914</u>
Depreciation	
At 6 April 2024	8,079
Disposals for the Year	(2,090)
Charge for the Year	<u>1,950</u>
At 5 April 2025	<u>7,939</u>
Net Present Value	
At 6 April 2024	4,315
At 5 April 2025	<u>4,975</u>

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Notes to the Financial Statements
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2025

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	05/04/2025	05/04/2024
	£	£
Debtors	<u>12,662</u>	<u>17,093</u>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	05/04/2025	05/04/2024
	£	£
Creditors	<u>2,986</u>	<u>583</u>

8. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
At 6 April 2024	18,723	20,898	39,621
Movement for Year	<u>21,831</u>	<u>25,856</u>	<u>47,687</u>
At 5 April 2025	<u>40,554</u>	<u>46,754</u>	<u>87,308</u>

9. LEGAL STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

In the event of the company being wound up each member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £10 in settlement of the company's liabilities.

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company had no related party transactions for the year ended 5 April 2025.

11. POST BALANCE SHEET TRANSACTIONS

There have been no significant transactions impacting the company since the balance sheet date.

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Accounts



Commedia of Errors

Report of the Trustees and Unaudited Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 5th April 2024

Period of Accounts

Start Date: 6th April 2023

End Date: 5th April 2024

Company Number: NI676327

Registered Charity Number: NIC108049

HMRC Number: NI01255

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Commedia of Errors

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

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Commedia of Errors creates art that responds to, challenges and questions the changing times in which we live. It aims to grow, develop and inform audiences, beneficiaries and the arts sector and to broaden and deepen engagement by overcoming barriers to arts participation.

List of Trustees

Chairperson:	Sally Campton
Secretary:	David Gould
Treasurer:	Neill Cauwood
Member:	Jenny Cooke MBE
	Sally Campton
	Fiona McAnespie
	Mark Francos
	Michael Weir

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant Activities

In 2023-2024 Commedia of Errors maintained its commitment to its audiences, bringing *I am Maura* to audiences of young people across the province and into the Republic of Ireland, continuing the development of Rose Coogan and her piece *Rose+Bud* and two more successful tours of Plays Aloud.

While a sharp reduction in funding from a principal funder curtailed some ambitions and reduced output, it was an opportunity for the company to restructure its systems and realign itself to come back more strongly in the future. New business and marketing plans were created to shape future planning, and a new major funder was found in the National Lottery whose Community Fund has committed to funding Plays Aloud for the next three years, including a major expansion and a new dedicated staff member.

Further opportunities were developed with the script for *Rose+Bud* now performance ready and through new connections built with venues North and South of the border through the tour of *I Am Maura*.

Artistic Director Benjamin Gould continued to offer training workshops to the Lyric Theatre's Drama Studio, strengthening our partnership and continuing our commitment to the development of the next generation of actors.

Whilst 2023-2024 will be remembered as a challenging year, it was a year that planted the seeds for the company's ongoing success and stability, while highlighted our flexibility and ingenuity as an organisation in the face of ongoing adversity.

Public Benefit

Commedia of Errors is established predominantly (but not exclusively) to produce performances in the UK and Ireland and in particular to:

- Promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public. .
- Encourage appreciation of and participation in performing arts activities.
- Encourage and stimulate artistic creativity by the provision of artistic performances, training, support and facilities for artistic expression. Present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value, including (but not limited to) dramas, comedies, operas, operettas, burlesques, films, broadcasts, television shows, concerts, musical pieces, puppet shows, ballets, Procure to be written and printed, published, issued, distributed and

- circulated, reports or periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or other documents or information.
- Recruit, train and employ volunteers with relevant skills, for the furtherance of the above aims.
 - Promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out, research, surveys and investigations provided the useful results are published.
 - Co-operate to such an extent as may be necessary with the statutory authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in the furtherance of the above objects or of any of them.
 - Raise and accept money by way of grants, donations, bequests, legacies or other lawful method and give, donate or disburse grants and loans to such related organisations or projects as are by law deemed charitable, provided that in the exercise thereof Commedia of Errors shall not engage in any form of permanent, non-primary purpose trading.
 - Purchase, take or lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and any rights and privileges necessary for the attainment of the said objects. Subject to such consents that may be required by law to sell, let, mortgage, dispose or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of Commedia of Errors which shall be deemed necessary for the furtherance of Commedia of Errors. All such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects.

FINANCE REVIEW

The Trustees are extremely grateful for the continued financial support provided by the following on general and project funding: DfC-Future Screens NI, ACNI, Allen Lane Foundation, Halifax Foundation, The Arts Society, Lord and Lady Lurgan and Radius Housing.

Financial Results

At the end of the financial year the company's total assets totalled £40,204 (£38,729 in 2023) with liabilities of £583 (NIL in 2023), giving net assets of £39,621, an increase of £892 from 2023. As at 5 April 2024 total funds were £39,621 comprising £20,898 restricted funds and £18,723 unrestricted funds.

Reserves Policy

Reserves are required to bridge the shortfall of income to expenditure, (the company achieved a small surplus over the 2023/24 financial year), and to cover any unplanned emergencies. Whilst the economic backdrop and more difficult trading environment in the arts sector over the past two years have been challenging, the company has grounds for optimism that it will produce a trading surplus over the current year.

Despite the challenges, the company's reserves remain comfortably positive (see above), facilitating an eventual total reserves target equivalent to six months' core outgoings.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The company has recently drawn up a paper on Risk Assessment Policy and a sub-group to establish a Risk Framework to identify and address major risks.

The Trustees are of the view that financial sustainability is the major risk for the company, in particular:

- The termination of a major source of funding
- A negative change in funding policy on the part of government or any major funding body

Risks of a non-financial nature include:

- Changes in law pertaining to charities or the arts sector
- A substantial decline in demand within the theatrical sector

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Governing Document

The charity is controlled by its governing document, a deed of trust, and constitutes a limited company, limited by guarantee, as defined by the Companies Act 2006.

It began trading on 01/11/2021, taking over the activities of the pre-existing Commedia of Errors Theatre Company NIC102783.

Trustee Induction and Training

New trustees attend an induction session at which they are issued with a "Board Induction Information" brochure setting out detailed data explaining the duties and responsibilities of the Board Member under charity and company law.

Trustees are regularly given the opportunity and are encouraged to attend a variety of external training events relevant to their role.

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered Company Number

NI676327

Registered Charity Name

Commedia of Errors

Registered Charity Number

NIC108049

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Report of the trustees
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

Registered Office

17 Ulsterville Avenue, Belfast, BT9 7AS

Staff

Benjamin Gould – Artistic Director

Clare McMahon – Co-Creative Director

Megan Kelly – Assistant Producer (Resigned 07/11/2023)

Independent Examiner

Daniel McFaul ACA

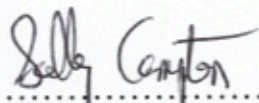
Chartered Accountants Ireland

41 Castleburn Road

Carrickfergus

BT38 7NY

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 18/12/2024..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Sally Campton - Chair

The trustees (who are also the directors of Commedia of Errors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Commedia of Errors.

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended **5th April 2024**, which are set out in the company accounts.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: DANIEL MCFARL A.C.A.

Relevant professional qualification or body: CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IRELAND

Address: 41 CASTLEBURN ROAD, CARRICKFERGUS, BT38 7NY

Date: 18 DECEMBER 2024

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Statement of Financial Activities
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 5 APRIL 2024

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds 2023/2024	Total Funds 2022/2023
	£	£	£	£
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and legacies	22	-	22	-
Charitable Activities				
Governmental Funding				
DfC-Future Screens NI	-	21,273	21,273	-
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	-	21,059	21,059	-
HMRC Statutory Payments	7,537	7,708	15,245	-
Trusts and Foundations				
Allen Lane Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
Halifax Foundation	-	4,000	4,000	-
Arts Society	-	3,000	3,000	-
Lord and Lady Lurgan	-	1,500	1,500	-
Ticket Sales and Earned Income	18,296	-	18,296	-
Total	25,855	63,540	89,395	137,162
EXPENDITURE ON				
Charitable Activities				
DfC-Future Screens NI	-	21,273	21,273	-
Arts Council of Northern Ireland	-	21,059	21,059	-
HMRC Statutory Payments	-	7,708	7,708	-
Allen Lane Foundation	-	5,000	5,000	-
Halifax Foundation	-	4,000	4,000	-
Arts Society	-	3,000	3,000	-
Lord and Lady Lurgan	-	1,500	1,500	-
General	24,963	-	24,963	-
Total	24,963	63,540	88,503	139,679
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	892		892	(2,517)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total Funds brought forward	<u>17,831</u>	<u>20,898</u>	<u>38,729</u>	<u>41,246</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FWD	18,723	20,898	39,621	38,729

Balance Sheet
5 APRIL 2024

	NOTE	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	5	302	4,012	4,314	6,338
Current Assets					
Cash at bank		2,504	16,293	18,797	32,391
Debtors	6	<u>16,500</u>	<u>593</u>	<u>17,093</u>	=
Total Assets		19,306	20,898	40,204	38,729
Current Liabilities					
Creditors payable within one year	7	<u>583</u>	=	<u>583</u>	=
Net Assets		<u>18,723</u>	<u>20,898</u>	<u>39,621</u>	<u>38,729</u>

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Represented by:					
Revenue Reserves:					
As at 6 April 2023		17,831	20,898	38,729	41,246
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		<u>892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>892</u>	<u>(2,517)</u>
As at 5 April 2024	7	<u>18,723</u>	<u>20,898</u>	<u>39,621</u>	<u>38,729</u>

Commedia of Errors is a charitable company limited by guaranteed. It is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 5 April 2024.

The directors have not required the company to obtain an audit of its financial statements for the year ended 5 April 2024 in accordance with Section 476 of the Companies Act 2006.

COMMEDIA OF ERRORS

Balance Sheet
5 APRIL 2024

	NOTE	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible Assets	5	302	4,012	4,314	6,338
Current Assets					
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Debtors	6	<u>16,500</u>	<u>593</u>	<u>17,093</u>	=
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		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2024 £	Total Funds 2023 £
Represented by:					
Revenue Reserves:					
As at 6 April 2023		17,831	20,898	38,729	41,246
Surplus (Deficit) for the year		<u>892</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>892</u>	<u>(2,517)</u>
As at 5 April 2024	7	<u>18,723</u>	<u>20,898</u>	<u>39,621</u>	<u>38,729</u>

Commedia of Errors is a charitable company limited by guaranteed. It is entitled to exemption from audit under Section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 for the year ended 5 April 2024.

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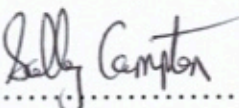
The trustees acknowledge their responsibilities for:

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

The notes form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on ~~18/12/24~~..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Sally Campton
Chairperson

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared on the accruals basis under the historical cost convention. Revenues and expenditures have been recognised in the year in which the transactions occurred.

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) ‘Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)’, Financial Reporting Standard 102 ‘The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland’, including the provisions of Section 1a “Small Entities” and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The charity’s registered number is NIC108049.

Change of Accounting Policy

The financial statements for the year ended 5th April 2024 have been prepared on the accruals basis, representing a change of policy from the cash basis in 2022/23. The comparative figures have not been restated on the accruals basis.

Going Concern

Having considered the state of the performing arts industry in Northern Ireland, the company’s resources and current financial position, the Directors consider it appropriate to continue to prepare the financial statements under the going concern convention.

Income

Grant income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once there is substantial certainty of receipt and the income can be quantified with reasonable accuracy.

Expenditure

Expenditures are recognised at the point at which the company has become legally committed to the transaction. All resources are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Tangible Fixed Assets

The company's equipment, furniture and fittings are capitalised at cost and depreciated on a straight -line basis of 20% per annum calculated to reduce them to their estimated net realisable value over the course of their useful economic lives.

Taxation

The company is exempt from corporation tax on the basis of its charitable status. It does however submit a tax return as a company limited by guarantee in order to facilitate a claim for Theatre Tax Relief. An application for Theatre Tax Relief was submitted in 2023/24; the income was received after the year end and has been recognised in the financial statements.

In the financial year 2023/24 the company has voluntarily registered for Value Added Tax and has submitted its first return for the period ended 5 April 2024.

2. FUND ACCOUNTING

Particular restricted purposes can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity.

Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

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

3. NET EXPENDITURE

Net expenditure is stated after charging:	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible assets	2,023	1,618

4. STAFF COSTS

a. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

There were no trustees' remuneration, benefits or expenses paid for the year ended 5 April 2024.

b. Staff Numbers and Costs

The average number of staff during the year was 3 (2022/23: 3). Staff costs for the year were as follows:

	2023/2024	2022/2023
	£	£
Salaries	51,241	58,578
Employer's National Insurance	3,794	2,959
Employer's Pension Contributions	<u>1,537</u>	<u>1,539</u>
	<u>56,572</u>	<u>63,076</u>

5. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Equipment, Fixtures and Fittings		
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	Funds	Funds	Funds
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 6 April 2023	1,099	11,295	12,394
Purchases for the Year	=	=	=
At 5 April 2024	<u>1,099</u>	<u>11,295</u>	<u>12,394</u>
Depreciation			
At 6 April 2023	577	5,479	6,056
Charge for the year	<u>220</u>	<u>1,803</u>	<u>2,023</u>
At 5 April 2024	<u>797</u>	<u>7,282</u>	<u>8,079</u>
Net Present Value			
At 5 April 2023	522	5,816	6,338
At 5 April 2024	<u>302</u>	<u>4,013</u>	<u>4,315</u>

6. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 April 2024	April 2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year.		
Debtors	<u>17,093</u>	=

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	5 April 2024	5 April 2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year		
Other Creditors	<u>583</u>	=

7. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£
At 6 April 2023	17,831	20,898	38,729
Movement for year	892	-	892
At 5 April 2024	<u>18,723</u>	<u>20,898</u>	<u>39,621</u>

8. LEGAL STATUS

The company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.
In the event of the company being wound up each member is liable to contribute a sum not exceeding £10 in settlement of the company's liabilities.

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

The company had no related party transactions for the year ended 5 April 2024.

10. POST BALANCE SHEET TRANSACTIONS

There have been no significant transactions impacting the company since the balance sheet date.

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Annual report



Annual Report

Period of Report

Start Date: 3 April 2023

End Date: 1 April 2024

Company Number: NI676327

Registered Charity Number: NIC108049

HMRC Number: NI01255

Purpose of Charity

The company exists for the benefit of the public to: produce performances in the UK and Ireland; promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public; encourage appreciation and participation in performing arts activities, encourage and stimulate artistic creativity and present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value.

Commedia of Errors creates art that responds to, challenges and questions the changing times in which we live. It aims to grow, develop and inform audiences, beneficiaries and the arts sector and to broaden and deepen engagement by overcoming barriers to arts participation.

List of Trustees

List of Trustees

Chairperson:	Sally Campton
Secretary:	David Gould
Treasurer:	Neill Cauwood
Member:	Jenny Cooke MBE
	Sally Campton
	Fiona McAnespie
	Mark Francos
	Michael Weir

Staff

Benjamin Gould – Artistic Director

Clare McMahan – Co-Creative Director

Megan Kelly – Assistant Producer (Resigned 07/11/2023)

Director's Report

In 2023-2024 Commedia of Errors maintained its commitment to its audiences, bringing *I am Maura* to audiences of young people across the province and into the Republic of Ireland, continuing the development of Rose Coogan and her piece *Rose+Bud* and two more successful tours of Plays Aloud.

While a sharp reduction in funding from a principal funder curtailed some ambitions and reduced output, it was an opportunity for the company to restructure its systems and realign itself to come back more strongly in the future. New business and marketing plans were created to shape future planning, and a new major funder was found in the National Lottery whose Community Fund has committed to funding Plays Aloud for the next three years, including a major expansion and a new dedicated staff member.

Further opportunities were developed with the script for *Rose+Bud* now performance ready and through new connections built with venues North and South of the border through the tour of *I Am Maura*.

Artistic Director Benjamin Gould continued to offer training workshops to the Lyric Theatre's Drama Studio, strengthening our partnership and continuing our commitment to the development of the next generation of actors.

Whilst 2023-2024 will be remembered as a challenging year, it was a year that planted the seeds for the company's ongoing success and stability, while highlighted our flexibility and ingenuity as an organisation in the face of ongoing adversity.

Finance Overview

Financial Summary

From 3rd of April 2023 to the 1st of April 2024 we generated a total income of **£89,395** and expended **£88,503**.

Income sources

Income from Charitable Activities

- Performance Fees 0.28%
- Box Office Receipts 6.77%
- Workshops 0.78%

Grants

- Donations 0.02%
- Merchandise 0.00%
- Trusts and Foundations 15.10%
- Governmental Funders. 64.41%
- Miscellaneous 0.33%
- Sponsorship 12.30%

Company Expenditure

Support Costs

- Operational Staff 49.24%

Charitable Expenditure

- Freelancer Fees 41.17%
- Venue Hire 0.27%
- Marketing 1.86%
- Office 1.77%
- Travel 3.05%
- Miscellaneous 0.96%
- Set/Costume/Props 0.18%
- Insurance 1.38%
- Technical 0.12%

Due to a reduction in funding from a key funder, 23 – 24 saw a reduction in artistic output from the company and as a result a higher proportion of expenditure utilised for core costs. We continue to be a lean organisation with low overheads, building and expanding our activities despite a challenging funding environment.

Public Benefit

Commedia of Errors is established predominantly (but not exclusively) to produce performances in the UK and Ireland and in particular to: Promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public. Encourage appreciation of and participation in performing arts activities. Encourage and stimulate artistic creativity by the provision of artistic performances, training, support and facilities for artistic expression. Present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value, including (but not limited to) dramas, comedies, operas, operettas, burlesques, films, broadcasts, television shows, concerts, musical pieces, puppet shows, ballets, Procure to be written and printed, published, issued, distributed and circulated, reports or periodicals, books, pamphlets, leaflets or other documents or information. Recruit, train and employ volunteers with relevant skills, for the furtherance of the above aims. Promote and carry out, or assist in promoting and carrying out, research, surveys and investigations provided the useful results are published. Co-operate to such an extent as may be necessary with the statutory authorities and voluntary organisations engaged in the furtherance of the above objects or of any of them. Raise and accept money by way of grants, donations, bequests, legacies or other lawful method and give, donate or disburse grants and loans to such related organisations or projects as are by law deemed charitable, provided that in the exercise thereof Commedia of Errors shall not engage in any form of permanent, non-primary purpose trading. Purchase, take or lease or in exchange, hire or otherwise acquire any property and any rights and privileges necessary for the attainment of the said objects. Subject to such consents that may be required by law to sell, let, mortgage, dispose or turn to account all or any of the property or assets of Commedia of Errors which shall be deemed necessary for the furtherance of Commedia of Errors. All such other lawful things as are necessary for the attainment of the said objects.

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities

The trustees (who are also the directors of Commedia of Errors for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company

for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charity SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

.....
Sally Campton - Chair

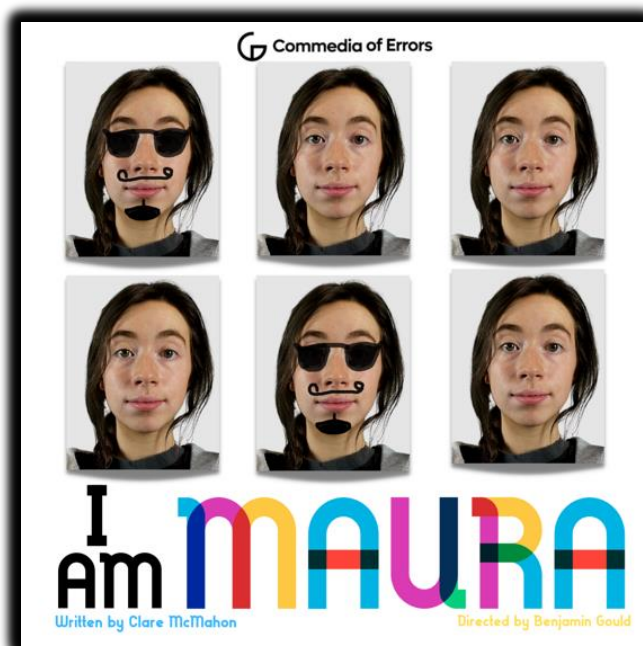
Appendix 1

Projects

I Am Maura

Audience Figures

An Tain -	250
Cushendun -	37
Derry Playhouse -	32
Rainbow Factory -	54
Theatre at the Mill -	64
Lyric Naughton -	206
Newry Arts Festival -	109
Total	752



Blurb: It's 2005. Maura is 15 and trying to find a boyfriend. Only she's surrounded by girls and is starting to think she might actually prefer them. Asking questions in school means awkward blushes and detention. Her only guidance is Martine McCutcheon's 'Perfect Moment' and her best mate Ali.

The production debuted at The Mac as part of Belfast's Children's Festival, before touring it's first round in 2022. The first tour was such a great success that a second tour in 2024 ran in even more venues around the island of Ireland. This second tour was an even bigger success than the previous with an increase in audience numbers of 57 persons.



People shared their feedback:

"The show was amazing to experience, and it really opened my eyes to the ways in dealing with mental health." – 16-year-old female student

"I related to the story being told and the journey of Maura, it was an amazing representation with perfect comedic elements with heart felt elements that got me thinking" – 17-year-old male student

"It was extremely clever, thought it was funny and moving! Loved the set! Actress was hilarious." – 14-year-old female student

Plays Aloud

Summer Tour - 306

Christmas Tour - 289

Total 595



Last August, Plays Aloud spent two weeks travelling to schemes across Northern Ireland. The tour visited 22 homes, two of which we have never visited before. This was the first tour of Plays Aloud since 2019 without any Covid-19 restrictions. All the homes we visited have dropped mask wearing and mandatory testing.

During the Christmas tour Plays Aloud visited 19 schemes. The feedback from almost every carer was the same in that they all felt the residents and users would benefit from more regular stimulation from Plays Aloud. Many had said that we would be welcome the next day if we could come back.

“Smiling from ear to ear – absolute magic!”

“The whole mood and atmosphere were totally transformed”

“Our residents are happy, content and full of chat and buzz”



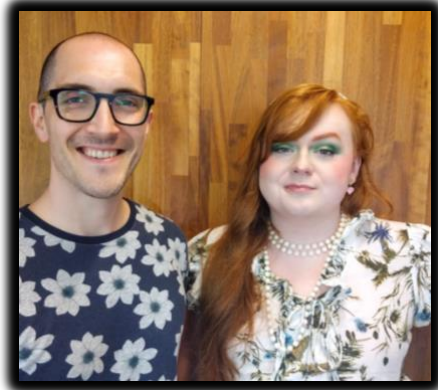
Rose+Bud

Ticket Sales:

Smock Alley - 11

Continuing on the development of Rose+Bud since its first engagement in 2022 under the Lyric Theatre writers' scheme, Commedia of Errors has continued to see this production and its creator Rose Coogan blossom and grow. Rose+Bud was performed to a live audience in Smock Alley to great success and praise from the audience. Plans for Rose+Bud is to continue to work with

and develop Rose as a writer and creator through mentorship with playwright Clare McMahon and director Benjamin Gould, and then to bring Rose+Bud on tour in 2024.



Feedback from Audience Members:

"The show was very entertaining all the way through. Very accurate to Derry culture also. Great use of description!"

"The dynamic between the leads is incredible. The switch from Bud to Rose was done brilliantly. I could not stop smiling from both the perfectly timed comedy and the heartwarming experiences"

"Exceptional. This script had everything. Personality, heart, care, bundles of humour and great beginning middle and end. Very well acted. The changeover of actors in the middle was emotional and beautiful."



We would like to give particular thanks to our funders – without whom our work would not have been possible.



Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Annual return

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Commedia of Errors.

I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended **5th April 2024**, which are set out in the company accounts.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- Examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- Follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- State whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to your attention.

Name: DANIEL MCFAYL A.C.A.

Relevant professional qualification or body: CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IRELAND

Address: 41 CASTLEBURN ROAD, CARLICKFERGUS, BT38 7NY

Date: 18 DECEMBER 2024

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Accounts



Commedia of Errors

Commedia of Errors Annual Accounts

Period of Accounts

Start Date: 6th April 2022

End Date: 5th April 2023

Company Number: NI676327

Registered Charity Number: NIC108049

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Income	5
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Balance Sheet	7
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Declaration	11
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Company Information

Commedia of Errors is a **limited company** and **charity** set up to produce and tour theatre. It began trading on 01/11/2021, taking over the activities of the pre-existing Commedia of Errors Theatre Company NIC102783. The company is limited by guarantee – in the event of the charity being wound up, the liability is limited to £10 per director.

The company exists **for the benefit of the public** to: produce performances in the UK and Ireland; promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public; encourage appreciation and participation in performing arts activities, encourage and stimulate artistic creativity and present, promote, organise, manage and produce work of cultural and educational value.

Commedia of Errors creates art that responds to, challenges and questions the changing times in which we live. It aims to grow, develop and inform audiences, beneficiaries and the arts sector and to broaden and deepen engagement by overcoming barriers to arts participation.

The following financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and as receipts and payments accounts.

Artistic Director: Benjamin Gould

Co-Creative Director: Clare McMahon

Assistant Producer: Megan Kelly

Board

Chairperson: Michael Weir
Secretary: David Gould
Treasurer: Neill Cauwood
Member: Jenny Cooke MBE
Sally Campton
Fiona McAnespie
Mark Francos

Company Address: 17 Ulsterville Avenue
Belfast
BT9 7AS

Income and Expenditure Account

	22/23	1 st Nov / 5 th April
	£	£
Income:	137,162.41	42,449.00
Expenditure:	138061.68	29,989.15
Net Surplus or (deficit) on activities:	(899.27)	12,459.85
Depreciation	1,618.27	980.89
Surplus or (deficit)	<u>(2,517.54)</u>	<u>11,478.96</u>

Income

Income from Charitable Activities

£

• Performance Fees	19,062.52
• Box Office Receipts	1,298.38
• Workshops	670.00
• Donations	12.61

TOTAL **21,043.51**

Grants

• Arts Council of Northern Ireland	47,450.00
• DfC	21,918.90
• Future Screens NI	20,000.00
• Garfield Weston	10,000.00
• Foyle Foundation	5,000.00
• Allen Lane	5,000.00
• Halifax Foundation	4,500.00
• WG Edwards	1,250.00
• Esmee Mitchell	1,000.00

TOTAL **116,118.90**

TOTAL **£137,162.41**

Expenditure

Support Costs

	£
Operational Staff	45,527.07

Charitable Expenditure

Artist Fees	77,353.34
Venue Hire	3,810.00
Insurance	1,133.51
Marketing	3,725.32
Office	2,220.01
Travel	1,413.07
Set/Costume/Props	1,179.91
Technical	474.27
Miscellaneous	1,225.18
TOTAL	138,061.68

Depreciation	1,618.27
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TOTAL	139,679.95
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Balance Sheet as at 5th April 2023

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	521.71	5,815.84	6,337.55
Current Assets			
Cash at bank	17,309.69	15,081.86	32,391.55
Current Liabilities			
Net Assets	<u>17,831.40</u>	<u>20,897.70</u>	<u>38,729.10</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
Represented by:			
Revenue Reserves			
As at 6 th April 2022	23,950.23	17,296.41	<u>41,246.64</u>
Surplus (deficit) for the year	(6,118.83)	3,601.29	<u>(2,517.54)</u>
5 th April 2023	<u>17,831.40</u>	<u>20,897.70</u>	<u>38,729.10</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements for period 6th April 2021 to 5th April 2023

1) Accounting Policies

a) Basis of Preparation

These financial statements have been prepared on a receipts and payments basis under the historical cost convention. Income is recognised at the point of receipt and expenditure at the point of payment.

b) Tangible Fixed Assets

The Theatre Company's equipment, furniture and fittings are capitalised at cost and depreciated on a straight line basis at a rate of 20% per annum calculated to reduce them to their estimated net realisable value over the course of their useful economic lives.

2) Fixed Assets

Equipment, Fixtures and Fittings

<u>Cost</u>	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds £
At 6 th April 2022	1,099.00	11,294.54	12,393.54
Purchases for the year	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>
At 5 th April 2023	<u>1,099.00</u>	<u>11,294.54</u>	<u>12,393.54</u>
<u>Depreciation</u>	£	£	£
At 6 th April 2022	439.59	3,998.13	4,437.72
Charge for the year	<u>137.70</u>	<u>1,480.57</u>	<u>1,618.27</u>
At 5 th April 2023	<u>577.29</u>	<u>5,478.70</u>	<u>6,055.99</u>
<u>Net Present Value</u>	£	£	£
At 6 th April 2022	659.41	7,296.41	7,955.82
At 5 th April 2023	521.71	5,815.84	6,337.55

Achievements & Viewing / Participatory Figures

Plays Aloud

• Plays Aloud 9 Summer	361
• Plays Aloud 10 Christmas	371
Total	732

The Gap Year

• Lyric Main Stage September 2022	6,823
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I Am Maura

• MAC Shows	105
• School Shows	297
• Lyric Shows	293
Total	695

North of the Island

• Public Reading	87
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Petra

• Invited Audience	20
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Rosebud

• Rehearsed Reading (invited audience)	15
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Dementia Charging Perspectives

• Testing Participants	24
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TOTAL **8,329**

Workshop Participants

Workshops	Participants
1	21

Other

Participation on Arts and Business' Blueprint financial growth programme. Benjamin Gould acted as a reader for the Lyric Theatre's New Playwrights Programme's submissions as well as offering independent advice and support to playwrights.

Declaration

These financial statements are for the current financial year ended **5 April 2023** and were approved by the Board of Directors on^{29th August 2023}.....by:

Name: *Sally Compton*

Status: *Chair, Board of Directors*

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Commedia of Errors. I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended **5th April 2023**, which are set out in the company accounts document.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

My examination included a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also included consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as charity trustees concerning any such matters.

My role is to state whether any material matters have come to my attention giving me cause to believe:

1. That accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 63 of the Charities Act
2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to

your attention.

Name: DANIEL MCFEAL ACA

Relevant professional qualification or body: (CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IRELAND)

Address: 41 CASTLEBURN ROAD, CARRICKFERGUS, BT38 7NY

Date: 5 AUGUST 2023

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Annual report



Commedia of Errors

Annual Report

Period of Report

Start Date: 6 April 2022

End Date: 5 April 2023

Company Number: NI676327

Registered Charity Number: NIC108049

HMRC Number: NI00617

Organisational

Commedia of Errors is a Company Limited by Guarantee (NI676327) and Registered Charity (NIC108049) based in Northern Ireland. Producing and touring theatre since **adopting its constitution on 28/10/2014**. The company exists to: promote and develop the performing arts for the benefit of the public; encourage appreciation of and participation in performing arts activities and encourage and stimulate artistic creativity by the provision of artistic performances, training, support and facilities for artistic expression

Currently the company is focusing on bringing theatre to communities / demographics under-represented in traditional theatres and arts centres and is working to engage these audiences in theatre and the Arts in general.

Commedia of Errors is run **for the benefit of the public** to advance the Arts and for the advancement of Arts education.

Signed on behalf of the board by:

Staffing

Artistic Director – Benjamin Gould

Co-Creative – Clare McMahon

Assistant Producer – Megan Kelly

Board Members

Chair Person – Michael Weir

Secretary – David Gould

Treasurer – Neill Cauwood

Member – Sally Campton

Member – Fiona McAnespie

Member – Jenny Cooke OBE

Member – Mark Francos

Former Board Member (Left in year)

Member - Sally Visick

Company Address

17 Ulsterville Avenue, Belfast, BT9 7AS

Artistic Director's Statement

This year was an exciting time for the company. Emerging from the shadows of the pandemic, whilst fraught with risk and uncertainty, provided many great opportunities. Many of the covid restrictions had been removed, but financial risk and the possibilities of show cancellations due to Covid-19 still posed major concerns. As such we manoeuvred to deliver a 'safer' programme, through partnership, remodelling of projects and (in the early part of the year) a focus on Research and Development.

Supported by ACNI, we were afforded the opportunity to undertake two pieces of RnD, progressing some of our most exciting and challenging work to date. *Petra* – incorporating new technologies into theatre, utilising live streaming as a performance tool, and *North of the Island* which marks a new style of writing for Clare McMahon - an exciting new play built around a non-naturalistic style. Both were showcased to small audiences who were highly complimentary and excited by their experiences.

Moving into September, the company created *The Gap Year*, in association with the Lyric Theatre. This was a marked step up in scale, with a cast of six and full creative team. The production was a huge success creatively and commercially, showcasing the ability of our creatives and building the company brand. Enamoured audiences travelled from all over the province, with many watching the play multiple times. The show sold out its final week and played to almost 7,000 people, almost unheard of for a new play and certainly for a new writer on the mainstage. It marked a development and continuation of the company's treasured relationship with the Lyric and opened the door for future ambitions.

The company also undertook the development of *Rosebud* and the play's writer Rose Coogan in partnership with the Lyric Theatre. Rose was brought in under a Seed Contract, undertaking a bespoke development programme building their writing and industry skills as well as developing their play which we hope to bring to production in the coming years.

The year ended with a revival of *I Am Maura*, this time with actor Calla Hughes taking on the title role. The production opened at the Belfast Children's Festival before touring schools and ending with a short run at the Lyric's Naughton. The tour was a huge success, surpassing ticketing targets and receiving exceptional response from audiences and from the international delegates attending BCF.

Plays Aloud continued to go from strength to strength throughout the year and for the first time reached service users in every county in the province. Now in its sixth year, the programme is as vital as ever. Initially touring outdoors, with our own touring rig, as restrictions eased it was possible to return to indoor touring. Response from audiences and the schemes visited was phenomenal and it was great to have the chance to reconnect in-person.

Finally, *Dementia: Changing Perspectives* got the greenlight and received funding from Future Screens NI. Filmed in November, and edited in the following months, the final

product is a short but powerful film which we hope to utilise in the development of a larger programme going forward.

2022-2023 was an exceptionally busy year for us as an organisation. The groundwork we laid during the pandemic began to really bear fruit and as a result we were afforded a number of opportunities which we grasped with both hands. I am exceptionally proud of all that we achieved this year and believe it will put us in good stead for years to come.

Projects

The Gap Year



Audience Figures

Lyric Theatre Main Stage 6,823

Written by Co-Creative Clare McMahon and following development with the Fishamble and the Lyric Theatre's new playwrights programme The Gap Year was presented at the New York Origin festival in 2020, along with the Lyric Theatre's series of audio plays created during the pandemic.

In September 2022, the piece made its stage debut in collaboration with the Lyric Theatre, *The Gap Year* directed by Artistic Director Benjamin Gould. This marked the company's Main Stage debut moving from smaller scale studio shows to reaching an audience of over 6000+ during the course of the run. The show reached 6,823 audience members over 23 shows. The show was received with both critical and audience acclaim.

"We really enjoyed the Gap Year. Brilliantly written and acted. Would definitely recommend"
– Audience Feedback

Playwright Clare McMahon and director Benjamin Gould have created a masterpiece and I dare say this production will be entertaining audiences for years to come -Belfast Media

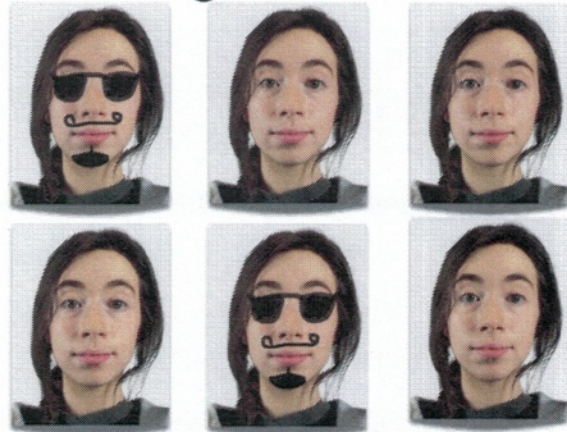
"Witty, warm and wise, The Gap Year shows again McMahon as a writer of potential and growing confidence and ability – British Theatre Guide

I Am Maura

Audience Figures

MAC Shows -	105
School Shows -	297
Lyric Shows -	293
Total	695

Commedia of Errors



I Am MAURA
Written by Clare McMahon Directed by Benjamin Gould

2005. Maura is 15 and trying to find a boyfriend. Only she's surrounded by girls and is starting to think she might actually prefer them. Asking questions in school means awkward blushes and detention. Her only guidance is Martine McCutcheon's 'Perfect Moment' and her best mate Ali.

The production debuted at The Mac as part of Belfast's Children's Festival, before touring to St Louise's College, Northern Regional College, Hazelwood Integrated College and Ulidia Integrated College, finishing with four shows in the Lyric's Naughton Studio. The audience response was exceptional

"It was great to see the portrayal of the LGBTQ narrative. In most media they're preachy and performative. It was great to see something truthful and real." – School student

"I felt seen for the first time" – School Student

"Top theatre, get booking now." **Conor O'Neill – Culture Crush**



"I Am Maura captures the best and worst of being a teenager, and evokes memories of those (less than) halcyon days in secondary education." – Alan Meban

Plays Aloud

Outdoor Summer Tour - 361

Christmas Tour - 371

Total **732**



After going online during the Pandemic, Plays Aloud finally made it back in person. In Spring, a trial outdoor tour with resident artist Geoff Hatt went on the road. This proved a success and made way for Plays Aloud first in person tour since 2019.

At Christmas, the programme finally made its way back into the living rooms of care homes across Northern Ireland, and met the milestone of reaching every county. As always, feedback was fantastic and everyone was thrilled to have Plays Aloud back inside.

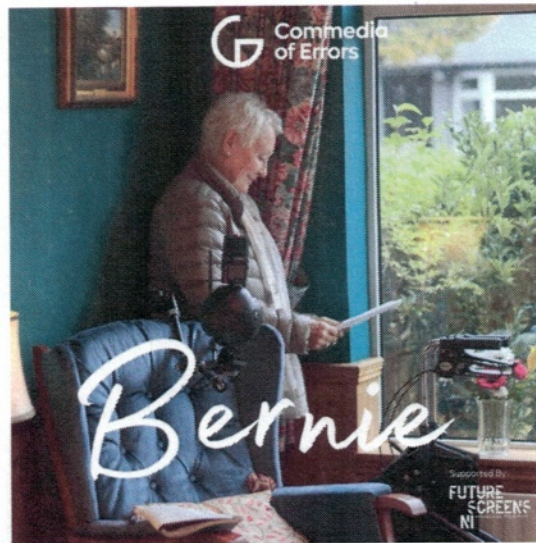
"As always, Plays Aloud were fantastic, enthusiastic and friendly and in no rush to leave!"

"Real lovely – feeling of positivity and happiness. All smiles"

"One resident engaged moment and tapping his toes – doesn't do this often"



Dementia: Changing Perspectives



In September 2022, we received funding from Future Screens NI to create a proof-of-concept VR film for our Dementia – Changing Perspectives which is a unique dementia awareness and empathy building programme that uses immersive technology to allow users to experience the lived experiences of those living with dementia. The film was made with a script by Clare McMahon based and directed by Benjamin Gould. Testing of the film began in May 2023 and feedback was very positive. When asked “Do you feel this, and similar experiences, are beneficial for formal and in-formal carers of those living with dementia?”, 100% of participants answered yes. When asked if experiencing Dementia through the film has had a positive impact, 76% of respondents said yes.

“I thought it was fantastic, we've done this for a long time, but it opened your eyes to something else” – Testing Participant

“Very relatable, it's nice for it to be normalised [I] felt very alone and slightly ashamed with the diagnoses because I didn't know anyone in the same situation - stuff like this helps with that” – Testing Participant

Rosebud



In 2022, the playwright and the play were co-commissioned under a development contract by the Lyric and Commedia of Errors, funded by ACNI, incorporating ongoing training for the playwright. During this time Commedia of Errors facilitated 6 personal development sessions with writing mentor Clare McMahon; ongoing feedback with director Benjamin Gould; 2 days workshopping with actor Caroline Curran; mentorship with trans theatre maker Pea Dineen and tickets to attend a variety of performances. This concluded in a reading hosted by the Lyric with an invited audience. Progress with the play has been very good and the playwright's skills and experience are developing. The play is at a high level and the audience response to a rehearsed reading of the play on 24th May was very positive

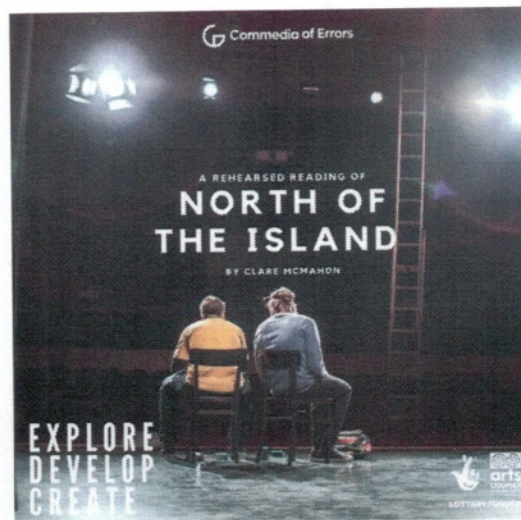
Petra Von Kant



In 2021, the company held a reading of the piece with 6 actors. With the support of ACNI, undertook a two-week research and development process, culminating in a small public sharing. The R&D process explored the juxtaposition of in-person and digital experience as a direct response to the time immediately after the Covid-19 lockdowns. Using multiple cameras, images from the cameras were live mixed by the Technical Director and broadcast through projection onto screens placed throughout the set. Captioning was also incorporated

into the images and the design. These images supplemented and challenged the live action, highlighting moments of great intimacy, challenging actors to betray their inner thoughts as they pose for the camera and offering otherwise unseen perspectives. The public sharing was attended by 20 creatives and feedback was gathered.

North of the Island



In March 2021, with the support of ACNI, Commedia of Errors commissioned Clare McMahon to write a new play as an artistic response to the centenary of 100 years of Northern Ireland. In April 2022, the company held 2 days of research and development of the text with four actors. Working with the actors unlocked new discussions and a better understanding of the world of the play allowing the playwright to further develop the work going forwards. In June 2022, the company held a rehearsed reading of the piece in Accidental Theatre for an audience of 20. Feedback from the reading was positive and production of the play is planned for 2024.

Financial Summary

From 6th of April 2022 to the 5th of April 2023 we generated a total income of **£136,162.41** and expended **£141,392.03**.

Our income sources are as indicated below –

We would like to give particular thanks to our funders – without whom our work would not have been possible.

Income sources

Income from Charitable Activities

- Performance Fees 17%
- Box Office Receipts 1%
- Workshops 1%

Grants

- Arts Council of Northern Ireland 40%
- DfC 19%
- Future Screens NI 17%
- Garfield Weston 9%
- Foyle Foundation 4%
- Allen Lane 4%
- Halifax Foundation 4%
- WG Edwards 1%
- Esmee Mitchell 1%

Company Expenditure

Support Costs

- Operational Staff 32.98%

Charitable Expenditure

- Freelancer Fees 56.03%
- Venue Hire 2.76%
- Marketing 2.70%
- Office 1.61%
- Travel 1.02%
- Miscellaneous 0.89%

- Set/Costume/Props 0.85%
- Insurance 0.82%
- Technical 0.34%

Declaration

These financial statements are for the current financial year ended **5 April 2023** and were approved by the Board of Directors on 29/8/2023 by:

Name: Sally Campden

Status: Chair, Board of Directors

Commedia of Errors

Northern Ireland - Charity number 108049

Annual return

Independent Examiner's Report

Independent examiner's report to the charity trustees of Commedia of Errors. I report on the accounts of the Charity for the period ended **5th April 2023**, which are set out in the company accounts document.

Respective responsibilities of charity trustees and examiner

As the charity's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the Charities Act (Northern Ireland) 2008.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 65 of the Charities Act
- follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Commission under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act
- state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's report

I have examined your charity accounts as required under section 65 of the Charities Act and my examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland under section 65(9)(b) of the Charities Act.

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2. That the accounts do not accord with those accounting records
3. That the accounts do not comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act
4. That there is further information needed for a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination and have no concerns in respect of the matters (1) to (4) listed above and, in connection with following the Directions of the Charity Commission for Northern Ireland, I have found no matters that require drawing to

your attention.

Name: DANIEL MCFAYL ACA

Relevant professional qualification or body: (CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS IRELAND)

Address: 41 CASTLEBURN ROAD, CARRICKFERGUS, BT38 7NY

Date: 5 AUGUST 2023