



## **Trustees' Report and Accounts**

**Sixteen Month period ending 31<sup>ST</sup> December 2020**

## **Trustees' Report and Accounts**

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## **Trustees' Report**

This report has been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011.

### Trust Deed

The full name of the charity is The Melos Sinfonia and the registered charity number is 1155338. The principal address of the charity is Melos Sinfonia, c/o CMS Cameron McKenna Nabarro Olswang LLP, 78 Cannon Street, London, EC4N 6AF.

The charity's governing document is its Trust Deed which was approved by the original Trustees on 20 March 2012. This document vests the management of the Melos Sinfonia solely in the trustees. The names of the officers of the charity, who are legally responsible for the control and management of the charity are as follows;

David Zeffman – Secretary  
Oliver Zeffman – Artistic Director/Conductor  
Edward Smith  
Dermot Doughty – Treasurer  
Lyn Roberts (resigned 26<sup>th</sup> July 2020)

Oliver Zeffman received payments totalling £1,025 in respect of his work as artistic director of an opera aria, 'O mio babino caro' from Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* captured in Augmented Reality. None of the other Trustees received payment or re-imbusement of expenses.

The Trustees are elected by the existing group of Trustees and are required to have a minimum of two meetings a year.

### Principal Objective and Review of Activities

#### *Principal Objective*

The principal objective of the charity is to promote, maintain and advance education in and appreciation of music in all its aspects by the presentation of orchestral concerts and other public musical performances.

The charity promotes its objectives by drawing young musicians – orchestral players, soloists and singers – from current students and recent graduates of the major conservatoires and universities across the UK and providing them with the invaluable performing experience and exposure necessary to establish a successful career in the arts.

The orchestra strives to undertake 4 to 6 performances a year across a broad scope of genres, including smaller chamber works, large-scale symphonic repertoire and fully staged operatic productions. Alongside cornerstones of the classical canon, the orchestra is committed to playing rarely-performed works and new compositions, thus providing vital opportunities to up-and-coming composers to have their pieces performed by a large group (a rarity for many young composers), and also affording its players the chance to perform pieces they will have not previously played a key component of any young musician's training.

## **Trustees' Report (cont'd)**

### *Review of Activities*

Last year, as lockdown forced the closure of all live music we were looking for a way of creating digital content that would be a valid and engaging response to the situation. We wanted to make something that was pioneering in its approach to opera and that would resonate with audiences worldwide. The outcome of this was *Eight Songs From Isolation*, a 45-minute opera-film comprising eight new pieces from eight of the most important classical composers of today, both major names alongside the most exciting up-and-coming talent.

In order to realise this production the charity received donations which were paid to Oliver Zeffman Ltd under a Production Services Agreement. The Trustees have reviewed the accounts of Oliver Zeffman Ltd and satisfied themselves that these payments were appropriately disbursed in accordance with the aims of the charity

### Public Benefit

Musicians are selected for participation in the organisation either by audition or recommendation by an appropriately qualified music professional. This ensures both that those benefiting through participation in the musical activities of the organisation are deserving of the benefits provided by the organisation, and that the musical output is of a sufficiently high artistic quality that will promote the arts and advance the education in and appreciation of classical music amongst the general public.

The organisation in general charges admission fees for its concerts and other public musical performances. These are in keeping with the fees charged by other musical organisations of a similar nature and standing. Concessionary tickets are available at all performances to ensure that those who might not otherwise be able to afford to attend have access to performances. Concessionary tickets are available for students, senior citizens and the unemployed.

### Future Plans

There are a number of projects under discussion, it is not expected that any will be realised during calendar year 2021

### Reserves Policy Statement

Given the decision to discontinue the activities of the charity the Trustees will use the remaining reserves to discharge its liabilities. At the start of the accounting period the charity owed a trustee, Oliver Zeffman the sum of £2,846 for artistic services in respect of activities undertaken in prior years. The charity paid £1,821 of this sum and the remaining debt has been waived.

### Risk Assessment Statement

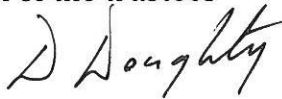
The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the charity is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. We consider that the systems we have in place to mitigate such risks appear to be adequate in normal circumstances.

**Trustees' Report (cont'd)**

*Public Benefit Statement*

In accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 and the associated Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008, the Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duties to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit as published by the Charity Commission, in exercising their powers and duties in the year under review.

Signed on behalf of the trustees



Dermot Doughty  
Treasurer

24<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2021

The Melos Sinfonia  
For the Sixteen Months Ended 31 December 2020

*Receipts and Payments Account*

	<u>Notes</u>	General Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 16 months to December 2020 £	Total 12 months to August 2019 £
RECEIPTS		£	£	£	£
Voluntary Receipts	2	-	81,655	81,655	4,255
Receipts from Charitable Activities					
Ticket Sales		-	-	-	1,558
TOTAL RECEIPTS		<u>-</u>	<u>81,655</u>	<u>81,655</u>	<u>5,813</u>
PAYMENTS					
Payments for Charitable activities	3	-	76,530	76,530	31,688
Support Costs		7	-	7	123
TOTAL PAYMENTS		<u>7</u>	<u>76,530</u>	<u>76,537</u>	<u>31,811</u>
NET RECEIPTS/(PAYMENTS)		(7)	5,125	5,118	25,998
Bank balances brought forward		1,828	-	1,828	27,826
Borrowing repaid		(1,821)	-	(1,821)	-
BANK BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD		<u>-</u>	<u>5,125</u>	<u>5,125</u>	<u>1,828</u>

The Melos Sinfonia  
For the Sixteen Months Ended 31 December 2020

*Statement of Assets and Liabilities*

	At 31st December 2020 £	At 30th August 2019 £
MONETARY ASSETS		
National Westminster Bank		
Current Account	5,125	1,828
Savings Account	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>5,125</u>	<u>1,828</u>
REPRESENTED BY		
General Fund	-	1,828
Restricted Fund	5,125	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>5,125</u>	<u>1,828</u>
LIABILITIES		
Owed to Trustee for artistic services	-	2,846
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,846</u>

Notes to the Receipts and Payments Account

1. BASIS OF ACCOUNTING

The charity has prepared its accounts in accordance with Section 133 of the Charities Act 2011 and has prepared a receipts and payments account, which accounts for income and expenditure on a cash received or paid basis, rather than on an accruals basis.

The receipt and payments account has been analysed between the general fund and restricted funds. The latter arise where the donor specifies the purpose for which the donation has been given, and are for such matters as instrument rental or a specific performance.

2. VOLUNTARY RECEIPTS

	General Fund £	Restricted Fund £
Trusts and Foundations	-	50,030
Individuals	-	31,625
	<hr/> - <hr/>	<hr/> 81,655 <hr/>

3. PAYMENTS FOR CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

Artist expenses include out of pocket costs such as transportation, accommodation and meals during rehearsal and performance periods for musicians as well as some members of the production team (e.g. director, designer, stage manager) involved in the development of certain performances. All these positions are filled by talented young artists, currently studying or starting out in the professional world and, as such, members of the production team, as well as the musicians, receive direct benefit from their involvement with the charity.

The pandemic has restricted the opportunity for live events during the period. The charity has used the funds it has raised to support the production of Eight Songs From Isolation under a Production Services agreement with Oliver Zeffman Ltd. A sum of £75,505 was paid under this agreement.

4. POST BALANCE SHEET EVENTS

The balance of cash held as restricted funds as at 31 December 2020 (£5,125) was paid to Oliver Zeffman Ltd on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as a further stage payment under the Production Services Agreement dated 28<sup>th</sup> July 2020. A further donation of £2,500 was received by the charity on 19 March 2021 and paid to Oliver Zeffman Ltd.

There have been no other transactions in the period following the balance sheet date.



## Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the Trustees of The Melos Sinfonia on the accounts for the sixteen months ended 31 December 2020, charity number 1155338.

### Respective responsibilities of trustees and examiner

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the Charities Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the Charities Act,
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Charities Act), and
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

### Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

### Independent examiner's statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention

2. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act;
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Charities Act have not been met; or
3. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed David Arch Date 24/10/21

Name DAVID ARCH

Address 39 ALWYN AVENUE  
LONDON  
W4 4PA