

# **SEPTURA LIMITED**

(A company limited by guarantee)

Company No. 08833453

Registered Charity No. 1158408

## **REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED**

**6 JANUARY 2020**

# Septura Limited

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# **Septura Limited**

Reference and administrative details of the charity, its trustees and advisers  
For the year ended 6 January 2020

## **Directors**

Christian Stobbs (Chairman)  
Jessica Jennings  
George Duncan-Jones  
Francis Williams  
Rebecca Johns (Appointed on 15 April 2019)  
Jonathan Langridge (Appointed on 16 December 2019)

## **Company Secretary**

Simon Cox

## **Artistic Directors**

Simon Cox  
Matthew Knight

## **Independent Examiner**

Richard Demarchi

## **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank plc  
1 Walm Lane  
London  
NW2 5SN

## **Registered Office**

9 Moore View  
91 Chalkhill Road  
London HA9 9UN  
UK

## **Report of the Trustees of Septura Limited Year Ended 6 January 2020**

The Directors who are also Trustees of Septura present their annual report and independently examined financial statements for the year ended 6 January 2020, which have been prepared under the Companies Act 2006 and the Charities Act 2011.

### **Administrative Details**

Septura is a registered charity (no. 1158408) and a company (no. 08833453) limited by guarantee. Reference information and details of Trustees are set out on page 2.

### **Summary of Objects & Activities**

Septura continues to be totally committed to its twin objectives of advancing the public's education and appreciation of brass ensemble music by providing high quality musical performances, broadcasts and recordings, and advancing education in the arts generally. Septura strives to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit throughout the country, with live performances in the concert hall, broadcasts on radio, masterclasses and recordings. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charities Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

Incorporated in 2014, the company is governed by its Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association. The Trustees are responsible for the overall governance of the company. The Directors, who also act as Trustees of the charitable activities of the company are listed on page 1 of this report. In accordance with the Articles of Association, their liability is limited to a sum not exceeding £10 each, being the amount that each member undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while he or she is a director. New directors are appointed for five-year terms by resolution of the current directors. The Board of Trustees must have a minimum of three members.

Septura is managed by its two Artistic Directors, Simon Cox and Matthew Knight, who report to the Trustees. The Artistic Directors and Trustees meet on a regular basis to ensure robust governance and deal with all major issues that concern the well-being of the group.

## Strategic Report

### Achievements and Performance in the Year

Septura made significant progress during 2019 in its mission to bring its work to the widest possible audience. The group's international profile was boosted enormously through debut tours to New Zealand, Japan, Italy, Lithuania, Poland and Austria, alongside a return visit to Germany. The trip to New Zealand was organised by Chamber Music New Zealand, which greatly reduced the administrative burden on the group's artistic directors compared to our 2018 US tour. The itinerary included concerts in the country's major cities (two of them broadcast on national radio), in addition to an inspiring 4-day residency with brass students from across Australasia, which involved masterclasses and performances. Furthermore, 'touch tours' were undertaken ahead of the group's concerts in Wellington and Auckland, which gave blind and visually-impaired people the opportunity to hear and feel the group's instruments up close, greatly enriching their listening experience. Both the residency and touch tour were such successes that the group intends to make them a regular part of our activities back in the UK during the coming years.

Japan has long been viewed by us as a key market to future success, and as such Septura's debut tour there was a big breakthrough. The project was organised by Pro Arte Musicae, the leading promoter of brass concerts in the country, and the busy schedule included several sell-out performances. As expected, the group's unique approach to brass chamber music was very enthusiastically received by audiences, and we were immediately re-invited for a further tour in 2021, hopefully with many more to come.

The group's profile in the UK continued to rise with performances at York University, Wells Cathedral School, Tonbridge Music Society, Fishguard Festival, and a Christmas tour (featuring our unique take on Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker) which included sell-out concerts as part of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic's concert series, and at Champs Hill, fulfilling an immediate re-invite following our previous performance there.

Throughout 2019 we continued to work closely with Ikon Arts Management. They were able to build on prior work undertaken by the group's artistic directors to secure the tour to Japan, and brought in various UK performances. They continue in their efforts to find agents for the group in the USA and Germany, and secure performances at significant UK venues and festivals.

Our relationship with Naxos Records continued as we recorded Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker in June. This is a project we had been eager to undertake since first performing the arrangement in 2017, and it was hoped that it would greatly enhance awareness of the group and its work, given the strong commercial potential compared to our previous releases. Sir Derek Jacobi recorded the narration, and the CD was released in October. The disc was selected by Classic FM to be played in full on Christmas Day at 5pm, a huge boost to our profile in the UK and beyond.

The seventh disc in our main Naxos series, featuring works by Gershwin and Copland, was recorded in November. This was our first collaboration with John Rutter as producer, and the CD is provisionally scheduled for release in 2020.

### Plans for the future

In fulfilment of its charitable activities, Septura will continue to pursue its main priorities of recordings and live performances. The following activities have been undertaken since the balance sheet date.

February 2020 was the group's busiest month ever. We returned to the US for a three-week, coast-to-coast tour, during which we visited numerous venues for the first time, in addition to returning to some familiar destinations. The fees being paid to the group for this project were significantly higher than last time and allowed us to largely fund the American CD recording. Upon our return from the States we undertook our debut performance at London's prestigious Wigmore Hall, in a programme entitled One Equal Music, featuring works by Clara Schumann and Maddalena Casulana alongside their historically better-known male contemporaries. This was the group's most important performance to date, and we anticipate that it will make us more appealing to other promoters as we seek to secure further bookings.

Covid-19 has since impacted the group's activities, and we have been shut down for around seven months at the time of this report. As a result of the pandemic, tours to Northern Ireland and Portugal and a visit to Chetham's School of Music were cancelled, as were further UK performances in Devon and Scotland. Some small financial losses were incurred as a result of travel already having been booked. A planned tour to the US in March 2021 had to be cancelled as not enough bookings could be secured due to the global lockdown, however the majority of confirmed dates have been moved into our March 2022 tour, putting us in a strong position in terms of financial

viability for that project, assuming things have returned to normal by then. Our American CD will be released in May 2021 – we are planning to mark the release with a live concert in London, which we hope will signal our return to performing. Whilst the impact of Covid-19 on our activities is immensely frustrating, we are optimistic that the group will see a return to a healthy schedule of concerts during 2021-22. The season is already in good shape, with a tour to Japan in November 2021 planned alongside the above-mentioned return to the States.

### **Financial Review**

The financial year 2019/20 ended with an overall deficit of £22,722. This was caused by the timing of receipts versus expenditure for the upcoming US tour. Total funds carried forward at year end were (£69,660). Total income for 2019/20 was £106,469.

### **Cash Reserves**

The charity's intention is to hold cash reserves of £12,000 in order to provide a degree of financial security for the charity's ongoing activities. At the balance sheet date, these reserves were being used to support the cash flow for the upcoming US tour. Since the group is undertaking projects with large budgets with increasingly regularity, the Trustees intend that this figure should be increased to £20,000 as soon as possible.

### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees aim to generate positive reserves in the near future, which will be fulfilled thanks to efforts of the Artistic Directors to expand the group's activities worldwide. Once positive, reserves will be used to further the charitable objectives.

### **Funds materially in deficit**

Septura's funds are currently materially in deficit (£69,660). This deficit has been predominantly funded by a long-term loan from a benefactor and loans from the charity's two artistic directors. Although the deficit increased in 2019/20 by £22,722, this is a short-term situation caused by expenditure on the forthcoming February 2020 USA tour and a new CD recording, all of which will be recuperated. This has been funded by short-term loans from Simon Cox and Martin Knight. Surplus income from the USA tour will allow the group's long-term deficit to remain at around £47,000, as it was last year. This will be the first year that the group's long-term debt has not increased, showing a continued trend towards overall annual surpluses of funds which will allow the debt to be reduced.

### **Covid-19**

From a financial perspective, Covid-19 has had a minimal impact on our reserves as Septura had no fixed expenditure commitments at the outset of the pandemic. Nevertheless, we expect this to have an impact on bookings for the foreseeable future. This will, in turn, lead to lower income and increase the expected period for repayment of the group's long-term debt. At the report date, cash reserves stand at circa £10,000. This will increase to around £13,000 by the end of the year when further monies owed to the charity have been received. The trustees are confident that the charity remains on a stable financial footing and will be able to begin repaying its debts in future years, albeit at a slower pace than originally hoped.

### **Trustees' responsibilities for the financial statements**

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and the incoming resources and application of resources, including the net income or expenditure of the charity for the year. In preparing those financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charity 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 charity and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with Part VI of the Charities Act 1993.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

## Statement of disclosure

- a) So far as the Trustees are aware, there is no relevant information of which the independent examiner is unaware, and
- b) they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken in order to make themselves aware of any relevant information and to establish that the independent examiner is aware of that information.

This report has been approved by the charity's Trustees, and signed on their behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Stobbs', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**Christian Stobbs**  
**Chairman**

**Date**      **13 November 2020**

## **Independent examiner's report to the Trustees of Septura Limited**

I report on the accounts of the company for the year ended 6 January 2020, which are set out on pages 7 to 11.

### **Respective responsibilities of Trustees and examiner**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The Trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed. The charity's gross income did not exceed £250,000. I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of England and Wales.

Having satisfied myself that the charity is not subject to audit under company law and is eligible for independent examination, it is my responsibility to:

- examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act
- to follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the 2011 Act
- to state whether particular matters have come to my attention

### **Basis of independent examiner's report**

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanations from you as 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 next statement.

### **Independent examiner's statement**

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

- (1) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements:
  - to keep accounting records in accordance with section 386 of the Companies Act 2006 and
  - to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records, comply with the accounting requirements of section 396 of the Companies Act 2006 and with the methods and principles of the Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities have not been met or
- (2) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached



**Richard Demarchi**

56 Sydenham Park, London, SE26 4EQ

**Date:** 13 November 2020



# Septura Limited

## Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 6 January 2020

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2020	Restricted Funds 2020	Total Funds 2020	Total Funds 2019
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE		£	£	£	£
<b>Income from:</b>					
Donations and legacies	2,9	1,847	6,000	7,847	4,375
Charitable activities	3	98,622	-	98,622	79,598
<b>Total income</b>		<b>100,469</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>106,469</b>	<b>83,973</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities	4	(136,191)	(6,000)	(142,191)	(78,701)
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>(136,191)</b>	<b>(6,000)</b>	<b>(142,191)</b>	<b>(78,801)</b>
<b>Net (expenditure)/income</b>		<b>(35,722)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(35,722)</b>	<b>5,272</b>
<b>FINANCE ACTIVITIES</b>					
<b>Income from:</b>					
Cash loans		25,000	-	25,000	-
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Loan repayments		(12,000)	-	(12,000)	(10,000)
<b>Net income/(expenditure) from finance activities</b>		<b>13,000</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>(10,000)</b>
Total funds brought forward		(46,938)	-	(46,938)	(42,210)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>(69,660)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(69,660)</b>	<b>(46,938)</b>

There were no recognised gains and losses during the year other than those dealt with in the Statement of Financial Activities. All income and expenditure relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

# Septura Limited

## Balance Sheet at 6 January 2020

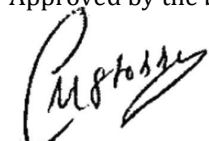
	Note	2020	2019
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	5	922	922
<b>Current assets</b>			
Cash at hand in bank		-	9,567
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	6	11,415	4,396
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>12,337</b>	<b>14,885</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</b>	7	(20,174)	-
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>7,837</b>	<b>14,885</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year</b>	8	(61,823)	(61,823)
<b>Net liabilities</b>		<b>(69,660)</b>	<b>(46,938)</b>
<b>Funds of the Charity</b>			
Unrestricted funds		(69,660)	(46,938)
<b>Total deficit in funds</b>		<b>(69,660)</b>	<b>(46,938)</b>

For the year ending 06/01/2020 the company was entitled to exemption from audit under section 477 of the Companies Act 2006 relating to small companies.

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

These accounts have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime.

Approved by the board and authorised for issue on **13 November 2020**



**Christian Stobbs**  
Chairman

Company no: 08833453

The notes on pages 10 to 13 form part of these financial statements.

# Septura Limited

## Notes to the Financial Statements

### For the year ended 6 January 2020

## 1 Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### ***Accounting Convention***

The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis under the historical cost convention, modified to Include items at fair value. This basis has been used because the group's deficit will be eliminated in future seasons through surplus concert income. The financial statements have been prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the charity. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts In accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102)"( effective 1 January 2015)—(Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Companies Act 2006.

### ***Statement of Financial Activities***

As the company is a registered charity it has adapted the Companies Act formats to reflect the special nature of the Charity's activities.

### ***Incoming Resources***

Incoming resources comprise total income, net of VAT, from box office and hire of Septura in respect of concerts, recordings, broadcasts, engagements and tours, sponsorship fees and advertising. The income and result for the year are wholly attributable to the principal activities of the company.

### ***Grants and Donations***

Grants and donations are accounted for on a receivable basis and are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities when the conditions for receipt are met.

### ***Resources Expended***

Performance related costs consist of performers' and producers' fees, venue and other costs, including marketing, which are specific to arranging performances and recordings.

### ***Capitalisation of Tangible Assets***

Tangible Assets held by the company comprises equipment used by the group during concert performances, and media equipment including camera and lighting and audio equipment. The company has adopted an annual revaluation policy and holds these tangible assets on its balance sheet at replacement cost (to be assessed by the Trustees annually).

### ***Restricted Funds***

Restricted Funds are only used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by a donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

## 2 Income from Donations and Legacies

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Grants	-	6,000	6,000	-
Donations	1,847	-	1,847	4,375
	<b>1,847</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>7,847</b>	<b>4,375</b>

### 3 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Box office, performance fees, recording fees, sale of recordings	95,122	-	95,122	76,023
Concert sponsorship	3,500	-	3,500	3,575
	<b>98,622</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>98,622</b>	<b>79,598</b>

### 4 Expenditure on charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Fees, travel and associated project costs	134,957	6,000	140,957	75,118
Venue costs	584	-	584	3,150
Website and associated costs	650	-	650	433
	<b>136,191</b>	<b>6,000</b>	<b>142,191</b>	<b>78,701</b>

### 5 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Concert/Media Equipment £	Misc. £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>			
At 7 January 2019	857	65	922
Additions	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 6 January 2020	<b>857</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>922</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>			
At 6 January 2020	<b>857</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>922</b>
At 6 January 2019	857	65	922

**6 Debtors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
Concert sponsors	-	750
Booking fees/box office	10,830	3,646
VAT repayable	585	-
	<b>11,415</b>	<b>4,396</b>

**7 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
Bank overdraft	82	-
Player fees	7,092	-
Cashflow loans	13,000	-
	<b>20,174</b>	<b>-</b>

At the year end, included within cashflow loans, is £6,000 payable to Simon Cox, a director of the Charity. The loan is repayable at the discretion of the trustees.

**8 Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year**

<b>Start-up loans:</b>	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
Stewart Newton	10,000	10,000
Simon Cox	26,263	26,263
Matthew Knight	25,560	25,560
	<b>61,823</b>	<b>61,823</b>

All start up loans are interest free.

The loan to Stewart Newton is repayable by June 2024, or once the group's current net assets total £20,000, whichever is sooner.

The loans to Simon Cox and Matthew Knight will be repaid at the discretion of the Trustees.

## 9 Restricted Funds

Septura received the following grants, which were made for the purpose of financing the Chairty's recording projects:

	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
The Harbour Foundation	3,000	-
The David Wentworth-Stanley Charitable Trust	5,00	-
The Anthony Hornby Charitable Trust	3,500	-
	<b>6,000</b>	<b>-</b>

## 10 Related Parties

### Performance and Administration fees made to related parties

	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
Simon Cox	16,358	19,373
Matthew Knight	12,788	14,093
	<b>29,146</b>	<b>33,466</b>

### Amounts owed to related parties (falling due after one year)

	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
Simon Cox	26,263	26,263
Matthew Knight	25,560	25,560
	<b>51,823</b>	<b>51,823</b>

### Amounts owed to related parties (falling due within one year)

	<b>Total 2020 £</b>	<b>Total 2019 £</b>
Simon Cox	6,000	-
Matthew Knight	-	-
	<b>6,000</b>	<b>-</b>