Registered Charity Number
1143751

West-Eastern Divan Trust UK

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

Pothecary Witham Weld | PWW solicitors

84 Eccleston Square, London SW1V 1PX
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THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN TRUST UK

LEGAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

TRUSTEES:

Mr Daniel Barenboim
Mr Ole Baekhoej (appointed 13th May 2026)
Mr Jakob Stott (resigned 13th May 2026)
Mr Philip Palumbo (appointed 29th December 2025)

PRINCIPAL OFFICE:

84 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PX

CORRESPONDENT:

Mrs Christina Tyson
Pothecary Witham Weld
84 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PX

SOLICITORS:

Pothecary Witham Weld
84 Eccleston Square
London
SW1V 1PX

BANKERS:

CAF Bank
25 Kings Hill Avenue
Kings Hill
West Malling
ME19 4JQ

THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN TRUST UK

ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

INTRODUCTION

The Trustees present their report along with the financial statements for the charity for the year ended 31 December 2025. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's trust deed, the Charities Act 2011 and "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)".

The Board of Trustees are satisfied with the performance of the charity during the year and the position at 31st December 2025 and consider that the charity is in a strong position to continue its activities during the coming year. They equally consider the charity's assets to be adequate to fulfil its objectives.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

The West-Eastern Divan Trust UK is an unincorporated charitable trust governed by a Deed dated the 13th of May 2011 and amended on the 26th of August 2011.

Appointment of new trustees is by invitation of the existing Trustees.

The Trustees who served during the year were:
Mr Daniel Barenboim
Mr Jakob Stott
Mr Philip Palumbo (appointed 29th December 2025)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES FOR THE PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Trustees must pay due regard to the guidance provided by the Charity Commission on public benefit. The charitable objectives of the charity are set out in its governing document and summarised below:

(a) the promotion, support and encouragement of the arts and culture and in particular music;
(b) the advancement of education in particular but not exclusively musical education;
(c) the promotion of religious and racial harmony and the promotion of tolerance and reconciliation for the public benefit by:
    a. advancing education and raising awareness about different religious and racial groups to promote good relations between persons of different racial groups;
    b. working towards the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of religion or race; and
    c. promoting knowledge and mutual understanding between different religious and racial groups through artistic and cultural endeavours by the support of such charitable activities of the Daniel Barenboim Stiftung, Germany and West-Eastern Divan Orchestra as Trustees shall think fit.

The West-Eastern Divan Trust UK does not implement projects directly but facilitates fundraising to fulfil the above-mentioned objectives.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE OF WEDO IN 2025 AND PLANNED ACTIVITY FOR 2026

In 2025, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra gave a total of 14 concerts in some of the most prestigious concert halls in Europe and Asia – for the first time under the direction of Maestro Zubin Mehta in the spring and under Maestro Daniel Barenboim in the summer.

Concert Tours of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra

In spring 2025, Maestro Daniel Barenboim invited his long-time colleague and close friend, Maestro Zubin Mehta, to conduct his orchestra for eight concerts in China (Beijing, Suzhou, Shenzhen, Guangzhou) and Europe (Vienna, Geneva and Budapest).

From Beijing to Budapest, the orchestra presented a rich programme featuring works by Beethoven, Schubert, Sibelius and Tchaikovsky, including Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony, Weber's Oberon Overture, Schubert's Great Symphony and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 4. At four concerts, the orchestra was joined by the celebrated German-Korean violinist Clara-Jumi Kang as soloist in Sibelius' Violin Concerto in D minor, Op. 47.

The 17-day spring tour and Mehta's debut thus marked an outstanding opening to the 2025 concert year and a major success for the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra and the Daniel Barenboim Foundation.

The West-Eastern Divan Orchestra's annual summer tour traditionally took place under the direction of Maestro Daniel Barenboim, with star pianist Lang Lang as soloist. With performances at the Musikfest Bremen, Berlin's Waldbühne, the Schleswig-Holstein Music Festival in Lübeck, the Rheingau Music Festival in Wiesbaden, the Salzburg Festival and the Lucerne Festival, the orchestra performed Wagner's Siegfried Idyll, Mendelssohn's Piano Concerto No. 1 and Beethoven's Eroica Symphony No. 3.

With most concerts sold out and a record audience of approximately 20,000 people at Berlin's Waldbühne, the summer tour was not only an exceptional musical experience but also a considerable commercial success.

West-Eastern Divan Ensemble

Under the direction of Michael Barenboim, the West-Eastern Divan Ensemble travelled to South America for a concert tour in May and June 2025. A total of six concerts were scheduled in São Paulo, Buenos Aires and Montevideo. The ensemble presented works by Beethoven, including the Septet in E-flat major, Op. 20 and String Quartet No. 11 in F minor, as well as Schubert's Octet in F major, D. 803. A particular highlight of the tour was the performance at the renowned Teatro Colón in Buenos Aires. In addition to the concerts, several of the musicians also gave masterclasses. The concert tour concluded with a sold-out performance at Berlin's Pierre Boulez Saal.

The West-Eastern Divan Ensemble also made a number of appearances at smaller venues and in various configurations. These included a performance at the opening ceremony of the Munich Security Conference on 13 February 2025, as well as further international events such as the YPO Geopolitical Summit in London in May 2025 and the World Justice Forum in Warsaw in June 2025. In September, the ensemble also performed at the farewell concert for Michael Haefliger as Director of the Lucerne Festival. Since its first appearance in Lucerne in 2007, the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra has maintained a close relationship with the festival and has been a regular annual guest there since 2013.

On 3 November, the West-Eastern Divan Ensemble performed once again at the Pierre Boulez Saal. The evening, entitled "Remembering Edward W. Said at 90", was held to mark the 90th birthday of Edward Said. A lecture by US professor and former student of Edward Said, Timothy Brennan,

opened the evening, followed by a performance by the West-Eastern Divan Ensemble of Mozart's Piano Quintet K. 542.

On 6 November, the West-Eastern Divan Ensemble gave its final performance of the year at a private concert in London, performing Mendelssohn's String Quartet No. 2. The event took place at the prestigious Walbrook Club at the invitation of Philip Palumbo, Trustee of the West-Eastern Divan Trust UK, and offered guests the unique opportunity to speak with the musicians over dinner, ask questions and gain a first-hand insight into the work of the orchestra and ensemble.

Orchestra Committee

For the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra, 2025 was also an eventful and formative year beyond its musical activities, during which important steps were taken towards the orchestra's future. Since Hamas's terrorist attack on Israeli civilians on 7 October 2023, Israel's military response against the Palestinian population in Gaza, and the escalating situation in the West Bank, the orchestra has faced the question of political positioning more than ever before. This immense challenge, combined with the question of who would speak on behalf of the orchestra in the future, led a group of 14 musicians to form an "Initiative Group" in Summer 2024.

In regular video conferences, the group addressed these questions with the aim of establishing a democratically elected committee that would represent the entire orchestra. These meetings initially resulted in the development of eight "Principles" – a kind of guideline and values-based framework for the orchestra's collective work. They reflect precisely those values that have been upheld since the orchestra was founded in 1999, reaffirm Daniel Barenboim's and Edward Said's vision, and provide a foundation for transparent, respectful and forward-looking cooperation.

In February 2025, the Initiative Group presented the formulated "Principles" to Maestro Barenboim. In May 2025, they were adopted by the orchestra in a voluntary democratic vote, with 98 of 107 votes in favour. This milestone also paved the way for the election of the orchestra's committee, which replaced the 14-member Initiative Group at the end of June 2025.

For the first time since the orchestra's founding, an orchestra board was established through a democratic election. The committee consists of seven musicians, of whom two must be from Israel, two from Palestine, and three from other regions (in the current case, Lebanon, Iran and Egypt). The members of the orchestra committee were elected for a two-year term.

In order to establish clear structural regulations governing the election and term of office of the orchestra board, the board drafted corresponding bylaws in July and August 2025. During the second half of the year, the orchestra committee, together with the orchestra management, also worked intensively on defining the role and responsibilities of the committee. In addition, members of the committee participated in professional training to strengthen their skills and support their work, including interview training, media relations coaching, and training in Nonviolent Communication.

Non-Musical Activities of the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra

As in previous years, the Daniel Barenboim Foundation also organised workshops and discussion formats during the rehearsal periods in 2025, in order to support and strengthen the musicians during this challenging and politically charged period and to provide a respectful and safe space in which to discuss the political situation in their home countries and their personal perspectives. These events generally took place after rehearsals, followed by a shared meal to allow for further personal exchange.

In February 2025, the Israeli philosopher Omri Boehm and the Palestinian scholar Zahiye Kundos led a discussion entitled "Taking Equality Seriously", moderated by Prof. Dr. Roni Mann, Vice-Rector of the Barenboim-Said Akademie since September 2026. In addition, Sulaiman Khatib from "Combatants for Peace", an Israeli-Palestinian NGO committed to a non-violent resolution of the

conflict, shared his personal experiences and engaged in dialogue with the musicians.

At the same time, workshops on Nonviolent Communication (NVC) were held for the first time in February 2025 under the leadership of Palestinian therapist and mediator Mai Shahin, also a member of Combatants for Peace. Together with Israeli NVC coach Ido Sternberg, she conducted introductory workshops on a voluntary basis. The musicians were also given space in individual, pair and group discussions to share their own experiences and to reflect on challenging situations. Mai Shahin and Ido Sternberg facilitated these discussions, creating a safe and trusting space for dialogue.

Such discussion formats have been part of the orchestra's mission since its founding in 1999. Especially during the most challenging periods of political tension, they demonstrate the musicians' commitment to repeatedly and consciously choosing to engage in dialogue with the perceived "other".

The orchestra committee initiated an interactive walk through Berlin entitled "Paths to Dialogue: A Journey Through Berlin". In groups of five to ten people, the musicians explored selected locations in Berlin and engaged in conversation with one another using prepared questions. The experiences were subsequently shared and reflected upon over dinner.

Prof. Dr. Roni Mann and Spanish diplomat Bernardino Léon Gross led an academic seminar on Edward Said's "Bases for Coexistence" (1997), creating a framework for engaging with the shared history of Israelis and Palestinians and questions of coexistence.

During the summer tour of 2025, Mai Shahin and Ido Sternberg again accompanied the orchestra and conducted workshops on Nonviolent Communication. In addition, at the invitation of the orchestra committee and the orchestra management, Mai Shahin accompanied the orchestra to Lübeck, Wiesbaden and Salzburg and advised the orchestra in drafting a joint statement. Her many years of experience with Combatants for Peace, as well as her expertise as a therapist and activist, were of great importance in this process.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The year 2026 began for the West-Eastern Divan Orchestra with a three-week concert tour under the direction of Maestro Zubin Mehta. The tour, marking Zubin Mehta's 90th birthday, took the orchestra to Spain, Italy and Austria for a total of seven concerts.

After careful consideration, two concerts that had been planned to take place in Istanbul in April 2026 unfortunately had to be cancelled in mid-March. Due to the political escalation in connection with the Iran war and the unpredictable expansion of the conflict to the wider region, including Turkey, made the risks involved appear too significant. The Daniel Barenboim Foundation hopes to realize a concert in Turkey in the future under safe conditions and when circumstances allow.

The remainder of 2026 is also set to be turbulent. Following the orchestra's second and third tours in August and September 2026, two concerts at the Philharmonie Berlin on 11 and 17 November, as part of the first "West-Eastern Divan Festival", will bring the 2026 concert year to a spectacular conclusion.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Trust's work is dependent on income from donors. The key financial indicators for the year are:

- Income £58,611 (2024: £101,302).
- Expenditure amounted to £156,806 (2024: £141,607).
- Total funds at the end of the year were £17,721 (2024: £115,916).

Reserves policy

The free reserves at 31 December 2025 amounted to £17,721 (2024: £115,916).

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES IN RELATION TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The charity's Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the charity's Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charity and of the incoming resources and application of resources of the charity for that period. In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the applicable Charities SORP;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures that must be disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume the charity will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and to enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Charities Act 2011, the applicable Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations, and the provisions of the Trust's deed. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the charity and financial information included on the charity's website in accordance with legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements.

Approved by the Trustees on 22/10/26 2026 and signed on their behalf by:

P. A. Palumbo

PHILIP PALUMBO

INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN TRUST UK FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the Trust for the year ended 31 December 2025, which are set out on pages 9 to 13.

Responsibilities and basis of report

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

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

Independent examiner's statement

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

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



Colin Dadswell FCA ACCA DChA

Caladine Limited
Chantry House
22 Upperton Road
Eastbourne
East Sussex
BN21 1BF

Date: 29th October 2026

THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN TRUST UK

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Income Fund £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Income from:				
Donations	4	58,524	58,524	101,181
Interest		87	87	121
Total		**58,611**	**58,611**	**101,302**
Expenditure on:				
Raising funds	5	-	-	-
Charitable activities	6	156,806	156,806	141,607
Total		**156,806**	**156,806**	**141,607**
Net income (expenditure)		**(98,195)**	**(98,195)**	**(40,305)**
Reconciliation of Funds:				
Total funds brought forward		**115,916**	**115,916**	**156,221**
Total funds carried forward		**17,721**	**17,721**	**115,916**

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted Income Fund £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at bank and In Hand		18,441	18,441	116,612
Total Current Assets		**18,441**	**18,441**	**116,612**
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	7	(720)	(720)	(696)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		**17,721**	**17,721**	**115,916**
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		**17,721**	**17,721**	**115,916**
TOTAL NET ASSETS				
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY				
Unrestricted income fund		17,721	17,721	115,916
TOTAL FUNDS	8	**17,721**	**17,721**	**115,916**

Approved by the Trustees on 2026 and signed on their behalf

by:

P. R. Palumbo

22/10/26

Trustee

PHILIP PALUMBO

THE WEST-EASTERN DIVAN TRUST UK

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Accounting convention and standards

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the trust deed, the Charities Act 2011, FRS102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"("FRS 102" and the Charities SORP "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). The trust is a Public Benefit Entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going Concern

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Fund structure

The charity funds are wholly unrestricted and comprise an income fund.

Income

Incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the charity becomes entitled to receipt. Donations are taken into account on receipt. The Charity has a Gift Aid registration and the Charity's income includes tax recovered in respect of donations received.

Offsetting

There has been no offsetting of assets or liabilities, or income or expenditure.

Expenditure

Expenditure is stated at the amount paid during the accounting period.

Grants payable are charged in the year in which the offer is conveyed to the recipient.

Governance and Support Costs

Support costs have been allocated between governance costs and other support. Governance costs comprise all costs involving public accountability of the charity and its compliance with regulation and good practice. Support costs comprise the costs of running the charity.

Investment income

Bank Interest received is included on an actual receipts basis.

Taxation

As a registered charity, the organisation is exempt from income and corporation tax to the extent that its income and gains are applicable to charitable purposes only. Value Added Tax is not recoverable by the charity and is therefore included in the relevant costs in the Statement of Financial Activities.

2. TRANSACTIONS WITH TRUSTEES AND RELATED PARTIES

None of the Trustees receive any remuneration from the Trust.

3. WINDING UP OR DISSOLUTION OF THE CHARITY

If upon winding up or dissolution of the charity there remain any assets, after the satisfaction of all debts and liabilities, the assets represented by the accumulated fund shall be transferred to some other charitable body or bodies having similar objects to the charity.

4. INCOME

	2025 £	2024 £
Donations including gift aid	58,524	101,181
Interest on short term deposits	87	121
	58,611	101,302

5. FUNDRAISING EXPENSES

Expenditure on fundraising activities	nil	nil
	nil	nil

6. EXPENDITURE ON CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

The charity undertakes its charitable activities through grant making

	Grants	Support & governance costs	Total 2025	Total 2024
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	150,000	6,806	156,806	141,607
	150,000	**6,806**	**156,806**	**141,607**

7. CREDITORS DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2025	2024
Independent examiner's fee	720	696
	720	696

8. SUMMARY OF FUNDS – CURRENT YEAR

	Brought forward	Income resources	Resources expended	Carried forward
Unrestricted income fund	115,916	58,611	(156,806)	17,721
	115,916	58,611	(156,786)	17,741

SUMMARY OF FUNDS – PRIOR YEAR

	Brought forward	Income resources	Resources expended	Carried forward
Unrestricted income fund	156,221	101,302	(141,607)	115,916
	156,221	101,302	(141,607)	115,916