

MAIDEN VOYAGE (NI) LTD

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

The Directors present their report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2023.

Results

The directors are pleased to present the results for 2022-23. There was net income for the year of £2,477 attributable to unrestricted reserves. Unrestricted reserves now stand at £38,319.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the charity's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 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 (FRS102)" (as amended for accounting periods commencing from 1 January 2016).

Structure, Governance and Management

Maiden Voyage (NI) Limited is a company limited by guarantee, registration number NI041616. The company is recognised by HM Revenue and Customs as having charitable status, reference number XR63074.

Maiden Voyage (NI) Limited's conduct is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Board of Directors are responsible for the policy and strategy of the company along with the financial and legal probity of the organisation and the appointment of directors. The Board of Directors meet on a quarterly basis and receive management and financial reports from the Management. The Management implement policy and strategy, which have been approved by the directors, progressing organisational objectives and ensuring the long-term sustainability of the organisation. The Management consists of Artistic Director Nicola Curry and Company Manager Nuala McGreevy.

Directors are recruited to ensure that representative skills and experiences are in place to deliver the company's vision and that the mission and objectives are achieved. The Board considers potential directors of the company. Applicants considered suitable are then invited by the Chair to join the Board. Primarily this review considers whether, in the opinion of the board, the prospective member will help the company meet its aims and objectives. Directors undertake governance training with appropriate training organisations.

Objectives and activities

To advance and raise the profile of underdeveloped art-forms and present, promote, organise and manage accessible high quality work of cultural and educational value.

Achievements and performance

Maiden Voyage focuses on discoveries in dance with by and for artists, audiences and participants through the commissioning and touring new dance work; providing professional development and training opportunities for performers and opportunities for participation across the cultural, educational and health sectors.

The focus of 2022-23 was a return to live in-theatre performances, seeing through new commissions seeded during the pandemic and creating opportunities for artist development and in person participatory engagement.

Contracts

-41 artists on 60 paid contracts across the artistic programme.

Performances

- Line of Life 4 performances
- Haiku 15 performances
- Development of Vasiliki Stasinaki & Sarah Gordon collaboration

Showcases

- Homegrown at Belfast Children's Festival 2023

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DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Professional Development

- 7 artists undertook paid mentoring with international guest artist Erik Kaiel
- Company Class was offered when in production
- Guest teacher Jack Webb

Reached

- 2162 live audiences
- 180 screening of BMC film
- 592 direct participants in 215 sessions totalling 8732 contact hours

Commissions

Initially one of five SEED commissions supported by Organisational Emergency funding in 2020/21 for research and development. Line of Life is a dance and digital installation work commissioned from Clara Kerr and Fergus Kerr. The artists were paired with experienced team of composer Jody Lahart, costume designer Una Hickey, lighting and set designer Ciaran Bagnall. The final work was presented during *homegrown* showcase at Belfast Children's Festival in March 2023 to international delegates and also to the general public.

Haiku is a dance for public space work commissioned from Erik Kaiel US/NL which premiered at Belfast Children's Festival in March 2023 with four performances at Ulster Museum, two in The MAC Upper Gallery and nine performances in schools and arts centres in the greater Belfast area. Haiku was created with regular company dancer Maeve McGreevy and introduced Rosie Mullin and 2021 GradLab artist Gerard Headley on their debut performances with the company.

Maiden Voyage was also pleased to collaborate with Hard Rain Soloist Ensemble for a new duet performance in SARC at Queen's University and with Neil Martin for Connection V on a one-off live performance in St Anne's Cathedral for ArtsEkta.

Showcasing– National & International

Homegrown Showcase at Belfast Children's Festival March 2023: *Line of Life* was part of this annual showcase of new work for young audiences for international and national promoters and festival programmers. Haiku was presented for delegates also.

Professional Development

We offered a focused programme of professional development with open company class when the company were in production and bespoke mentoring for seven artists with international guest.

Outreach Programmes

Repertoire Outreach: A series of 28 workshops and 9 performances were offered to communities schools and special schools across the year supporting understanding of the art form and building audience development.

Belfast Movement Choir: This Paul Hamlyn Foundation funded programme was completed with final rehearsals, a sharing and a film recorded in Ormeau Park and screened in The Strand Cinema in June 2022 along with legacy sessions with new groups. Further legacy included securing Bank of Ireland /Arts & Business NI Begin Together funding to retain an adult group and mother and daughter group for three terms.

Move Fit: Four class groups in two schools took part in after school sessions as part of Term 6,7,8 of the overall programme April 22-March 23. The final terms (9) of the programme will take place in April-June 2023

Seasonal Somatics: This now regular series of outdoor workshops themed on environment and the body were delivered in parks across greater Belfast by Sandy Cuthbert. A group of 20 people from diverse backgrounds with some or no dance experience have been taking part over the year.

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DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2023

Financial Review

In 2022-23 we were fortunate to maintain annual funding from principal funder Arts Council of Northern Ireland and other funders for core and project costs as follows;

The Directors would like to thank the company's principal funders: -

- Arts Council of Northern Ireland
- Belfast City Council

Outreach funders: -

- Halifax Foundation NI

Move Fit funders: -

- Garfield Weston Foundation
- Victoria Homes

Belfast Movement Choir Funder: -

- Paul Hamlyn Foundation

Belfast Movement Choir 22-23 Funder: -

- Bank of Ireland Begin Together

Other funders in year included: -

- Arts & Business NI Blueprint
- ACNI Commission Fund
- ACNI Health & Safety Fund

Funds Held as a Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

The charity does not hold any funds as custodian for any other trustee body.

Reserves Policy

The company's policy is to maintain reserves at a level which ensures that the company's core administrative activities are able to continue in the immediate future, for a period deemed appropriate by the Board; currently a minimum of 3 months. The directors will however consider on an ongoing basis the level of reserves that is prudent for the charity to have in line with known future developments, liabilities and uncertainties.

Statement of Directors' Responsibilities

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under that law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). Under company law the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the trust and of the surplus or deficit of the trust for that period.

In preparing these financial statements the directors are required to: -

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- 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 company will continue in business.

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DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

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The directors are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The directors are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps to prevent and detect fraud and other irregularities.

The above report has been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies regime within Part 15 of the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice (Accounting and Reporting by Charities) 2015.

By order of the Board



JD Burke

Secretary

Dated: 03/10/23