



# CAROUSEL

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



## BRINGING THE CREATIVE VOICES OF LEARNING DISABLED PEOPLE INTO THE ARTS

In 2022/23 our learning disabled artists continued to excel in their creativity across music, film, spoken word, TV and radio. This report highlights some of the brilliant work they've been up to.



KIRSTY PENTECOST

## WELCOME

▶ We've had a smashing year. Our projects started being 'in person' again. We've been getting back out there, and it was so good to get away from our screens and see people again.

**Blue Camel Club** was back! It was amazing to get everyone in the room. It was buzzing with energy, music, and people seeing each other for the first time in ages.

**Oska Bright's** Welcome Back work stepped into its second year. We had a brilliant time visiting HOME in Manchester and working with the team there to welcome learning disabled audiences back through their doors.

Another highlight for me was getting to work on **Oska Bright DIY**, supporting the next generation of film enthusiasts to create their own festival experience.

**Carousel TV** returned for a second series, bringing a wide range of entertainment to audiences across the UK.

Our musicians have also had a busy year producing new music and touring around the country.

I've been in my role of Chair of Trustees for a year now. It's been a challenging but fun experience, and I'm buzzing about the future of Carousel.

**Kirsty Pentecost**, Chair of Trustees

## PROJECTS

### ARTS CAFÉ

▶ **Spoken Word** artists and **Chorus** members developed their material and performances in workshops. They tried out different ways of performing their work and built their skills.

▶ Carousel hosted three **Arts Café** events where the artists came together to produce and perform their work for new audiences. There was also an '**open mic**' section for any new poets to step up and share their work.



STUART LEANEY, ARTS CAFÉ

### AUDIENCE STATS

- ▶ **2.7k** people follow our **Facebook** page
- ▶ **3.1k** people follow us on **Twitter**
- ▶ **1.6k** people follow us on **Instagram**
- ▶ **500** people subscribe to our **Youtube** channel
- ▶ **12k** people visited our **website** between April 2022 and March 2023



DJ COOL, BLUE CAMEL CLUB

*"I just stumbled across the podcast recently, but I think it's wonderful. I'm inspired to bring inclusive radio to the level of excellence you have achieved"*

Dean Gagnon, Inclusive Radio Show presenter, Hamilton, Canada

## BLUE CAMEL CLUB

- **Blue Camel Club** was back. We worked with **Brighton Festival** to bring the club to three new places in Brighton welcoming old and new faces alike.
- We also returned to **The Old Market**. We refreshed the club bringing in new ideas and new acts alongside our experienced DJs and we catered for a wide variety of musical tastes.
- **DJ Kez** visited two learning disabled club nights – **Shoosh Club** in Brighton and **The Bubble Club** in London – and talked with clubbers and staff about making the learning disabled club scene better and more exciting.



DJ KEZ & SARAH HOBDEN, DOME ACCESS OPEN DAY

## CAROUSEL RADIO

- **12 radio shows** were produced by our Radio team and broadcast on **Radio Reverb**. Our podcast had over **3500** listens online.



JASON EADE, RYAN O'DONOVAN & DIMA ZOUCHINSKI

- We invited **13 guest presenters** to co-host shows and featured an additional **27 artists**.
- We were thrilled that **Carousel Radio Show** won the 'Grassroots Production Award' at the **Audio Production Awards 2022**.

BLUE CAMEL CLUB @ RIWAQ



# MUSIC

## CAROUSEL ANTHEM

➤ **Eleven Carousel musicians** undertook a new project in summer 2022 when they came together to write a new song in celebration of **Carousel's 40th birthday.**

We invited new musicians who played lots of different instruments and brought new musical styles to enrich the piece.

*"To be part of Carousel at this moment and to be involved in the Anthem has been extraordinary. We learnt so much from staff and each other"* Luke, Anthem musician

➤ **The Anthem** was released on our label, **FairGround**, and performed at **Brighton Open Air Theatre.**

➤ A film documenting the making of **The Anthem** was aired on **Carousel TV.**



## FAIRGROUND TOUR

➤ We supported our learning disabled bands and musicians to tour to six venues around the UK. They included **Beat Express, The Black Bawlerz, Fuzzbomb Flash Band, F.witch** and solo artists **Ryan O'Donovan, Bubbalo, Mac Perry and Daniel Wakeford.**



TAUREAN, FUZZBOMB FLASH BAND

THOMAS, THE BLACK BAWLERZ

BEAT EXPRESS

GEORGE, FUZZBOMB FLASH BAND

By partnering with **Gig Buddies** we were able to work together to reach new audiences. We think that over **65%** of the audiences were new to us and venues told us that it was the first time they had seen learning disabled people perform.



CAROUSEL CHORUS

## CAROUSEL CHORUS

As well as working on Arts Café, **Carousel Chorus** recorded a new EP. The Chorus met to choose, rehearse and record the tracks for their EP. They also did a professional photo shoot and designed a new logo.

Five new pieces were recorded by producer **Jimi Ashmore** at **Lift Studios**. It was a great new experience for the Chorus to work with an expert to produce each track.

*"It helps me feel like the artist I am. Mine and Susannah's harmonies, we're both on the same vibe. I'm that person who loves it and I'm so happy I'm involved in that"*

Ewan, Carousel Chorus



*"Thank you for Friday. You absolutely rocked! It was such a pleasure to have you play at the event. The feedback from the night has been amazing"*

Alex Hamilton, Hull Gig Buddies



CAROUSEL CHORUS @ RIWAQ STAGE, BRIGHTON FESTIVAL

# FILM & DIGITAL

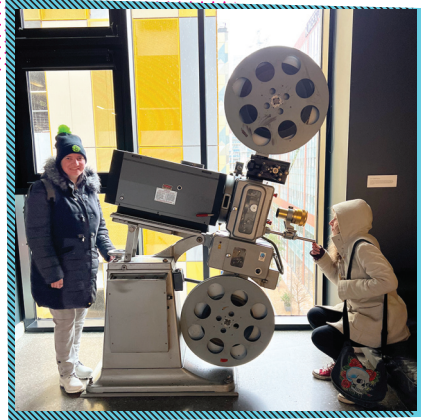
## OSKA BRIGHT FILM FESTIVAL

➤ The **Oska Bright Film Festival** screened **407 films** to over **6000 people** on tour across the UK. The plan was to reconnect with audiences and their love of cinema.

➤ As part of our touring activity, we partnered with **Back to Back Theatre Company**, supporting the release of their new work, **Shadow**. **Oska Bright Films** played to audiences across the UK before performances and screenings.

*“Working with Oska Bright over the last few years has been fantastic. We screened programmes of films that have really connected and brought new audiences to the Barbican Cinema. We look forward to working together on future programmes and continuing to develop learning disabled audiences at the Barbican”*

Jonathan Gleneadie, Senior Manager,  
Cinema, Barbican



TINA & KIRSTY @ HOME, MANCHESTER

➤ As part of **Welcome Back**, we worked with **HOME Manchester**, **Glasgow Film Theatre**, **Storyhouse** and **The Barbican** to support them to welcome learning disabled audiences to their venues.

➤ At **Storyhouse**, we helped them establish a learning disabled programming group who developed their own screening for a festival.

## OSKA BRIGHT DIY

➤ **Oska Bright Do It Yourself** supported school groups of young learning disabled people to plan, develop and deliver their very own **Oska Bright Film Festival** screening event. They learned all aspects of producing a screening, marketing it, and running the event.

We worked with two schools outside Brighton and teamed them up with their local independent cinema



OSKA BRIGHT DIY WORKSHOP

DANIELLE LEADING A WORKSHOP

## OSKA IN A BOX

Oska In A Box shared the festival experience with learning disabled people unable to attend at a cinema. We worked with **MENCAP** to reach as many people as possible.

The boxes included popcorn, tickets, posters and lanyards and we had people watching screenings online from Northern Ireland, Wales, Jersey, Kent, Sussex, Manchester, Bristol, Nottingham, Newcastle, London and Liverpool.



OBFF @ TOWNER, EASTBOURNE

*“It was awesome - well done to all the people who starred in and made these films and thank you for our Oska in a Box!”* MENCAP, Liverpool and Sefton



RUBY & ROWAN ON SET

## CAROUSEL TV & MEDIA TEAM

Season two of **Carousel TV** featured four episodes showcasing a range of creative talent from Carousel as well as guest features from organisations like **Heart n Soul**, **Rudely Interrupted** and **Arty Party**.

The shows were broadcast on **Latest TV** in Brighton and other TV channels in Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Cardiff, Liverpool, Newcastle, Teeside, North Wales, Manchester, Nottingham, Kent, Sheffield and Belfast. We also put **Carousel TV** on **YouTube** for anyone who missed the shows.



STEVE ORAM WORKING WITH SARAH

The show was made by our Media Team of learning disabled producers and creatives who worked with **Big Egg Productions** and **Steve Oram** to steer the direction of the show.

ASA, TEAM DOMENICA



JOEL, SPOKEN WORD



## ACCOUNTS

### CAROUSEL PROJECT

**STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES** (incorporating an income and expenditure account)  
**For the year ended 31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	2023 Total Funds	2022 Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
<b>INCOME &amp; ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>				
Donations and legacies	74,699	131,759	206,458	203,833
Charitable activities	37,464	162,331	199,795	155,537
Other trading activities	-	1,000	1,000	-
Investment income	168	-	168	3
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>112,331</b>	<b>295,090</b>	<b>407,421</b>	<b>359,373</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>				
Raising funds	14,186	19,264	33,450	22,141
Charitable activities	76,440	280,656	357,096	334,098
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>90,626</b>	<b>299,920</b>	<b>390,546</b>	<b>356,239</b>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	21,705	(4,830)	16,875	3,134
Transfers between funds	(2,567)	2,567	-	-
Net movement in funds	19,138	(2,263)	16,875	3,134
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
Total funds brought forward	122,485	4,655	127,140	124,006
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<b>141,623</b>	<b>2,392</b>	<b>144,015</b>	<b>127,140</b>

➤ The company has no recognised gains and losses other than those included in the results above and therefore no separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented.



**CAROUSEL PROJECT** (Registered Number: 02137755)**BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2023**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2023 Total Funds £	2022 Total Funds £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>	1,008	-	1,008	-
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors	21,760	-	21,760	1,720
Cash at bank and in hand	145,127	2,392	147,519	186,505
	<u>166,887</u>	<u>2,392</u>	<u>169,279</u>	<u>188,225</u>
<b>CREDITORS</b>				
Amounts falling due within one year	(26,272)	-	(26,272)	(61,085)
	<u>140,615</u>	<u>2,392</u>	<u>143,007</u>	<u>127,140</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>				
<b>LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>	141,623	2,392	144,015	127,140
	<u>141,623</u>	<u>2,392</u>	<u>144,015</u>	<u>127,140</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>				
	<u>141,623</u>	<u>2,392</u>	<u>144,015</u>	<u>127,140</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>				
Unrestricted funds				
General funds			141,623	122,485
Restricted funds			<u>2,392</u>	<u>4,655</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>			<u>144,015</u>	<u>127,140</u>

The figures are an abridged version of the full Financial Statements on which the auditor gave an unqualified report. The full Financial Statements were approved on 7 November 2023 and were submitted to the Charity Commission soon thereafter. Copies of the financial statements are available on request from Carousel, Community Base, 113 Queens Road, Brighton BN1 3XG.

**FUNDERS**

➤ Douglas Arter Foundation, Arts Council England, Ashley Family Foundation, Ian Askew Charitable Trust, Backstage Trust, Percy Bilton Charity, Boshier Hinton Foundation, British Film Institute, Childwick Trust, The Fitton Trust, Friarsgate Trust, Gisela Graham Foundation, Edward Gostling Foundation, Hay's Travel, The Boris Karloff Foundation, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, Mrs A Lacy-Tate Trust, MacAndrew Sussex Trust, Marsh Charitable Trust, Charlotte Marshall Charitable Trust, The Prince of Wales Trust, Oleg Prokoviev Trust, PRS Foundation, Helen Roll Charity, David Solomons Charitable Trust, Souter Charitable Trust, Sir Jules Thorn Charitable Trust, South Downs National Park Trust, Youth Music.



## CREATIVE MINDS

- **Creative Minds** remains the central network of learning disabled artists, organisations and companies in England. With **52 members** and growing, we continued to meet online, share information and learning throughout the network, and improve our best practice.
- The **Creative Minds newsletter** shared information to the full network four times throughout the year.



GUS GARSIDE

- This year also saw **Gus Garside** retire from Carousel. Gus has been coordinating Creative Minds since 2014 including overseeing the delivery of a number of national conferences.

***“Gus, you’ve been a great asset to the Creative Minds Network! My memory of you was when we did the conference at Home in Manchester and we used the quali-tree!”***

Andrew McLeod, The Lawnmowers

## CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

- Our learning disabled artists delivered workshops for learning disabled children and young people. They included a variety of arts activities for people to try.

- We offered **music workshops** for young people to develop their skills and at the end of the course new musicians performed in a professional venue on stage in front of parents and carers.

***“I really appreciate all you are doing, I loved it! There’s so little on offer for kids with SEN, opportunities like this are like gold dust”*** Parent of Pop Up participant



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2022/2023

## AWARDS ★★★

- Anthem Awards: Carousel Radio won Silver in the Best Local Engagement Award
- Audio Production Awards: Carousel Radio won Gold in the Grassroots category

AUDIO PRODUCTION AWARDS



- Blue Camel Club partnered with the Brighton Festival for five events across the city

- Carousel is selected again as the Charity Partner for Brighton Comedy Garden
- Our Media Team delivered two film making commissions for the NHS and Different Planet Arts

- Oska Bright spoke at Fflash-Hub, Barcelona with partners from the Be-In Network



NHS FILM COMMISSION





## REACHING AUDIENCES

- Carousel Radio podcast had **3500** listens
- FairGround bands and musicians toured the UK and visited **Belfast, Croydon, Bristol, Bedford** and **Hull**
- Oska Bright Film Festival reached **6,367** people across the UK and the world
- Overall Carousel's creative work reached an **audience** of over **60,000**
- We delivered **222 workshops, rehearsals, training** and **artistic development sessions**



- Carousel returned to **Brighton Open Air Theatre** for **A Lark in the Park**, a celebration of **Carousel's 40th year**



# PEOPLE

## STAFF TEAM

**Lizzie Banks** (Deputy Artistic Director)  
**Kaori Bell** (Music Producer)  
**Gareth Evans** (Artistic Director)  
**Gus Garside** until Dec 2022  
**Liz Hall** (Director)  
**Hanneke Koekkoek** until Dec 2022  
**Dave Lavis** (Spoken Word & Event Producer)  
**Cassie Ledger** (Marketing Manager) from Mar 2023  
**Poppy Sullivan** (Marketing Assistant) from Apr 2023  
**Katy Swarbrick** (Oska Bright Producer)  
**Kitty Wallace** (Film & Digital Producer)

## TRUSTEES

**Kirsty Pentecost** (Chair)  
**Derek Swindells** (Secretary)  
**Pauline Wild** (Treasurer) until Apr 2023,  
**Liz Dollin** until Nov 2022, **Raisa Hassan**,  
**Claire Offley**, **Robbie Powell**, **Rich Warren**,  
**Sarah Watson**, **Jolene Wild** until Apr 2023

## FREELANCERS

**Carousel:** **Hannah Dunster** and **Shona Foster** (Chorus Producers), **Paul Dutnall** (Radio Producer), **Sue Stevens** (Bookkeeper)

**Film and Digital:** **Ollie Dolling**, **Matt Page**, **Alice Ross**, **Adam Sheldon**, **Johnny Tull**, **Boo Vaughan**, **Steve Oram**

**Music and Radio:** **Sam Baldwin**, **Mark Benton**, **Lizzy Carey**, **Andrew Cooper**, **Gary Cunningham**, **Claire Mathews**, **Vic Melody**, **Katie Windsor**

### Marketing, Photography & Design:


**Rosie Blackwell-Sutton**, **Ollie Denton**, **Helen James**, **Mariah Matthew**, **Amy Moss**, **Sarah Saeed**, **Billy Stone**, **Jason Warner**




**Other:** **Natasha Britton**, **Karen Flood**

## PARTNERS




The Creative Minds Network, Accessible Film Festival, Aesthetica, Attenborough Centre, Back to Back Theatre, Barbican, Barnes Film Festival, Battersea Arts Centre, BFI Southbank, Big Egg, Brighton Dome and Festival, Brighton Film School, British Council, Different Planet Arts, dreamthinkspeak, Espoo Cinema, Europejski Fesiwal, The Extraordinary Film Festival, Fabrica, Festival Inclus, Filmowy Integracia, Fflash Hub, Gig Buddies, Glasgow Film Theatre, Hazel Court School, Heart Venture, HOME, Hull Red, Hurly Burly Theatre, Klappe Auf, Konyaalti International Short Film Festival, Kultur and Art, Lift Music, Lighthouse, Manor Green School, Manor Green College, Mencap, MIX Copenhagen, Norwich Film Festival, One Bum Cinema Club, Onefest, Radio Reverb, Scott Cinema, Stay Up Late, Sunderland Short Film Festival, TAPE, The Old Market, Unity, Towner Art Gallery



 **Community Base**  
**113 Queens Road**  
**Brighton BN1 3XG**

 **01273 234 734**  
 **enquiries@carousel.org.uk**  
 **www.carousel.org.uk**

### GET IN TOUCH

 **/carouselartuk**  
 **@carouselartuk**  
 **@carouselartuk**

### DONATE

To support us, donate via **carousel.org.uk** or text the word **CAROUSEL** to **70450** to give any amount. We do not store your mobile data.

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President: The Mayor of Brighton & Hove  
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### CAROUSEL ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

Written and compiled by **Carousel**  
Photography by **Helen James** and **Jason Warner** at Fyrefly Studios  
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For an easy read version of the report, please call us.



### THANKS TO

**Malcolm Wright, ACE, BFI, Youth Music, Same Sky, all our volunteers, Community Base** and everyone who has supported our work in the past year.



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**ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND**

