

Society of Scottish Artists

Report and Accounts

Year Ended 30 June 2024

Scottish Charity No. SC009586

Society of Scottish Artists

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Society of Scottish Artists

Charity Information *for the year ended 30 June 2024*

Charity Number SC009586
HMRC Reference Number CR30360

Honorary President

Richard Demarco CBE

Trustee Members of the Council

Vasile Toch	President	retired 7/7/2024
Frank To	Vice-President	retired 7/7/2024
	Co-President	appointed 7/7/2024
Rick Ballard	(Honorary)	
Ewan John		retired 4/1/2024
Joan Smith		
Jill Skulina		retired 31/1/2024
Kerry Jones		retired 16/1/2024
Gill Walton	Co-President	appointed 7/7/2024
Carolyn Nurse		retired 27/11/23
Madeline Mackay	Co-President	appointed 7/7/2024
Michael Miller		
Luke Vinnicombe	Co-President	appointed 7/7/2024
Greg Byrce		appointed 7/7/2024
Vigha Pankaj		appointed 7/7/2024
Sharon Thomas	(Co-opted)	
Su Grierson	(Co-opted)	
Gillian McFarland	(Co-opted)	
Jenny Pope	(Co-opted)	retired 10/1/2024
Catherine Sargeant	(Co-opted)	
David Faithful	(Co-opted)	
Greg Bryce	(Co-opted)	retired 7/7/2024
Gabriele Jogelaite	(Co-opted)	retired 9/1/2024
Vibha Pankaj	(Co-opted)	retired 7/7/2024

Joint Administrators

Cheryl Connell
Lauren McLaughlin

Principal Address and OSCR Contact Address

30 Dick Place
Edinburgh
EH9 2JB
www.s-s-a.org
admin@s-s-a.org

Society of Scottish Artists

Charity Information (Cont.) *for the year ended 30 June 2024*

Bankers

Bank of Scotland
75 George Street
Edinburgh
EH2 3EW

Independent Examiner

David Jeffcoat F.C.C.A.
Alexander Sloan LLP
Accountants and Business Advisers
1 Lochrin Square, 92-98 Fountainbridge
Edinburgh, EH3 9QA

Society of Scottish Artists

Trustees' Annual Report *for the year ended 30 June 2024*

The Trustees are pleased to present their Report together with the Accounts for the year ended 30 June 2024.

Structure Governance & Management

Status of Charity and Governing Document

Society of Scottish Artists (“the charity”) is a Scottish Charity (No. SC009586).

Appointment and induction of Trustees

Trustees are appointed from the members and hold office subject to an annual vote of the members at the Annual General Meeting.

Charitable objectives and activities

The Society of Scottish Artists was founded in 1891 and is an artist-run organisation, which aims to promote and encourage experimentation and “the adventurous spirit” in Scottish art. Its main space for annual exhibitions has been the Royal Scottish Academy on Princes Street in Edinburgh.

Achievements and Performance

The Society continued to grow its membership. Other artistic initiatives and future developments are referred to in the Presidents’ report below.

President’s Report

The President’s Report covers the period from 1 July 2023, being the financial year covered by this Report up to February 2025 being the date the Report was approved by the Trustees.

As a result, it contains information on events held during the period Vasile Toch was President up to 7th July 2024, the date of his retirement and also events held thereafter post the appointment (on the same date) of Frank To and Luke Vinnicombe as Co-Presidents, and Vice-Presidents Gill Walton and Madeline Mackay.

The SSA delivered a full and varied programme of exhibitions and events during this time, and began to explore the option of converting the legal form of SSA to a Scottish Charitable Incorporated organisation (SCIO), in order to future-proof the society and function more effectively in a contemporary context.

As a member led organisation, a consultation phase was initiated in June 2024 whereby SSA Members were issued with a SCIO briefing document, frequently asked questions and a member questionnaire to complete and hosted three Q&A sessions led by a SCIO working group made up of key members of the SSA Council.

The Caledonian Club Exhibition (19 June - 14 July 2023)

The SSA exhibited with the Caledonian Club, London providing an opportunity for SSA Professional members to exhibit their work outside Scotland and to have a representation in London.

26 Professional Members were selected to exhibit from a total of 107 applications. Selected works were exhibited alongside invited artist Alasdair Wallace.

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Big Art Show Paisley (13 August - 18 November 2023)

Once again supporting this opportunity in collaboration with Outspoken Arts Scotland: The Society of Scottish Artists & Outspoken Arts prize: £200 cash prize plus a 1 year's free SSA membership. Selected artist: Daniel Ibbotson

SSA at The Maclaurin Gallery (125th Annual Exhibition) 19 November 2023 - 14 January 2024

The 125th SSA Annual Exhibition, one of the largest and most prestigious shows of contemporary art in Scotland, was held in Ayr for the first time in The Maclaurin Art Gallery. The exhibition included three paintings by Peter Howson OBE, one of Scotland's leading contemporary painters and patron of The Maclaurin Art Gallery.

144 selected artworks were presented from local, national and international artists throughout five galleries alongside Cutlog's moving image presentation screening 11 works. Committed to supporting the next generation of artists, the SSA selectors chose 12 New Graduate Award winners from the 2023 Degree Shows across Scotland.

The exhibition was highlighted and reviewed in a number of news and media outlets including The Times, The Scotsman, The Herald and The Ayrshire Post.

17 of the 27 sponsors who offered awards in 2022 supported the 2023 Annual Exhibition (a 37 per cent drop). While the majority did not provide reasons for choosing not to offer an award this year, some did: including specifically noting the West Coast location as a challenge, or that they will renew when the Annual returns to Edinburgh and or the RSA. A few confirmed award givers visited the show but made no selection.

Accompanying events included guided tours of the exhibition by Vasile Toch to local art clubs and pupils of Belmont Academy, Ayr. There was also a lecture; Ukraine: The importance of Culture in a time of War by Dr Giles Sutherland.

SSA Mentoring Programme

The Mentoring programme comprised of 'one to one mentoring' and 'group mentoring' and was delivered to SSA members from July 2022 to June 2023 followed by an evaluation period and a digital evaluation tool produced. These evaluation findings, conclusions and recommendations were presented at:

1. Connect and Grow Exhibition (17 Nov. 2023): SSA Mentoring Programme Learning Event, held at Cass Art Space, Glasgow. This event was attended by the participants of the SSA Mentoring Project and Creative Scotland.
2. Scottish Executive Parliamentary event (6th March 2024) chaired by Clare Adamson MSP which had invited guests from various organisations.

The findings and recommendations emerging from the project evaluation were very well received at both events.

Programme 2024

Parliament Event: SSA, Making Scottish Art Matter since 1891 (6 March 2024)

The Burns Room, Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh

The event aimed to raise awareness about the contribution of SSA to Scottish culture and to share the opportunities that could be created for art through potential collaboration with the Scottish Government. The event was attended by SSA Council and invited guests which included parliamentarians, academics, museum curators and artists. Speeches included overview of SSA history, SSA structure, aims, and presented the findings and recommendations emerging from evaluation of Mentoring Programme for Artists (funded by Creative Scotland) and included talk by Rhona McGuire on the subject of challenges faced by new graduate artists.

Clare Adamson, MSP, complimented SSA on its activities and achievements and thanked everyone present for attending the event.

Essay Project (From April 2024)

The SSA Essay Project is an ongoing project for members, launched in April 2024 with a monthly submission published on the SSA website and circulated via members newsletter. It is intended to highlight the creative thinking of our members and provide a platform for expressing and sharing our opinions on art, life and the world.

The essay programme is open to all members of the SSA. It could in the future include contributions from invited artists, art critics, journalists, philosophers and other professionals who may have an interest in the arts.

Engramme Exchange (10 May – 16 June 2024)

Successful solo exhibition Vivarium at Engramme, Quebec with selected artist SSA Professional Member Jodi Le Bigre and 10 artwork sales were made. Delighted to be collaborating with Engramme once again this year, a twelve-year-old partnership creating a vibrant dialogue between artists based in Scotland and Canada.

Professional Members Election

15 new SSA Professional Members were elected in June 2024: Rachel Duckhouse, Nicola McNally, Valerie Mclean, Valerie O'Regan, Hetty Haxworth, Greg Bryce, Tom Cartmill, Olivia Irvine, Jane Hunter, Alexander Nisbet, Mary May, Judith Shaylor, Marion Barron, Agnes Eperjesy and Amy Dury.

SSA Graduate Awards 2024

Degree Shows continued to offer diversity and high-quality of work. 12 graduates from Scottish universities and degree shows were selected and each provided with £100 towards supporting transport or presentation of their work in the 126th Annual Exhibition at the Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh.

Two member exhibitions were held during summer 2024 at Gairloch Museum and Old Gala House.

Ulaidhean/Treasures | SSA at Gairloch Museum (6 July - 28 September 2024)

Working alongside Gairloch Museum for our first collaboration with them. The title of the exhibition is in both Gaelic and English (pronounced OOLIAN) Ulaidhean/ Treasures. Over 200 submissions, 50 works selected from a full breadth of disciplines, and demonstrated the talent of the SSA members. The exhibition included invited artist, Pen Reid.

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SSA AT OLD GALA HOUSE | THREADS (20 July - 30 September 2024)

New opportunity to exhibit work at Old Gala House in Galashiels with the compelling theme of Threads. The exhibition included work by invited artist Denise Zygadlo alongside selected works by 39 SSA members who responded to themes explored in the Great Tapestry of Scotland.

Big Art Show Paisley 2024 (30 August – 16 November)

We were delighted to once again support this opportunity in collaboration with Outspoken Arts Scotland: The Society of Scottish Artists & Outspoken Arts prize included £200 plus a 1 year's free SSA membership. Selected artist: Martin Evans

Eichstätt Residency (September 2024)

Joanne Pemberton was selected for the Eichstätt Lithography Residency 2024 and upon completion of the residency in September, Joanne's resulting work was exhibited at the 126th Annual Exhibition.

This bi-annual Lithography Residency Prize includes a period of time working in the studio and a solo exhibition with an opening reception. It is offered by SSA working in partnership with Li Portenlänger, Director of Lithographie-Werkstatt Eichstätt in Bavaria, Germany.

126th Annual Exhibition | RSA, Edinburgh (16 November – 11 December 2024)

This year marked the return of the SSA Annual Exhibition to the Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh. The SSA Annual Exhibition is one of the largest contemporary art exhibitions in Scotland. The exhibition is produced entirely by artists with no public funding and took place at the Royal Scottish Academy, The Mound, Edinburgh.

The exhibition included work selected from the General Submissions and Proposals & Installations open calls as well as the New Graduate Awards, SSA 30x30, and invited artists from the SSA Engramme Exchange, Eichstätt residency and SSA Awardees.

The annual exhibition achieved a wider range of national press coverage from the year previous. This included the Times, The Herald, The Scotsman, The National and Press & Journal. In addition, there were 24 Award Sponsors (21 in the year previous) of which were all fulfilled and included the J&W Gordon Smith award.

Frank To & Luke Vinnicombe
Co-Presidents
January 2025

Society of Scottish Artists

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Financial Review

Results for the Year

The charity's *Statement of Receipts and Payments* reflect a Surplus for the year of £3,776 (2023 – Deficit £25,824).

Reserves Policy

The Trustees' policy is to maintain unrestricted funds at a level equating to at least approximately three months of unrestricted expenditure and thereby help to maintain the charity's ongoing work. Per the *Statement of Balances*, the General Fund at 30 June 2024 amounted to £56,211 (2023 - £49,467) which, although above the required level, was acceptable to the Trustees. Total Reserves, including Restricted Funds, are £58,392 as at 30 June 2024.

Risks to which the charity is exposed

The trustees consider that due to its small size and its simplicity there is no material risk to which it is exposed. The situation is reviewed at each meeting. A principal concern is the annual charge by the National Gallery of Scotland (NGS) for use of the RSA, which is the most significant cost that the Society incurs. We are grateful to The Exhibiting Societies of Scottish Artists (ESSA) for liaising with NGS in order to agree the terms of our use of the RSA.

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the charity's financial position and enable them to ensure that the Accounts comply with the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended) and the provisions of the charity's Constitution. They are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are also responsible for the contents of the trustees' report and the responsibility of the independent examiner in relation to the trustees' report is limited to examining the report and ensuring that, on the face of the report, there are no inconsistencies with the figures disclosed in the financial statements.

Independent Examiner

The Trustees recommend that David Jeffcoat F.C.C.A., a Partner with Alexander Sloan LLP, Accountants and Business Advisers, remains in office as Independent Examiner until further notice.

This Report was approved by the Trustees on 17 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:



Rick Ballard
Trustee

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of Society of Scottish Artists

I report on the Accounts of the charity for the year ended 30 June 2024 which are set out on pages 11 to 13.

Respective Responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

The charity's Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Accounts in accordance with the terms of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended). The charity Trustees consider that the audit requirement of Regulation 10(1) (d) of the 2006 Accounts Regulations does not apply. It is my responsibility to examine the Accounts as required under Section 44(1) (c) of the 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 Regulation 11 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations. 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 seeks 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 I do not express an audit opinion on the view given by the Accounts.

Independent Examiner's Statement

In the course of 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 44(1) (a) of the 2005 Act and Regulation 4 of the 2006 Accounts Regulations, and
 - to prepare Accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with Regulation 9 of the 2006 Accounts Regulationshave 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.

David Jeffcoat

David Jeffcoat F.C.C.A.

Partner

Alexander Sloan LLP
Accountants and Business Advisers

1 Lochrin Square
92-98 Fountainbridge
Edinburgh
EH3 9QA

Date: 21/2/2025

Society of Scottish Artists

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ended 30 June 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted		Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
		General Fund £	Restricted Funds £		
Receipts					
Voluntary Income					
Subscriptions		56,437	-	56,437	52,674
Donations		1,500	-	1,500	150
Income from Charitable Activities					
Exhibition receipts		5,220	-	5,220	43,609
Sponsorship prizes		3,179	-	3,179	8,269
Exhibition submission fees		3,253	-	3,253	4,109
Catalogue and ticket sales		48	-	48	15,934
Creative Scotland Funding		-	7,391	7,391	-
Other		411	-	411	1,495
		-	-	-	-
Total Receipts		70,048	7,391	77,439	126,240
Payments					
Charitable Activities					
Artists' work, net of commission		4,064	-	4,064	32,765
Catalogue design and printing		3,699	-	3,699	7,128
ESSA - levy and RSA costs		-	-	-	11,398
Reception and hospitality		174	-	174	1,372
Transport, van hire		290	-	290	2,543
Hanging and other exhibition expenses		11,903	-	11,903	25,887
Prizes to artists		3,600	-	3,600	4,600
Exhibition staffing costs		-	-	-	10,417
Publicity adverts, newsletter and subscriptions		2,366	-	2,366	3,406
Creative Scotland expenditure		-	10,359	10,359	14,425
Administration payments					
Secretarial, administrator		26,140	-	26,140	26,293
Council/administrator expenses		3,049	-	3,049	602
Bank and Paypal charges		1,295	-	1,295	2,057
Post, stationery and telephone		-	-	-	901
Website maintenance		1,366	-	1,366	3,039
I.T.: Interactive Technology		4,302	-	4,302	3,785
Governance Costs					
Independent Examiner's Fee		1,056	-	1,056	1,446
Total Payments		63,304	10,359	73,663	152,064
Net Receipts/(Payments)		6,744	(2,968)	3,776	(25,824)
Transfers	2 & 3	-	-	-	-
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		6,744	(2,968)	3,776	(25,824)

The Notes form an integral part of these Accounts.

Society of Scottish Artists

Statement of Balances at 30 June 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted General Fund £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bank and Cash in Hand					
Opening balances		49,467	5,149	54,616	80,440
Surplus/(Deficit) for the year		6,744	(2,968)	3,776	(25,824)
Closing Balances		56,211	2,181	58,392	54,616
Reserves					
General Fund		56,211	-	56,211	49,467
Restricted Funds	5	-	2,181	2,181	5,149
Closing Balances		56,211	2,181	58,392	54,616
Liabilities					
Independent Examiner's Fee, including VAT		1,110	-	1,110	1,046
Accountancy Support		-	-	-	-
		1,110	-	1,110	1,046

Approved by the Trustees on 17 February 2025 and signed on their behalf by:

Rick Ballard

Rick Ballard

Trustee

The Notes form an integral part of these Accounts.

1. Basis of Accounting

The Accounts have been prepared on a Receipts and Payments basis in accordance with the Charities and Trustees Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 and the Charities Accounts (Scotland) Regulations 2006 (as amended).

Funds

For the purpose of the *Statement of Receipts and Payments* and the *Statement of Balances*, Funds comprise the following:

The General Fund comprises grants and other income received for use at the discretion of the Directors in furtherance of the charity's purposes.

Restricted Funds are subject to specific conditions by donors as to how they may be used. The purposes and uses of the Restricted Funds are set out below.

2. Going Concern

The charity is a going concern and is heavily dependent on the continuing support of its subscribing members, both professional and lay.

3. Taxation

As a registered charity, the society 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 society and is therefore included in any relevant costs.

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 objects similar to those of the charity.

4. Remuneration of Trustees

The executive committee, who are Trustees, receive no remuneration

5. Restricted Funds

	Balance at 01.07.23	Receipts	Payments	Transfers	Balance at 30.06.24
	£	£	£	£	£
Creative Scotland	5,149	7,391	(10,359)	-	2,181
	<u>5,149</u>	<u>7,391</u>	<u>(10,359)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,181</u>

Purpose of Restricted Funds

Creative Scotland

Represents funds received towards the cost to provide peer to peer mentoring for both emerging and established artists within the membership of the Society of Scottish Artists over the life of the programme which extended into the first half of 2024.