

A N N U A L
R E P O R T
2 0 1 5

2015


AUSPICIOUS
ARTS
PROJECTS
INC.

OFFERING
ASSISTANCE TO
THE OBSESSED



auspicious
arts
projects^{inc}

A LOOK BACK A



In the calm of early January before we explode into action with this year's projects and funding rounds, it is incredibly satisfying to reflect on 2015 which has been the biggest in our 23 year history.

Overall, 2015 has seen Auspicious increase in activity by around 20%. As well as managing a steadily growing number of independent artists' projects within the Victorian sector, Auspicious is also undertaking more projects interstate. 2015 has also seen the broadening of artforms attracted to Auspicious, including more visual arts projects than ever before.

A key feature of this year is the growth of our partnership with the City of Melbourne. In the past we have auspiced artists working on their projects, however, now we are becoming integral to the overall management of the program. A special mention must be made of

T 2015



the work done on this by Deirdre O'Brien. Overseeing over 70 projects for the City of Melbourne alone, Deirdre's management ensured that all went ahead successfully.

Growing also are our sister organisations, The Auspicious Arts Incubator and Auspicious Arts Productions. The Incubator, under the inspiring leadership of John Paul Fischbach, exists to take artists who have been in practice for a number of years and train them to move their practice or Not-for-Profit to a fully sustainable business.

Auspicious Arts Productions grew out of Theatre at Risk and is the Auspicious branch that produces and presents 'new theatre for new audiences'. Under the steady hand of producer Selene Bateman they have

undertaken a number of co-productions over the past two years and have a several new productions in the pipeline for 2016.

Financially we have ended the year with a modest surplus and are approaching our target Working Capital reserve. This is very pleasing, especially in the light of the fact that we have increased to five and a half full time staff. For me the most pleasing thing is that while everyone works really hard, Auspicious is a really good place to be and to work. Thank you to everyone for making this so.

The growth of Auspicious was not planned, it has happened organically. We began 23 years ago with

the idea that we would put our faith in the artists to make the right decisions and we would be here to 'Offer Assistance to the Obsessed'. Any artist with a project could come in and we would partner them whilst remaining artistically inert. The fact that we have grown steadily for over two decades proves that our faith in their ability to make the right decisions is well founded.

Auspicious exists to not only 'offer assistance to the obsessed' but to prove a political point. If you dig deep enough into the practice of some organisations and the

underlying ideologies that inform arts policy and some decision making, you can find evidence of a 'fear of the artist'. The notion that we need to protect the community from artists, protect the organisation from an artist making potentially disastrous decisions, and protect the artist from themselves! Auspicious exists to prove that those attitudes are total nonsense.

The safest and most conservative thing you can do is to trust the artist.

John Paxinos
Executive Director

FINANCIALS

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT DECEMBER 31 2015

	NOTES	2015 \$	2014 \$
CURRENT ASSETS			
Cash and cash equivalents	4	2,446,662	1,801,900
Trade and other receivables	5	967,170	1,064,928
Other		58,050	30,421
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS		3,471,882	2,897,249
NON-CURRENT ASSETS			
Property, plant & equip	6	12,149	13,638
TOTAL NON-CURRENT ASSETS		12,149	13,638
TOTAL ASSETS		3,484,031	2,910,887
CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Trade and other payables	7	442,455	201,803
Grant funds carried forward		2,868,263	2,567,445
Short term provisions payable		10,792	9,462
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES		3,321,510	2,778,710
NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Long term provision payable		11,372	11,372
TOTAL NON-CURRENT LIABILITIES		11,372	11,372
TOTAL LIABILITIES		3,332,881	2,790,082
NET ASSETS		151,149	120,805
EQUITY			
Retained Earnings		151,149	120,805
TOTAL EQUITY		151,149	120,805

STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME AS AT DECEMBER 31 2015

	NOTES	2015 \$	2014 \$
REVENUE			
Funding		1,818,213	2,517,620
Local government		2,712,673	2,076,623
Event Income		3,366,555	1,774,747
Reimbursements & transfers		775,076	(435,794)
TOTAL REVENUE	2	8,612,517	5,933,195
EXPENDITURE			
Salaries, wages & fees		5,676,196	3,587,451
Wage overheads & allowances		742,730	474,000
Production costs		1,295,133	1,125,049
Marketing		340,837	224,712
Overheads & project admin		587,277	468,459
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	3	8,642,173	5,879,671
SURPLUS (DEFICIT)		30,344	53,525

Figures correct at time of publishing. The final audited financial statement can be found at auspicious.com.au

THE ARTISTS

Aaron Choulai, Absolutely Awetistic Arts, ACCA, Alice Heyward, Alicia Talbot, Amanda Fairbanks, Amelia Ducker, Amelia McQueen, Amy Spiers & Catherine Ryan, Andrew Garton, Angus Cerini, Anna Loewendahl, Annasophia Larsen, Anni Davey, Annie Edney, Artistic Merit, Asha Bee Abraham, Asking For Trouble, Ayleen Ohanlan, Azaria Universe, Baby Guerrilla, Barangaroo Delivery Authority, Bart Willoughby, Bec Reid, Bek Berger, Bethany Simons, Bindi Green, Black Apple Theatre, Bluebottle, Brett Ashby, Carly Heard, Cat Pwiti, Chantal Wynter, Chi Vu, Chitra Mangma, Christine Davey, City Of Melbourne, Con Emmanuelle, Critical Animals, Damian Callinan, Dan Goronszy, Darebin City Council, Dario Va Circa, David Finnigan, David Garner, David Paterson, David Young, Dig Collective, Duncan Foster, Ella Lehaf, Emily Goddard, Evelyn Krape, Federation Square, Finucane And Smith, Follies Company, Genevieve Lacey, Geoff Dunstan & Ruccis, Georgia Spain, Gravity Dolls, Greg Pritchard, Gregory Crocetti & Scale Free Network, Hamish Fletcher, Hanna Presley, Helen Herbertson, Hellen Sky, Here Studios, Holly Block, Ingrid Revaug, Ira Seidenstein, James Brennan, James Pratt, Jane Woolard, Janet Watson-Kruse, Jeff Achtem, Jeminah Reidy, Jennifer Hamilton, Jenny Kemp, Jeph Neale, Jessica Bellamy, Jessica Wilson, Jo Lloyd, Jodee Mundy Collaborations, Jodie Harris, John Gillies, John Harvey, Joseph O'Farrell, Joseph Sherman, Joseph Simons, Joyce Watts, Kasia Kaczmarek, Kat Pengelly, Kate Hood,

Kate Neal, Kath Papas Productions, Katherine Dine, Katie Eagles & Emily Cheesman (Cheeseagle), Katrina Cornwell, Kelly Ryall, Kerensa Diball, Lee Lai, Liz Dunn, Luke George, Madeleine Flynn & Tim Humphrey, Madotti And Vegas, Mariaa Randall, Matt Scholten, Maybe () Together, Melinda Hetzel, Mick Douglas, Mikangelo, Nana Bilus Abaffy, Nancy Sposato, Natalie Cursio, Nerrida Weller, Nicci Wilks, Nicola Gunn, Not Yet Its Difficult, One Step At Time Like This, Pants Down Circus, Patricia Cornelius, Paul Kooperman, Paula Curotte, Performing Older Women's Circus, Perri Cummings, Philip Millar, Poppyseed Festival, Rachel Hallinan, Rachel Leary, Rajendra Moodley, Rebecca Jensen & Sarah Aiken, Regional Arts Victoria, Renae Shadler, Rockie Stone, Rosalind Crisp, Rosemary Johns, Roz Hammond, Russell Fletcher & Sarah Kinsella (The Decent People), Samara Hersch, Sandra Parker, Sarah Houbolt, Sarah Howell & Homecooked Comics Festival, Sarah Kriegler, Sarah Pheasant, Sarah Ward, Sausage Dog Productions, Seesault, Shian Law, Shiree Pilkinton, Simon Litchfield, Sisters Grimm, Sonya Soares, Stefanie Robinson, Street Smart, Susie Dee, Susie Thatcher, Suzie Hardgrave, Tamasin Simpkin, The Blacksea Gentlemen, The Latin Craft Women's Group, The Rabble, Theresa O'Connor, Tiffany Bishop Collective, Tim Darbyshire, Tipping Point Australia, Tony Yap Company, Tracy Sarroff, Triage Live Arts Collective, Tristan Meecham, Weave Movement Theatre, Wolf Heidecker, Yuhui Ng-Rodriguez, Yumi Umiumare, Zulya Kamalova.

We would like to thank the following artistic directors, individual artists, festivals, companies, community groups and city councils who entrusted their projects to us in 2015.

2015 BY THE NUMBERS

114

SUCCESSFUL
FUNDING
APPLICATIONS

IN FUNDING
RECEIVED

1.8m

2.6m

TOTAL
BOX OFFICE
& FEES

SUCCESSFUL
VICARTS
APPLICATIONS

33%

316

PROJECTS

CLIENTS

175

STAFF & BOARD

Our incredibly dedicated staff team continue to go above and beyond. In a week of two funding deadlines (and in 2015 there were a lot of deadlines), they submitted an astounding 80 applications equating to a collective in-kind contribution to independent artists of \$30,000. Sincere thanks for your tireless efforts.

2015 STAFF

John Paxinos
Executive Director

Deirdre O'Brien
Client Manager

Selene Bateman
Client Manager

Megan Williams
Client Manager

Pippa O'Brien
Client Manager

Lainey Maculloch
Client Manager

Shadi Habash
Accountant

Julia Paxinos
Marketing

AUSPICIOUS BOARD

Salli Longmuir
President

Suzanne Daley
Vice President

John Paul Fischbach
Secretary

John Paxinos
Treasurer

Sue Hunt
Committee Member

Deirdre O'Brien
Committee Member

Selene Bateman
Committee Member

THE FUNDING BODIES

The following organisations provided funding and other financial support for projects auspiced in 2015:

Arts House
Australia Council
Banyle City Council
City of Boroodara
City of Darebin
City of Greater Geelong
City of Kingston
City of Melbourne
City of Port Phillip
City of Stonnington
City of Sydney
City of Yarra
Country Arts WA
Creative Partnerships Australia
Creative Victoria
Department of Justice
Department of Veteran Affairs
Hobson Bay City Council
Maribyrnong City Council
Ministry For The Arts
Moreland City Council
Regional Arts NSW
Regional Arts Victoria
Wyndham City Council
Yarra Ranges Council