

the boife

A woman with dark braids is sitting on a concrete ledge in front of a multi-story building. She is wearing a black jacket and has her hand resting on her chin, looking thoughtfully to the right. The building behind her has several windows and a staircase with a white railing. The sky is clear and blue. There are orange graphic elements in the top left and top right corners of the image.

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

The Boîte Annual Report 2022

the boîte

Prepared for the Annual General Meeting
Tuesday March 28th 2023 7pm
Mark St Hall, Fitzroy North

The Boîte is Victoria's iconic multicultural music organisation, creating opportunities for culturally diverse music to contribute to a richer, more inclusive Australia. Founded in 1979, it supports artists from diverse communities, promoting cultural understanding through the dynamic presentation of unique musical experiences, and nurtures creativity, collaboration, access to and active participation in the arts.

Committee 2022

Chair: Anthony Schulz
Deputy Chair: Michael Martinez
Secretary: Spira Stojanovik
Treasurer: Malathi Vasudevan
Members: Liliana Hajncl, Ramnath Iyer, Fotis Kapetopoulos,
Leyla Varela, Therese Virtue OAM, Hannah Young

Staff

Director: Zulya Kamalova
Programs: Therese Virtue OAM
Project Manager: Susan Wright
Marketing and Portfolio Project: Ellen Chan
Members and Donors: Leah Healy
Office Manager: Anthea Sidiropoulos and Claudine Edwards
Volunteer Box Office: Kerry Scaletti

Professional Support

Accounts: White Sky Music
Auditors: Banksgroup
Design: Jesslyn Lo and Devil Dog Design
Printing: Pressroom and MAD Printing
Photography: Roger King, Leong Chan, Ellen Chan, Claire Warren

Annual Report Contributors

Anthony Schulz
Zulya Kamalova
Therese Virtue OAM
Susan Wright
Ellen Chan
Anne Norman
Leah Healy
Claudine Edwards
Suzanne Grasso



Acknowledgement of Country

The Boîte acknowledges the Traditional Owners and custodians of the many lands throughout Victoria where our artists perform. The Boîte especially acknowledges the Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nations on whose land The Boîte operates at Abbotsford Convent. We honour and pay our respects to Elders past, present and emerging.

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Chair's Report

2022 saw the establishment of a mainly new committee of management after what has been a number of tumultuous years. This was due to unavoidable external pressures and some staff changes that, while somewhat disruptive, have ultimately led to a new and revitalised organisation. From the outset, the new committee acknowledged the multi-faceted expectations that Zulya Kamalova, as the incoming director of The Boîte, was facing in her new role. The Boîte was and still is revisioning its future in response to a shift in source funding revenue. This has resulted in the exploration of new ways to position the organisation in an increasingly competitive Arts and Music environment.

As a matter of principle, the committee of management immediately expressed its wholehearted endorsement of Zulya Kamalova as the incoming director. We support her exciting vision for the organisation as it moves forward with initiatives that include increased community engagement and focused pursuit of funding sources and alternative revenue streams. Throughout the year, committee meetings and planning days have produced robust and productive discussions that have paved the way for practical steps toward a more financially resilient organisation.

Behind the scenes, there has been considerable progress made towards the establishment of a new Customer Relations Management platform. This will allow for greater flexibility in terms of how the various administrative aspects of the organisation talk to each other, as well as improved data collection that will further inform decisions about The Boîte's future direction. The Committee acknowledges the excellent work of Spira Stojanovik in guiding the organisation through this complex and lengthy process.

The committee of management has focused on the continuous improvement of governance and other legal expectations of The Boîte. This will ensure the organisation can confidently and securely move towards a productive and expansive future.

Of course, most importantly, The Boîte has once again delivered 12 months of remarkable multicultural music concerts, workshops and projects. These are at the core of what makes The Boîte the unique and undeniably relevant organisation it is. The goal of bringing people together to make and experience music from around the world here in Australia has been achieved once again. The committee acknowledges the work of all Boîte staff in their ongoing commitment to presenting multicultural music in Australia.



Anthony Schulz
Committee of Management Chair

Director's Report



It's been a year full of opportunities to learn as I have settled into the role of Director of The Boîte. Although 2022 was a vast improvement on the previous couple of years, it was not without its challenges. The Boîte experienced a number of staff changes which particularly impacted on administrative support with Anthea Sidiropoulos leaving half-way through the year followed by Leah Healy who is currently on maternity leave. I would like to express my gratitude to Anthea for her excellent work during her time with The Boîte and congratulate Leah on the birth of her daughter. We are looking forward to Leah's return in a few months. In August we appointed a new office manager, Claudine Edwards, whose skills and expertise have proven to be a great fit for our organization.

When I commenced the role of Director in February 2022, I quickly identified that the main priority was to raise additional funds to ensure The Boîte could continue to deliver its vision of supporting culturally diverse music. As a result of this renewed focus on funding, The Boîte successfully secured over \$320,000 for projects delivered over the 2022/23 period. Additionally, The Boîte raised over \$50,000 through donations. Furthermore, The Boîte's profile was raised through the creation of important liaisons across the arts sector as well as the development of partnerships with a variety of organisations including Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria, Multicultural Arts Victoria, Music Victoria, and La Mama Theatre to name a few.

2022 was rich with events and happenings. We have delivered a great number of impactful events and once again supported many culturally diverse artists and communities. We have made further steps towards developing our Reconciliation Action Plan, including Cultural Awareness Training from a Wurrundjeri Elder, Uncle Bill Nicholson Jr. The Boîte is excited to have supported the development of a brand new Boîte Schools Chorus program focused on the culture of the Torres Strait Islands prepared in collaboration with educator and musician Deb Lowah Clark, proud Torres Strait Islander with Mer and Moa Island heritage, and Meriam cultural advisor Luke Captain. This program will be delivered in 2023.

The Boîte has always strongly believed in the spirit of community, cooperation and mutual support. Many of our programs in 2022 like The Portfolio Project, Sparrows of Kabul and Tapping into my Silent Voice are a testament to that. In the same spirit, we have initiated and raised funds to support several inter-cultural collaborations which will be presented in 2023 as part of The Music Between series, featuring collaborations between artists from Iran, India, Indonesia and Italy as well as a broader community of musicians.

I would like to thank everyone who has contributed to the success of 2022: The Boîte's staff, the artists, audiences, funding bodies, community partners, and volunteers, especially our wonderful

new volunteer Con Pagonis who played a huge role in bringing the Afghanistani community together for Sparrows of Kabul concert; Kerry Scaletti, who has been supporting The Boîte for many years; the radio presenters of Music Sans Frontières who all volunteer their expertise; and the Melbourne Georgian Choir, which is organised on a purely voluntary basis by a dedicated subcommittee led by Roger King.

Finally, as Director of The Boîte, I would like to extend my thanks to the staff for delivering another fantastic year of musical experiences made all the more impressive when considering that the organisation (and Australia as a whole) is still recovering from the pandemic, staff changes and adjusting to the new ways of working. I am very proud of what The Boîte has achieved and extend my gratitude to the committed and hardworking staff, and in particular, Therese Virtue for her support as I have taken my first steps in leading this wonderful organisation into the future. I would also like to thank the committee of management for their understanding and encouragement and I look forward to another exciting year of beautiful events and explorations of cultural diversity.

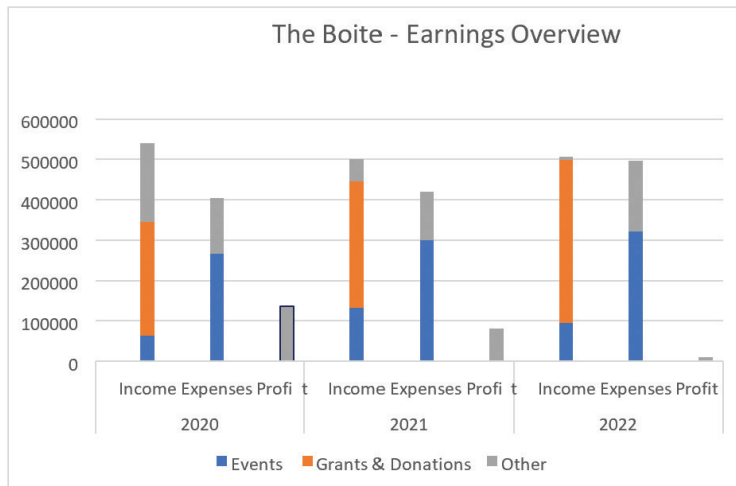
Zulya Kamalova
Director

Treasurer's Report

The Boîte, like the rest of the world, has been transitioning out of COVID-19. The loss of Jobkeeper and government cashflow boosts have been replaced by Events Income and Grants, Fundraising and Donations:

	Year ending 2021	Year ending 2022
Surplus	\$80.8K	\$9,401.74
Total Income	\$500.8K	\$506K
Total Expenses	\$420K	\$497K
Closing Cash	\$309K	\$383.6K
Earned Income	\$133K	\$94K
Grants	\$226K	\$355K
Fundraising & Donations	\$56K	\$57K

As shown below, Event Expenses are nearly the same as 2021 but Other Expenses have more than doubled:



These Expenses have resulted in a much reduced Net Profit for the year.

This is due to:

- Increased advertising and promotions to show our presence post-COVID-19
- Investment in major software upgrades in Accounting and Event Management
- Staff costs to cover Maternity Leave and new appointments

Malathi Vasudevan
Treasurer

Fundraising

In 2022 we raised over \$320,000 from local, state and federal bodies in addition to \$52,801.87 in cash donations from 191 donors.

Our EOFY campaign in June 2022 was one of our most profitable EOFY campaigns raising over \$18,000. Over \$14,000 of this was raised online, making it our most successful online donation campaign ever. Donations made during this campaign included our loyal ongoing donors as well as around 30% new donors. We would also like to extend a very special thanks to the Peter Yates Foundation for their donation of \$21,000 and Robert Salzer for their donation of \$15,000.



Below is a list of some of our 2022 donors:

Judy Avisar, Alda Balthrop-Lewis, Jasmin Bardel, Sue Berwick, Olga M. Black, Marlies Blatz, Anne Bolitho, Delia Bradshaw, Pamela Bruder, Wendy Carr, Yee Ning Chan, Min Li Chong, Priscilla Clarke OAM, Tom Dellanno, Miffy Edwards, Deidre Egan, Anna Epstein, Jill Forsyth, Gayle Gardner, Evan Gellert, Ernie Gruner, Angelina Hajncl, Terry and Christina Hart, Kathy Henderson, King Hin Ho, Janet and Graham Hodgson, Sue Johnson, Roger King OAM, Petr Kuzmin, Kathy Laster, Hilary Luxford, Robert Macfarlane, Jeannie Marsh, Jorg Metz, Benny and Denise Monheit, Judy Morawetz-Avisar, Joan Powling, Pam Rycroft, Nina Sanadze, Roslyn Semler, Alannah Sheridan, Anthea Sidiropoulos, (the late) Popi and Theo Sidiropoulos, Janey Stone, Mardi Stow, Noriko Tadano, Judy Tregear, Crina Virgona, Therese Virtue OAM, Chris Watson and Orietta Wheatley.

There are more, and we acknowledge your generosity too. We thank all of our loyal long term donors and to the people who donated to us for the first time in 2022.

21

Venues

50

Performances

5000+

Performance attendees

21+37

Tapestry classes & program facilitated sessions

Music Sans Frontières

50+50

Programs & interviews with Australian artists

73%

Australian music content



184

Members

102

Choir rehearsals

10+14

Portfolio artists
& facilitated sessions

\$320,000+

Grant funding

191

Donors

\$50,000+

Donations



HIGHLIGHTS

Freedom Road



The massed choir production of Freedom Road was originally intended to be staged on its 10th anniversary in 2021 but the COVID-19 pandemic intervened, preventing the concert from going ahead till May 2022. Involving over 125 singers, a four piece band and four soloists, the concert was a joyful expression of finally singing together after years apart.

Challenging to sing and exciting to perform, Freedom Road explores gospel music's rich beginnings in Africa and its journey from plantation work songs, to church and the Civil Rights movement. Held in regional Victoria, the production involved an intensive weekend in March and then six weekends of rehearsals, culminating in a fabulous concert at the Ulumbarra Theatre in Bendigo. Many congratulations must go to our intrepid Choir and Artistic Director Stella Savy as well as the Freedom Road house band. The formation of the choir as well as the performance itself has left a Boîte shaped mark on the Bendigo musical landscape.



As part of The Boîte Spring Festival and in partnership with Kingston Arts Centre, Fred Smith and his band presented Sparrows of Kabul, an extraordinary song cycle exploring Australia's involvement in Afghanistan, highlighting the courage and tenacity of thousands of Afghanistans who risked everything during the fall of Kabul for a better life in Australia.



Sparrows of Kabul was supported by The Kabul Birds Band in their first performance in Melbourne. Inspired by the Afghanistani community in Australia and Fred Smith's work, The Kabul Birds Band was formed by Ravy Qasimi to give Afghanistani musicians an opportunity to share their music and culture with the broader community. Musicians were drawn from both Melbourne and Sydney, including Australian born and more recent arrivals.

The Boîte was thrilled to receive a high level of support from the local Afghanistani community and Kingston Arts centre for this event. We are indebted to Boîte volunteer Con Pagonis for his assistance in working with local community groups to ensure they were aware of this event and keen to attend. We were very pleased to have an Elder from the Bunurong Land Council Aboriginal Corporation in attendance as well as Vivienne Ngyuen from the Victorian Multicultural Commission. The concert was recorded by 3ZZZ for a delayed broadcast. The event was supported by the Victorian Government through their Multicultural Festivals and Events Program.

Sparrows of Kabul



The Boîte Spring Festival staged a number of performances across Melbourne, including Pal Mar, a duo from Colombia, and Karina Lehman, a singer-songwriter from Chile, showcasing Pop, Latin, Bossa Nova and tropical music at the Retreat Hotel. Melbourne Tango Orchestra, featuring the quintessential symbol of Argentinean tango, the notorious bandoneón, played at Box Hill Community Arts Centre. Saltana Band, playing music, songs and dance from Syria, appeared at the Edendale Community Environment Farm, Eltham, in partnership with the Shire of Nillumbik. The Faraway Trio, comprised of Anne Norman on shakuhachi, Chris Lewis on drums and Stephen Hornby on bass, performed original compositions and free improvisations at the Abbotsford Convent. Sonidos Flamencos presented contemporary flamenco at Box Hill Community Arts Centre. Their inspiring tribute to Manolo Jaen was performed by dancers Tomas Arroquero and Jini Lim, guitarist Kieran Ray, and vocalist Julie Pittle.

Polyfonix Intercultural festival was presented in partnership with 3ZZZ ethnic radio. It featured eight bands that celebrated the talents of many of Melbourne's remarkable musicians and ensembles including Public Opinion Afro Orchestra, Queen of Hearts Mariachi, Vardos Trio, Senes Flamenco, and Zourouna. Staged at the iconic Night Cat and Estonian House, these events were part of the Victorian Government's On the Road Again initiative.



Portfolio Project

The Portfolio Project is a brand-new professional development program for emerging musicians/artists from culturally diverse backgrounds supported by City of Yarra and Australia Council for the Arts. The project is designed to engage and empower by offering creative and networking opportunities, resources, skills and assets to build capacity and provide a leg up for artists of colour in the Naarm/Melbourne music scene.

Over six months between June and November 2022, 10 participants were part of the inaugural program and we engaged over 30 other creatives from diverse cultural backgrounds as part of this project. Assets including promotional photos and live session studio recordings were created, and the artists continue to use these materials. With support from our industry partner, Music Victoria, we were able to produce workshop events, resources and networking opportunities for our participants. Events like these helped build connections and collaborations across the program. Editorials were created through our partnership with BEAT Magazine, creating awareness of the artist, their music releases and the project.



Festivals

THE FULL

The Music -- Concerts

The Boîte delivered a total of 45 performances in 2022, many of which featured Special Projects. These included a reception for our new director, Zulya Kamalova, two auspiced performances at Mission to Seafarers, 10 performances and workshops from The Portfolio Project, and major Choir projects for Sonidos del Alma, Melbourne Georgian Choir, Freedom Road Bendigo, and Boîte Schools Chorus Bendigo.

Our Box Hill concerts provided some of the best work we've produced. As part of our longstanding partnership with the Pichumani School of Carnatic Music, we presented the Melbourne Veena Festival at Box Hill Community Arts Centre to a full house. As always it featured spectacularly polished playing by highly skilled artists from the local community with a special guest from Sydney, veena player, Indu Balachandran.

Choirs performed in the streets, with Songs on Swan filmed in Swan Street Richmond, roaming groups at Gertrude Street Projection Festival's opening events and performances at the launch of sculptural installation by Nina Sanadze in the South Melbourne shopping strip. Choirs also sang at 3 Songs for 3CR, Sokol Melbourne, and Rug Advice in North Fitzroy. South African vocal ensemble Makepisi, whom we launched in 2021, completed our Melbourne Recital Centre season with a stunning concert in December.

There were brilliant moments, from Joseph Tawadros' extraordinary virtuosity, to the close Georgian harmonies of Tsinskaro at Melbourne Recital Centre. International artists topped and tailed our year, with Joseph Tawadros (UK) performing in February, and Manus McGuire (Ireland) in December.

PICTURE

Below is an overview of the performances and workshops held throughout the year:


Performances

Sonidos del Alma: Ventana Festival
Joseph Tawadros
Bella Ciao
Call to Peace
Misagh and Marjan Zamani
Matsudo: Brandon Lee Koto ensemble
and Amla Periakarpan
Freedom Road
Reception for Zulya Kamalova
Songs on Swan
Konstantin
Tangos to Turkey
Kavisha Mazzella & Matthew Arnold
Stiletto Sisters
Songs on Swan
Suitcase 1-4 (Portfolio)
Gertrude Street Projection Festival choir
Iaki Vallejo & band
Tsinkaro
Stefan Nocevski & Valentino Gikovski
3 Songs for 3CR
Veena Festival
Diverse Sounds of Iran
Faraway Trio

Pal Mar
Flight Showcase 1 & 2
Melbourne Tango Orchestra
Melbourne Georgian Choir
Sonidos Flamencos
Sparrows of Kabul
Bruce Watson
Polyfonix 1
Saltana Band
Polyfonix 2
Resonate: Stiletto Sisters
Manus McGuire
Makepisi
Resonate: Sally Ford and the Idiomatics

Workshops

Sonidos del Alma
Melbourne Georgian Choir
Freedom Road / Millennium Chorus
Boite Schools Chorus
Portfolio



Music Sans Frontieres

Music Sans Frontieres, presented by Therese Virtue, Joe Malignaggi and Leah Healy, maintained a substantial Australian music content on the airwaves in 2022. 54 interviews, all but four with local artists, are testament to the support the program gives local musicians. It provides opportunities for The Boîte to expand networks and connect with artists beyond those we can offer performances. The 2022 interviews ranged from emerging artists in the Portfolio program, to luminaries such as Deborah Cheetham.

After two years' absence, we were able to reinstate 3 Songs for 3CR, the annual Boîte fundraiser for the program. Once again the gig contributed substantial funds to program costs, and brought together performers who had not previously connected. Our thanks go to all the artists involved who generously gave their time, expertise, and in many cases a donation as well.

The Boîte Artist List 2022

The Boîte is proud to have supported 57 artists and 29 ensembles in 2022:

Artists:

Adrian Sherriff
Alex Petropoulos
Alejandro Vargas
Alison Richards
Amla Periakarpan
Amy Lynch
Anne Norman
Bala Shankar Sastry
Barry Deenick
Bruce Watson
Carl Pannuzzo
Carlos Rojas
Chris Pascoe
Con Kalamaras
Dani Fry
Deb Clarke
Desmond Masé
DJ Dr PopaLotaCorn
Ernie Gruner
Fred Smith
Gemma Horbury
Geoff McArthur
Geoffrey Williams
Holly Downes
Iaki Vallejo
Indu Balachandran
Joseph Tawadros
Kavisha Mazzella
Krzysztoff Derwinski
Kim Yang
Kofi Kunkpe
Kwame Tosuma

Mahita Iyer
Manus McGuire
Mastaneh Nazarian
Marjan Zamani
Matthew Arnold
Misagh Zamani
Mishael Gyabeng
Nela Trifkovic
Peter Vadiveloo
Poul Grage
Pomaa Gyasi-Agyei
Phil Carroll
Pratik Saurav
Ravi Ravi Chandra OAM
Razia Asghari
Rhyver Mores
Stefan Nocevski
Stella Savy
Stephen Cuttriss
Sue Johnson
Tash Vargas
Tim Neil
Valentino Gikovski
Venkat Ramakrishnan
Vikaye Sithole

Ensembles:

Bella Ciao
Brandon Lee Koto
Breathing Space
Feel Good Choir
Gorani
Iaki Vallejo band
The Iyer Brothers
Living out Loud
Makepisi
Melbourne Georgian Choir
Melbourne Tango Orchestra
Mixed Drinks
Pal Mar
The Public Opinion Afro
Orchestra
Queen of Hearts Mariachi
Sally Ford and the Idiomatics
Saltana Band
Senes Flamenco
Sonidos del Alma
Sonidos Flamencos
Stiletto Sisters
The Faraway Trio
The Kabul Birds Band
Tsinskaro
Vardos Trio
VÉR
Yi-Lynn
Zourouna
Zulya and the Children of the
Underground

COMMUNITY

The Boîte is dedicated to community building, and this is exemplified by the many initiatives that The Boîte has been a part of this year. Apart from two big community projects mentioned in the Highlights (Freedom Road and Sparrows of Kabul), The Boîte has long been involved in community choirs, and 2022 was no exception with the continuation of The Melbourne Georgian Choir, now in its seventh year; Sonidos del Alma, running for the second year since its creation mid pandemic, and the belated 10th anniversary staging of Freedom Road, postponed from 2021.



Iaki Vallejo



Rosa Vasseghi

Sonidos del Alma

Iaki Vallejo led Sonidos del Alma through a year of classes and performances, starting the year with an appearance at Frankston's Ventana Festival. The choir has grown in number and repertoire and continues to embrace the sophisticated arrangements Iaki develops for them with enthusiasm. For Spanish speakers and learners, the choir is an invaluable vehicle for regular language use, complemented by the delight of working with beautiful melodies and demonstrative and generous teaching. Sonidos del Alma joined other choirs to sing at the fundraiser, 3 Songs for 3CR, and shared an end of year concert with Melbourne Georgian Choir in late November at Sokol Melbourne.

The Melbourne Georgian Choir

The Melbourne Georgian Choir is led by Krzysztoff Derwinski, with voluntary management by Roger King. In March, Melbourne Georgian Choir was joined by other community singers to launch Call to Peace, Nina Sanadze's sculptural installation in South Melbourne. In June, the choir performed at the Melbourne farewell to Ambassador Georgi Dolidze, organised by Honorary Consul Mr Peter McMullin. In October, the choir spent a weekend in Malmsbury where they refined their songs, performed for a local audience in Malmsbury Town Hall, and celebrated at a Supra in the Malmsbury Hotel. It was an exciting pilot for future singing weekends, and the choir is planning a repeat in 2023.

Tapping into my Silent Voice

In 2022, The Boîte worked with CALD Elder Community Leader of the Year Rosa Vasseghi and a team of 19 tutors and volunteers to complete the third annual program of Tapestry workshops for 46 refugee and migrant women in Hume. They were supported by a three year grant from City of Hume, funding from the charity, Uniting Change, and in-kind support from Foundation House and Spotlight.

During 2022, 21 tapestry and crochet classes were held both face to face and online, and their tapestries appeared in three exhibitions: Preston Intercultural Centre, Queen Victoria Women's Centre with Victorian Women's Trust, and Broadmeadows Town Hall with Hume Arts and Culture staff. The exhibitions were viewed by approximately 5000 people.

The 37 additional sessions provided by the program included English language classes available in person and online, sessions on women's health, Coronavirus, Australian law, family violence, safety and rights with Victoria Police, environmental care, rubbish recycling and composting, Reconciliation and Indigenous history. Participants went on excursions to the cinema for International Women's Day, and to Melbourne Recital Centre. They celebrated Nowroz (New Year) together with dancing and food, and they visited Hume Town Hall for NAIDOC to learn about Reconciliation and Indigenous dance and cultural practice. They were also able to attend nine Yoga classes together.

Rosa's work with migrant and refugee women is highly commendable and she is to be congratulated for the years of hard work she has invested in the project. Some of the women who have graduated from the Tapestry program have gone on to training courses and employment. Many participants report increased levels of wellbeing and improvements in confidence and happiness. Arming them with some of the tools they need to move into contemporary Australian society is an invaluable investment in the community.



THE FUTURE

2022 was a year of changes, including a new director for the Boîte, Zulya Kamalova, marketing officer, Ellen Chan, and office manager, Claudine Edwards. While continuing to value and support the artists and events that The Boîte have curated in previous years, we also looked to innovate and expand our creative reach by designing and delivering new projects and programs and upgrading our technology. Apart from a hugely successful inaugural Portfolio Project, these new initiatives included commissioning new work by Anne Norman; securing funding for a new program of events, The Music Between; developing a new program for the Boîte Schools' Chorus focused on the Torres Strait Islands; and implementing a new Customer Relations Management system.

The Music Between

In 2022 we also developed and secured funding to deliver an exciting series of events and collaborations in 2023 as part of "The Music Between" program, which focuses on the music of India, Italy, Iran, and Indonesia in all the intercultural, intergenerational, and interactive aspects of music-making. The series will include open rehearsals, workshops, panel discussions, two big collaborations, and a Pizzica ritual. Some shows will be held at the CresFest in April 2023, another great new partnership for us.





Blue on Blue

Moving forward, The Boîte is keen to engage in artist commissions to support the creation of new work, and as such we are proud to support the creation of new composition Blue on Blue. Blue on Blue is a collective of vocalists and instrumentalists performing music by shakuhachi artist Anne Norman. This suite of music celebrates our place within the natural world and came about in response to a commission from the Peter and Susan Yates Foundation to write music incorporating shakuhachi to celebrate Victoria's surf coast, wetlands and woodlands from Point Lonsdale to Apollo Bay.

This project was auspiced by the Boîte, who have received additional support from the Robert Salzer Foundation and other supporters to compose, rehearse and record the music. The creation of this music was also made possible by the hospitality of locals along the coast; by groups who maintain wetlands and coastal woodlands; and inland farmers and conservationists who protect brolgas. Contemplative, entertaining, surprising and hauntingly beautiful, this piece will be featured during Matsudo Week at Box Hill in 2023, an annual event where The Boîte presents musicians who specialise in Japanese music in partnership with Box Hill Community Arts Centre.



The Boîte Schools Chorus

Due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic on schools, the decision was taken not to run the Boîte Schools Chorus as a statewide program in 2022. However, we were approached by Huntly Primary School to work with them to stage Akoma - The Heart as their school production for the year. The whole school of 250 students attended 15 rehearsals over a term with their classroom music teacher Kelly Effenberg, a long time supporter of The Boîte. Ghanaian musicians, Ewe master drummer and multi-instrumentalist Kofi Kunkpe and dancer Kwame Tosuma, attended two whole day incursions where they worked with the students and staff ahead of a final performance at Ulumbarra Theatre, directed by Stella Savy and Mishael Gyabeng.

The Boîte is excited to have supported the development of a brand new Boîte Schools Chorus program focused on the culture of the Torres Strait Islands prepared in collaboration with educator and musician Deb Lowah Clark, proud Torres Strait Islander, with Mer and Moa Island heritage, and Meriam cultural advisor Luke Captain. The statewide program will be delivered in 2023.

Customer Relations Management

The Boîte has secured funding to begin the implementation of a new Customer Relations Management (CRM) system and professional development of the staff in 2023. This project will include customisation and roll-out of Salesforce CRM and associated staff training to get it operational as a day-to-day work tool. A new CRM will enable The Boîte to more effectively support musicians through our programs using data analysis to study large amounts of information. This CRM will enable The Boîte to better manage various operations including ticketing, fundraising, program and grant management, stakeholder liaising, audience development and marketing.





Partnerships

In 2022 The Boîte continued to partner with several organisations that we have had long-standing trusted partnerships with, and we are very grateful for their continued commitment to the Boîte. This year The Boîte also partnered with many new organisations, and we are looking forward to strengthening our connection with them in years to come.

The Boîte would like to thank the following organisations for their assistance and support:

Ongoing partnerships

3CR
PBS FM
Box Hill Community Arts Centre
City of Brimbank
City of Hume
Shire of Nillumbik
City of Yarra
Gertrude St Projection Festival
Melbourne Recital Centre
Open Studio
Pichumani School of Carnatic Music
Victorian Multicultural Commission

New partnerships

3ZZZ Ethnic Community Radio
Accordion Society of Australia
City of Merri-bek
Edendale Community Environment Farm
Gamelan DanAnda
Kingston Arts Centre
La Mama Theatre
Melbourne Polytechnic
Monash Diversity and Inclusion Centre
Music Market at Collingwood Yards
Music Victoria
Cresfest

Profit and Loss

The Boite (Vic) Inc For the year ended 31 December 2022

2022

Trading Income

Ticketing Income

Concert Tickets	49,335.31
Food & Drink Sales	5,093.09
Earned Income	8,742.00
Merchandise Sales	242.73
Other Revenue	181.82
Workshop Tickets	30,644.67
Total Ticketing Income	94,239.62

Grant Funding

Australia Council - Project Grants	58,000.00
Creative Victoria - Operational Grants	139,050.00
Local Government Grants	63,375.75
Other Commonwealth Grants	25,920.00
Other State Government Grants	16,051.00
Project Administration Income	52,200.00
Total Grant Funding	354,596.75

Fundraising

Advertising Sales - External	631.82
Fundraising & Donations Income	50,470.37
Membership Fees	5,722.88
Total Fundraising	56,825.07

Total Trading Income **505,661.44**

Gross Profit **505,661.44**

Other Income

Interest Income	638.29
Total Other Income	638.29

Operating Expenses

Administrative Expenses

Accounting	9,575.13
Administrative Services	90.00
Advertising - External	6,574.64
Booking Fees	1,466.22
Bank Fees	176.70
Donations Expense	200.00
Equipment Hire	100.00
Insurance	4,273.10
Office Expenses	585.81
Licensing & Registration Fees	1,253.63

	2022
Office Equipment (Under \$200)	232.63
Printing Costs	3,061.57
Postage & Delivery	596.61
Rent	19,213.24
Repairs and Maintenance	818.18
Subscriptions	2,281.52
Telephone & Internet	1,834.05
Website	60.00
Travel Expenses	
Food & Drink Expense	6,236.93
Parking	2,639.44
Travel - National	3,634.94
Staffing Expenses	
Event Manager	837.50
Photography & Video Production	8,487.73
Production and Technical Services	32,621.65
Production Costs	1,819.32
Professional & Creative Services	115,297.61
Publicity, Promotion & Social Media Management	10,628.88
Superannuation	20,772.02
Training Expenses	992.08
Venue Hire & Staging	15,688.03
Wages and Salaries	224,848.83
Total Staffing Expenses	431,993.65
Total Operating Expenses	496,897.99
Net Profit	9,401.74

Balance Sheet

The Boite (Vic) Inc
As at 31 December 2022

31 DEC 2022

Assets

Bank

Boite ATO Reserve Account	2,302.75
Boite Donations Account	120,508.93
Boite Grant Reserve Account	50,972.70
Boite Leave Entitlements Rsrv	40,711.34
Boite Operational Bank Account	168,611.38
Boite Petty Cash Account	454.80
Total Bank	383,561.90

Current Assets

Accounts Receivable	36,145.00
Petty Cash	2,200.00
Prepayments	2,620.86
Total Current Assets	40,965.86

Total Assets **424,527.76**

Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	1,178.52
Accrued AUSCO Funding	58,696.00
Accrued DFFH Funding	20,000.00
Accrued Leave	57,238.84
Accrued Project Grants	45,800.00
ATO Clearing Account	14,567.00
GST	2,996.75
Superannuation Payable	5,644.58
Total Current Liabilities	206,121.69

Total Liabilities **206,121.69**

Net Assets **218,406.07**

Equity

Current Year Earnings	9,401.74
Retained Earnings	209,004.33
Total Equity	218,406.07

The full audited report is available upon request.



ANNUAL REPORT

The Boîte