



**WITHOUT  
WALLS**



Patois by Jeanefer Jean-Charles © David Levene GDF 2024

# ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

2024/2025



Funded by  
UK Government



Supported using public funding by  
**ARTS COUNCIL  
ENGLAND**

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## WITHOUT WALLS IS PLEASED TO PRESENT OUR ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31 MARCH 2025.

Without Walls is a pioneer and trailblazer of exceptional outdoor art. By forging and spearheading a network of cultural organisations and festivals, we work in partnership to commission, co-create, and share outdoor work with communities across the country and promote onward touring nationally and internationally.

We exist to innovate new forms of outdoor arts, facilitate collaborative working, and to foster financial sustainability and inclusive practice. Working with artists, producers, and presenting partners, we collectively enable outdoor arts to reach new audiences and to realise its full potential.

Transparency is a core value for Without Walls. We are committed to sharing details of our financial performance and present a summary of our income and expenditure in 2024/25 below. We have published this information on an annual basis since becoming a National Portfolio Organisation (NPO) of Arts Council England (ACE) in 2018.

2024/25 was a year of continuation and development for Without Walls. As the second year of the current Arts Council England NPO funding

period, the organisation's priority was to reinforce the operational changes made in the previous year, continue to innovate in our programming, and define our role within the outdoor arts sector.

The year was not without significant change, with the departure of our longstanding Chair, Josephine Burns, in December 2024, and the appointment of a new Chair, Kully Thiarai in January 2025. Both are experienced cultural leaders and the significant legacy that Jo leaves behind at Without Walls will be carried and developed into the future by Kully.

In 2024, our network was made up of over 40 organisations that bring the best in outdoor arts to people in towns and cities across England. Despite the challenges, financial, political, and environmental, we supported our partners to present 235 performances of Without Walls shows at 19 partner festivals, seen by over 165,000 people.



Closer to my Dreams by Chad Taylor © Claire Leach Photography

# IN 2024/25

## WE WERE PROUD TO:

- Premiere 13 new outdoor shows at the nine festivals in our Artistic Directorate network in 2024/25.
- Support a further 235 performances of 26 shows at the 19 festivals in our Touring network.
- Invest in the early stage development of six new projects through our Blueprint Research and Development (R&D) programme.
- Invite 18 creatives to take part in the 2024 edition of our Discover programme, welcoming artists new to outdoor arts. The programme continues to be one of our most successful projects, highly rated by participants and receiving more applications each year.
- Further develop our Associate placement programme focused on skills development in outdoor arts.
- Increase our investment in Audience Engagement projects, revising our approach to encourage festivals to deliver activity in partnership, and to develop longer term projects across two years.
- Embed our Access and Sustainability Advisors in the development of supported projects to ensure that these considerations are present from the start of the creative process.
- Host the second iteration of the Without Walls Forum at 101 Outdoor Arts, attended by 72 participants from across our network and partners, encouraging knowledge sharing and discussion on the key issues facing the sector.
- Continue the development of our Artists Advisory Group with one member advising on the selection of the 2025 programme.

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The financial year in review concluded with a surplus of £88,079, with income of £1,328,414 and expenditure of £1,240,335.

The largest amount of income was ACE NPO funding of £1,222,080, comprising 92% of total income. Subscription income from Touring Network Partners (TNP) and the Creative Development Network (CDN) was £96,188 (7%) supplemented by £10,146 in Earned Income (<1%).

The largest area of expenditure was Programme and Projects as the core of the organisation's work. Expenditure here totals £770,097 and includes £586,500 of subsidies and grants to festivals and artists. The expenditure shown here includes some advance payments to support work in the 2025 programme, with this expenditure being recognised in this period according to the accounting conventions in place.

Administrative Expenses are £470,238 for the period. This represents a 24% reduction on the previous year.

The surplus in this period was in line with a planned recovery of reserves funds following the deficit of the previous year. This was achieved utilising earned income from subscriptions and other sources, and through the implementation of a recovery budget. This leaves the organisation in a stable financial position, with ACE funding confirmed through to March 2027.

The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to thank Arts Council England for their continued support, both financial and strategic, and to thank all of the festivals, partners, artists, and freelancers that we have worked with during this period - it is you who continue to guide and inspire the work we do.

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## Detailed Income and Expenditure Report

<b>INCOME</b>	<b>2024/25</b>	<b>2023/24</b>
ACE NPO Grant	1,222,080	1,222,080
Partner Subscription Income	96,188	95,875
Earned Income	10,146	4,375
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>1,328,414</b>	<b>1,322,330</b>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>		
<b>PROGRAMME &amp; PROJECTS</b>		
Artists Support Grants	136,738	235,413
Artists R&D Grants	31,993	54,256
Artists Strategic Investments	3,000	7,000
Touring Subsidies AD	244,464	307,814
Touring Subsidies TNP	170,356	161,779
Residency Partner Subsidies	18,800	
Audience Engagement	34,861	29,859
Strategic Projects: Access	30,559	3,827
Strategic Projects: Diversity	16,631	16,450
Strategic Projects: Environmental Responsibility	4,501	4,836
International Engagement	1,466	1,954
Artists & Festivals Specialists Advice	1,000	4,116
Access Fund for Artists	2,000	1,300
Artists Advisory Group	3,534	4,623
Creative Labs	6,000	175
Research & Evaluation	1,500	6,716
Partner Meetings	40,789	28,617
Marketing, PR & Advocacy	18,410	17,105
Website	3,495	3,853
<b>Total Programme &amp; Projects</b>	<b>770,097</b>	<b>889,693</b>
<b>Management and Overheads</b>		
Staff Costs	409,034	408,857
Independent Chair salary	10,007	10,124
Office and Overheads	49,417	74,289
Governance	9,953	5,059
Finance and Audit	14,546	12,659
Irrecoverable VAT Cost (exceptional)	-22,719	110,530
<b>Total Management and Overheads</b>	<b>470,238</b>	<b>621,518</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>1,240,335</b>	<b>1,511,211</b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>88,079</b>	<b>(188,881)</b>

The full audited accounts can be found at Companies House (ref: Company Number 06231874).