



ensemble offspring

annual report 2012

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MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Profiles



Kate Lidbetter (President)

CEO, Symphony Australia

Kate Lidbetter is Chief Executive Officer of Symphony Australia, also known as Symphony Services International. Previous positions have included Director of Music at the Australia Council for the Arts, Artist Development Manager of Symphony Australia, Artistic Administrator of the Australian Youth Orchestra and General Manager of Sydney Children's Choir. She is a Councillor of the Music Council of Australia, President of Ensemble Offspring, a Director of Gondwana Choirs and Company Secretary of Symphony Australia. She regularly participates on panels, committees and juries for various music organizations and in 2011 completed the Australian Institute of Company Directors' company directors course.



Yarmila Alfonzetti (Vice President)

Producer, Sydney Opera House

Yarmila Alfonzetti is currently a Producer at the Sydney Opera House specialising in the delivery of international orchestras and chamber music. Her key projects have included the London Philharmonic Orchestra and Berliner Philharmoniker tours. Yarmila has previously worked in public programs at the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, project management at the NSW Premier's Department, and philanthropy at the Powerhouse Museum. She holds a Bachelor of Music (Hons) from the Sydney Conservatorium, and a Masters of Project Management from the University of Sydney. Yarmila has recently launched her own arts management business called Modern Portfolio, dedicated to the presentation of high-quality international classical chamber music and solo artists.



Claire Edwardes

Artistic Director/Percussionist

Percussionist Claire Edwardes is a leading interpreter of contemporary classical music and Co-Artistic Director of Ensemble Offspring. Recent career highlights include concertos with the Radio Chamber Orchestra (Netherlands), the Queensland Symphony Orchestra and Sydney Symphony as well as solo festival appearances at Huddersfield Festival of Contemporary Music (UK), Woodend Winter Arts Festival (Victoria) and Ozasia Festival (Adelaide). In 2012 & 2007 she was awarded the AMC/APRA Art Music Award for Excellence in Australian Music, in 2005 she was the recipient of the MCA Freedman Fellowship and in 1999 she was named ABC/Symphony Australia Young Performer of the Year.



Robert Glass (Public Officer)

Simpsons Solicitors

Robert Glass is a lawyer at Simpsons Solicitors, one of Australia's most highly regarded intellectual property and entertainment practices. He provides pragmatic legal advice to clients working within the music and entertainment industries. He works closely with musicians, managers, record labels and publishers, drafting and negotiating the deals that form the backbone of the music business.

Prior to working with Simpsons Robert worked as a commercial lawyer, advising both government departments and nationwide companies through to small start-ups seeking advice on all aspects of their business. In addition to his legal pursuits Rob has around 10 years experience as a promoter and DJ as well as hosting radio shows and releasing his own music.



Sharon Kelly

Sharon Kelly is a seasoned media, communications and marketing professional with over 22 years experience promoting a variety of brands, from genetics to motor cars. Starting her career as production manager for a leading academic book publishing company in London, England where she is from, in Australia her media and communications career has embraced the medical and scientific arena, not for profit sector, commercial business and government. Sharon has a Masters in Media, Technology and Law (Macquarie University 2002) and a Diploma of Business (Frontline Management Swinburne University 2008).



Damien Ricketson (Acting Treasurer)

Artistic Director/Composer/Lecturer

Damien Ricketson is a composer and Co-Artistic Director of Ensemble Offspring. Damien's music is characterised by exotic sound-worlds and novel forms and has frequently been featured in Ensemble Offspring events. Recent works have included *Fractured Again*, a major multimedia production that toured China and featured in the Sydney Festival and *Some Shade of Blue*, a microtonal work for a newly invented instrument, the Tarhu. Damien has a PhD from the Sydney Conservatorium where he is now Lecturer in Composition and Contemporary Music Studies.



Penny Stannard

Cultural Policy Consultant

Penny Stannard's career spans cultural policy, multidisciplinary arts producing, arts education, social history, public art, audience development and community cultural development. Positions include Senior Cultural Policy Officer City of Canada Bay, Program Manager Campbelltown Arts Centre and Arts Development Officer Parramatta City Council. Penny has lectured at CoFA UNSW and The University of Sydney and has taught creative arts at primary and secondary levels. She is currently undertaking a PhD in cultural policy and creative practice at UTS, Sydney.

Meeting attendance

Name	Number of meetings eligible to attend	Number of meetings attended
Kate Lidbetter	6	6
Penny Stannard	6	4
Yarmila Alfonzetti	6	4
Rob Glass	5	5
Sharon Kelly	3	3
Claire Edwardes	6	5
Damien Ricketson	6	6
Jonathan Blakeman	2	1
Grahame Campbell	4	3
Jason Yetton	2	0

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2012

Growth, development and change seem to have become the hallmarks of Ensemble Offspring in recent years – 2012 was no exception. In addition to the outstanding artistic program detailed later in this Annual Report, the management side of the company expanded to include a part time Administrator, Cherie Stewart. Cherie's experience and energy have opened up the company's capacity to meet new governance and reporting requirements and improve the overall professionalisation of operations.

In our first full year as a Key Organisation (Emerging) of the Australia Council, we worked hard to ensure the financial stability of the company. In 2012 we posted a small surplus of \$6,427, contributing to reserves now totalling over \$41,000 or around 23% of turnover. It is pleasing to see that earned income increased by over 35% in 2012, while we were also able to attract additional grant income. The results were in line with forecasts and I am pleased to say that while the margins are small, the company's financial health is evident.

As with previous years, pro bono support has been vital to our success, and we are particularly grateful to James Fraser for his assistance with the Ensemble Offspring marketing plan, Simpsons Lawyers for their legal assistance, Symphony Services International for providing office space and support, Ann-Maree Moodie of The Boardroom Consulting Group for her Committee governance/compliance workshop and all our interns who have worked hard and hopefully learned a great deal in their time with the company.

I am also grateful to our partners Fiona Toy of Virtual Admin Solutions who patiently takes care of our accounts and financial data each month, and Debbie McInnes of dmpr for her excellent PR work on our behalf.

We continue along the pathway to becoming a Company Limited by Guarantee, and anticipate this process will be complete later in 2013. We also hope in 2013 to be named a Key Organisation of the Australia Council and to maintain our strong level of funding with Arts NSW – these are key milestones in the development of the company and will allow us to implement our ambitious business plan for the period 2014-16.

An exciting development in late 2012 was the launch of the Noisy Egg Creation Fund. Committee members all pledged donations and these were matched by members of the public to raise funds towards the creation of new works. At the time of writing this Annual Report we are close to meeting our first target, and I look forward to reporting to you on the success of the fund in years to come.

This year, the company has focussed on the completion and consolidation of the Management Committee, welcoming a number of new members and spending significant time on good governance and compliance. Each Committee member also sits on a sub-committee (Creative, Audit/Finance/Risk, Governance and Marketing/Fundraising) and is generous with their time and expertise. In 2012 I was honoured to accept the role of President. I pay tribute to my predecessor, Penny Stannard, who has graciously remained on the Committee as an ordinary member. I note with thanks our departing members Grahame Campbell, Jason Yetton and Jonathan Blakeman, all of whom contributed in many ways to the success of the organisation. And I welcome new members Rob Glass and Sharon Kelly who join ongoing Committee members Yarmila Alfonzetti, Claire Edwardes and Damien Ricketson. All have been generous with their time and expertise and I thank them for their commitment.

Finally, I congratulate Claire and Damien and their amazing team of musical collaborators on an outstanding year. After all, we're all here for the music and without their vision and dedication, Ensemble Offspring would not exist. How much poorer we would all be if that were so!

Kate Lidbetter
President
April 2013

ARTISTIC DIRECTORS' REPORT

Artistic activity

In 2012 Ensemble Offspring presented an innovative program of new music characterised by world premieres and international works previously unheard in Australia. The artistic program featured nine world premieres including works from international composers such as Michael Norris (NZ), Matthew Wright (UK) Cor Fuhler (NL/AUS) as well as new works by several Australians ranging from emerging composers such as Melody Eötvös and Ekrem Mülayim to established composers such as Rosalind Page and Mary Finsterer. The program also featured a further ten Australian premieres of recent works by international composers. The Ensemble's ongoing commitment to the development of Australian music is evidenced in over 50% Australian content over the whole of the artistic program.

Concert activity spanned multiple concerts in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Canberra, Perth and a regional NSW tour including performances in Grafton, Wollongong, Campbelltown and Muswellbrook. Touring activity was supplemented with two educational workshops and the production of an education resource to complement a newly commissioned work by James Humberstone.

The artistic program featured nine new concert programs and 20 concert events:

- **New Radicals:** New Music to be seen, heard and felt
Sydney Opera House, The Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House, 8pm Friday March 30
Canberra The Street Theatre, 6pm Sunday April 1
- **Blindman's Bluff:** Playful music
Metropolis Festival, Melbourne Recital Centre, Salon, 6pm Friday May 4
- **Sizzle:** Petersham Bowling Club
Sunday July 15
Sunday August 19
- **Music to Infinity:** New music is fun
Grafton Clarence Valley Conservatorium, 7.30pm Saturday 15 September
Wollongong City Gallery, 7pm Friday September 21
Campbelltown Arts Centre, 8pm Saturday September 22
Canberra The Street Theatre, 6pm Sunday September 23
Muswellbrook South Primary School, 7.30pm Saturday October 6
- **Silva:** Natural music
Sydney The Utzon Room, Sydney Opera House, 8pm Tuesday October 23
Brisbane Turbine Platform, Brisbane Powerhouse, Restrung New Chamber Festival,
3.30pm Saturday October 27
- **A Little Lunch Music**
Sydney City Recital Hall Angel Place, 12.30pm Wednesday November 14
- **EO @ Tura New Music** 25th Anniversary Celebrations
Perth Hackett Hall, Western Australian Museum, 7.30pm Thursday November 22
- **On Loop:** A playful critique of musical repetition
Sydney Carriageworks, Bay 20, 8pm Saturday 1 December
Melbourne Melbourne Recital Centre, The Salon, 8pm Thursday 6 December

The Ensemble was also involved as collaborative artists with:

- **The Composers: Steve Reich** – A Celebration [with Synergy Percussion, Eighth Blackbird and others]
Sydney Opera House, Concert Hall, Sunday 29 April
- **The Composers 2: John Cage Centenary Celebrations** – Musicircus & Permission Granted [with the Bang on a Can All Stars]
Sydney Opera House, The Studio & Boardwalk Foyer, Saturday 11 November

Audiences

Approximately 4765 people attended live Ensemble Offspring performances in 2012. These unusually large figures are partly the result of our appearances as collaborative and guest artists at major Sydney Opera House events such as The Composers: Steve Reich and John Cage (in relation to the John Cage event, Musicircus, an open installation-style performance in the Boardwalk Foyer, it is difficult to estimate numbers due to its presentation in a free public space.) When these events are removed from the mix to include only self-presents and co-presents instigated by us, the attendance figures are just under 2000, of which approximately 74% was paid, 14% complimentary and 12% at free events.

Self-presented concerts in Sydney were reasonably well attended. New Radicals, in the Utzon Room at the Opera House was sold out, a noteworthy achievement especially given the program did not include any 'name' composers and was promoted purely on the reputation of the Ensemble alone. The Ensemble's A Little Lunch Music also attracted a large and different crowd thanks to an existing network through Kathryn Selby's established series at the Sydney Recital Hall.

As has been the case in previous years, performances outside of Sydney continue to be an audience-challenge. However, Ensemble Offspring continues to see the benefit in investing time and energy in presenting its unique brand outside of NSW.

Media, critical and industry acclaim

Ensemble Offspring continued to attract media attention with numerous print articles and critical reviews ranging from the Sydney Morning Herald to student magazines and blogs. The Ensemble received multiple positive critical reviews from the arts magazine RealTime and the Sydney Morning Herald especially for our self-presented events New Radicals and Silva:

"Ensemble Offspring were both creators and destroyers in this concert of new works by sonic inventors from around the world." [New Radicals] Harriet Cunningham, SMH, 03/03/12

"Bringing a hint of danger to the concert hall was Ensemble Offspring's great triumph" [New Radicals] Matthew Lorenzon, rt110

"Of course, Ensemble Offspring delivered superb performances of all these works, not least the three world premieres by female composers in yet another impressive concert nurturing new works that will enrich and expand the Australian musical landscape." [Silva] Keith Gallasch, RealTime, rt112

As always, however, not all events received media attention commensurate with the amount of time and energy invested: On Loop being a case in point.

The Ensemble also received considerable attention in relation to concerts in which we played an associative role such as the Sydney Opera House's Steve Reich and John Cage celebrations. Our growing stature as experts in the field was also reflected in numerous media mentions in general arts pieces about the state of contemporary music. For example, the Ensemble was cited on more than one occasion as being an exemplar of successful cross-over music (RealTime: *Is crossover good for music?* and a Sydney Morning Herald piece on "indie classical music": *Listen to this*).

Several Offspring projects were broadcast nationally on ABC Classic FM including *Silva*, *On Loop* and our *TURA* performance. *Silva* was also broadcast on 2MBS-FM and Radio National's Music Show invited us to present a Cage performance on the anniversary of his birth. Many of our older recordings were added to Classic FM's Rewind (streaming) project and Damien's hour-long *Fractured Again* featured on NMUL. A video interview of Claire and Damien also appeared on RealTime TV.

New Radicals was nominated for a Limelight Award for Best Chamber performance and we anticipate further nominations for the AMC/APRA Art Music Awards.

Artistic self-evaluation & Creative Committee

2012 was the first year in which Ensemble Offspring formalised its critical reflection with a view to documenting and planning continued artistic improvement. Overseen by the Creative Committee, comprised of the Ensemble's core musicians, each project was subject to internal critical assessment in areas of: (1) Artistic Innovation, (2) Performance Excellence, (3) Audience Engagement and (4) Development of Artists. The meetings have provided a useful platform to collate a more diverse range of anecdotal and informal feedback on concert activities (beyond critical media) and provide a useful internal mechanism for the core performers to both provide and receive critical commentary and take ownership of improving artistic standards.

In 2012 the Creative Committee reviewed all concert presentations as well as education programs and regional touring. On the whole it was agreed that the standard of performance was very high (and getting stronger every year). It was also agreed that the programs themselves in 2012 highlighted very well the group's strengths in terms of innovation and audience engagement. It was felt that the opportunity to work with external musicians such as accordionist James Crabb and the Bang on a Can All Stars was beneficial in terms of developing the general standard of performance excellence.

Rehearsal space for the ensemble continues to be a challenge and a dedicated studio space where the musicians can comfortably rehearse works of up to 10 musicians (with piano and percussion) is a long term goal.

Despite some minor challenges, the Artistic Directors and the Creative Committee feel that the artistic standard of the Ensemble is continuing to develop in a strong and positive fashion and the organisation is meeting its core objective of being artistic leaders in our sector.



Damien Ricketson



Claire Edwardes



Ensemble Offspring

(An Incorporated Association)

ABN 70 830 604 180

Annual Report 31 December 2012

Committee Report

The Committee members submit the financial statements of Ensemble Offspring Incorporated for the financial period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012

Committee Members

President: Penny Stannard (to 18 Jun 2012); Kate Lidbetter (from 18 Jun 2012)

Vice President: Yarmila Alfonzetti

Treasurer: Grahame Campell (18 Jun to 20 Aug 2012); Jonathan Blakeman (from 20 Aug 2012 to 26 Oct 2012)

Claire Edwardes

Rob Glass (from 19 Feb 2012)

Sharon Kelly (from 18 Jun 2012)

Damien Ricketson

Grahame Campbell (to 7 Sep 2012)

Jason Yetton (to 23 Apr 2012)

Public Officer: Rob Glass (from 18 Jun 2012)

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the association is the presentation of innovative new music

Significant Changes

No significant change in the nature of these activities occurred during the period.

Operating Results

The profit from ordinary activities after providing for abnormal items amounted to \$6,427.15

Signed in accordance with a resolution of the Members of the Committee



Signed

Signed by:

Kathleen Mary Kerin

Dated this:

22/4/13

ENSEMBLE OFFSPRING INC

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT TO THE MEMBERS

Scope

We have audited the financial statements, being the Income and Expenditure Statement of Ensemble Offspring Inc. We have conducted an independent audit of these financial statements in order to express an opinion on them to the members of the Organisation.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statement is free of material misstatement. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts in the income and expenditure statement, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been undertaken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial statement are presented fairly in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements and statutory requirements so as to present a fair view which is consistent with our understanding of the Organisation's financial position and the result of their operations.

We have not been engaged to express any opinion on any internal control procedures, non-exclusively including segregation of duties which holds an element of risk in this organisation.

The audit opinion expressed in this report has been formulated on the above basis.

Audit Opinion

In our opinion, the financial report of Ensemble Offspring Inc has been prepared:

- (a) so as to fairly represent the financial position of the organisation and the result of its operation for the period 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012; and
- (b) in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act; and
- (c) in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other Mandatory professional reporting requirements.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jennie Hawkshaw', is written over a circular stamp.

Jennie Hawkshaw
REGISTERED COMPANY AUDITOR
Auditor Number: 403474

Signed at Erina this 28th March 2013

**Ensemble Offspring
Income Statement
For the year ending 31 December 2012**

Income	2012	2011
Grant Income		
Australia Council	58,765	38,765
Other Federal Funding	0	4,000
Arts NSW	49,285	38,730
Earned Income		
Performance Income and fees	48,874	46,681
Merchandising and Retail	434	375
Sponsorship & Philanthropic	16,604	750
Other earned income	3,863	2,665
Total	177,825	131,965
EXPENSES		
Salaries Wages and Fees	126,807	99,672
Program, Production & Touring	14,468	11,363
Marketing, Promotion & Development	9,487	5,128
Infrastructure Costs	20,635	5,484
Total	171,397	121,647
Profit	6,427	10,319

**Ensemble Offspring
Statement of Financial Position
As at 31 December 2012**

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Current Cash Assets	94,359	60,491
Intangible Assets	2,000	656
TFN Withholding	0	237
Prepayments & Accrued Expenses	3,384	3,716
Trade Debtors	4,435	3,500
Total Current Assets	104,178	68,600
Non-Current Assets		
Musical Instruments & Accessory	4,233	4,984
Total Non-Current Assets	4,233	4,984
Total Assets	108,411	73,585
LIABILITIES		
Current Liabilities		
Trade and other payables	19,635	7,167
Grants Received in Advance	47,748	31,265
Total Current Liabilities	67,383	38,432
Total Liabilities	67,383	38,432
NET ASSETS	41,028	35,153

**Ensemble Offspring
Statement of Changes in Equity
For the year ending 31 December 2012**

	2012	2011
	\$	\$
Accumulated Surplus		
Balance as at 1 January	35,153	24,834
Surplus for year	6,427	10,319
Balance as at 31 December	41,580	35,153

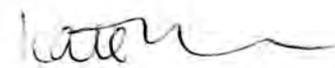
Statement by Members of the Committee

The Committee has determined that the association is not a reporting entity and that this special purpose financial report should be prepared in accordance with the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act and in accordance with applicable Accounting Standards and other Mandatory requirements.

In the opinion of the Committee the financial statements as set out in this report:

- 1) Present fairly the financial position of Ensemble Offspring Incorporated as at 31 December 2012 and its performance for the year ended on that date.
- 2) At the date of this statement, there are reasonable grounds to believe that Ensemble Offspring Incorporated will be able to pay its debts as and when they fall due.

The statement is made in accordance with a resolution of the Committee and is signed for and on behalf of the Committee.

Signed: 
Date: 22/4/13

Signed: 
Date: 22/4/13