

FLINDERS QUARTET

Minutes

Flinders Quartet Inc.

Date/time of meeting	Tuesday 14 September 2021, 5.00pm
Location of meeting	Zoom (online)
Attendees	Julian Burnside, Zoe Knighton, Mary Vallentine, Sarah Hunt, Sandra Stoklossa and Wendy Avilov, Helen Ireland
Apologies	Wilma Smith
Guests	Thibaud Pavlovic-Hobba

Agenda Item/Topic	Discussion/outcomes	Person accountable for action
1.3	Meeting minutes from 22 June 2021 - approved.	
2.1	<p>October 2021 concert program cancellation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Reluctant to cancel but it seems enviable that it is necessary; comprehensive plan in place for the parties to be communicated (venues, presenters, funders) with and the messaging around the cancellation.● All in agreement that we would love to see October activity go ahead but that it just is not possible. Cancellation to go ahead.● Current plans for the remainder of the year centre around activity that is already funded and is therefore a priority. Replacement violinists to be engaged where necessary due to border restrictions. Whether all of this activity can proceed before the end of 2021 will depend on if/when restrictions ease and how many days it leaves us to fit all of this in:<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Composer Development Program○ Footscray High School residency days (modified somewhat with a recorded/digital outcome rather than public performance outcome)○ 2022 creative development / commission development activity○ JNQP end of year concert○ Studio recording of Cheetham's "Bungaree" with ABC Classic● Acknowledging that we have funding for regional touring and the October activity cancellation will require communication with those regional activity funders; all funders to be updated and funding agreement amendments/requirements to be undertaken.	<p>Zoe/Wendy</p> <p>Wendy/Zoe</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Zoe to discuss the situation with Creative Vic/Touring Vic, gauge their response about how it affects the balance of FQ's funding obligations with the audience and the money. ● Explore ideas for an offering for those regional audiences who have missed out on the October concert that would still satisfy regional funders, e.g. Beethoven digital concert filming, possible offer/access to FQ Digital when it is launched in 2022. 	<p>Zoe</p> <p>Wendy/Zoe</p>
2.2	<p>Financials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2021 Forecast reflects October activity being cancelled, and assumes the funded activity mentioned in 2.1 is still proceeding. ● \$16,500 philanthropic revenue is still to be raised before the end of 2021 and we are confident that it is achievable; the full amount is for private donations and a large portion has already been pledged just not yet received. ● Use the messaging of the October activity cancellation to leverage private donations; focus on what we're doing next, what the audience can still experience, and what we still need support for. "This is our positive way forward, and this is how you can help us get there." ● Collective commissioning initiative 'FQ Syndicate' campaign to be launched in mid-October to help reach the remaining private donation target. ● Two versions of the draft 2022 budget presented; one scenario with successful Creative Vic multi-year funding, one scenario if that is unsuccessful. A successful application would result in increase in employment for FQ personnel and external artists and arts workers, increase in activity including digital. ● Updated draft 2022 Budget to be presented at 23 November 2021 Board meeting, and then once we know the outcome of the Creative Vic funding application, a final 2022 Budget will be circulated via email for review and approval. (Funding outcome expected early/mid December 2021.) ● 2022-2023 budget prepared for Creative Vic application to be shared with the Board. 	<p>Wendy/Zoe</p> <p>Wendy/Zoe</p> <p>Wendy/Sandra</p> <p>Wendy</p>
2.3	<p>Future programming and plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Plan for 'FQ Digital' string quartet hub, the centrepiece of FQ's digital strategy - a central place to hold all of FQ's digital content, some content accessible for free and some through an annual subscription paywall. Aiming to curate users' viewing/listening, directing people to both FQ and non-FQ content and encouraging them to develop their own interests (taking inspiration from the wine club model where the experience is curated and encourages the customer to learn/explore/experiment). ● FQ Digital will be included in the 2022 season brochure, marketed to existing and new audiences (expecting that some 'live' concert 	

	<p>subscribers will also subscribe to FQ Digital so that they can relive the concert experience), and enable FQ Digital gift subscriptions/cards.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● FQ Digital playlists curated by individual members, sharing more of the musicians' personalities. Maybe even FQ Board member playlists in the future (e.g. Julian discussion some of the works he has commissioned.) ● Ask Sarah about Providore and playlists. ● FQ Strategic Plan drafted for Creative Victoria CEP funding application to be shared with the Board 	Wendy/Zoe Wendy
2.4	<p>Board skills matrix and next steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Looking to shore up skills gaps and strive for board diversification, including First Nations People representation. ● Decision that formation of a separate nomination committee unnecessary. ● Identified gaps and priorities: First Nations People, regional, education, corporate, under age 40. ● Seeking suggestions from Deborah Cheetham for possible First Nations People to invite to join the board. ● Zoe to phone Ian Roberts suggestions. ● Julian has Shepparton contacts (FQ has Shepparton activity, so a good regional centre to develop relationships). 	Zoe Zoe
2.5	<p>Ideas and suggestions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Julian suggested setting up Zoom/talk/round table session to explore current arts industry challenges/problems ● Research about arts audiences since pandemic began: https://www.thepatternmakers.com.au/covid19 	

Time closed	6.05pm
Member absence during meeting	

Date, time and location of next meeting	Financial catch up meeting: Wednesday 10 November, 5pm AEDT Board meeting: Tuesday 23 November, 5pm AEDT
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