



the boîte

Annual Report 2021



The Boîte Annual Report 2021

Prepared for the Annual General Meeting
Tuesday, March 29th 2021 at 7:00pm
Bargoonga Nganjin Community Room & Online via Zoom

Established as a not-for-profit organisation in 1979, The Boîte supports excellent artists from diverse cultural communities, promotes cultural understanding through the dynamic presentation of unique cultural experiences, and nurtures creativity, collaboration, access to and active participation in the arts.

Committee 2021

Chairperson: Pamela Creed

Deputy Chairperson: Mardi Stow

Secretary: Helen Selby

Treasurer: Daniel Saraev

Members: Ernie Gruner, Nela Trifkovic, Merren Ricketson, Therese Virtue, Daniel Jauregui, Lil Hajncl, Alannah Sheridan (until July 2021)

Staff

Managing Director: Eyal Chipkiewicz (until August 2021), Therese Virtue OAM (from August 2021 - February 2022)

Project Coordinators

Programs: Therese Virtue OAM

Adapt, not Cancel: Eyal Chipkiewicz

Boîte Schools Chorus: Susan Wright

Boîte Singers' Festival: Susan Wright

Suitcase & Song Appetit: Eyal Chipkiewicz

Marketing and Communications: Tara Gallop Brennan

Members & Donors: Leah Healy

Admin: Gemma Horbury (July - October 2021), Leah Healy (October - December 2021)

Schools Materials: Vanessa Estrada (April - August 2021)

Volunteer Box Office: Kerry Scaletti

Professional Support

Accounts: White Sky Music

Auditors: Kevin Clarke (Kevin Clarke Tax & Accounting)

Technical & Streaming: Harmonic Whale, Kinetic Screen

Design: Eyal Chipkiewicz, Michael Russo (Devil Dog Design)

Photography: Anthony Rodriguez, Roger King, Anastassia Krstevska, Tara Gallop-Brennan, Rosa Vasseghi

Chairperson's Report

Pamela Creed

2021 was characterised by change and disruption. Like other arts organisations the Boite rode the tide of a second year of Covid related lockdowns and cancellations. In response, concerts and events were offered to the public as both live and streamed events, as the Boite built on its digital capabilities.

While it was a challenging year, and in spite of reduced programming and events, The Boite ended 2021 in a comfortable financial position, supplemented by grants from Creative Victoria, the Australia Council for the Arts, the Small Business Covid Fund, the City of Yarra, and other smaller grants. We are extremely grateful for the contributions of all our major supporters. The Boite's fundraising, including donations through the inaugural Walk for the Music, also contributed to the result.

Two larger performative events, early in the year, drew diverse and enthusiastic audiences. The Fig Tree Replanted, at the Hellenic Museum, included performers from various cultural backgrounds and featured stories of migration narrated by Arnold Zable. The Resonant Heart, a collaborative project between Nela Trifkovic and women artists from different CALD backgrounds, was a joyful and moving celebration.

Throughout the year the small concert series at various locations, coaxed audiences to return to live music events. Offering a streamed ticket option as well, gave comfort to those who still preferred their music from the safety of their home.

The annual Singers' Festival was re-imagined to a one-day event, with over 20 workshops, in response to uncertainty and participation hesitancy. While numbers were low compared to previous years, participant feedback was very positive.

The organisation expanded into other new digital initiatives in 2021, developing on-line educational tools for teachers-LeTS, and Thisconnected, a program addressing artists' needs. The Boite extended the organisation's reach through on-line programming, which enabled new national and

international engagement. A grant from the Australia Council for the Arts supported a series of live and streamed concerts, new software and the development of a portable kit to be used for streaming concerts.

The Schools Chorus was unable to be held in 2021 due to the school lockdowns, however a modified program was conducted with a small number of schools, both on line and live when possible. Thanks to Susan Wright for her constant re-adjustment of this program, to ensure an outcome was possible for some children.

An internal organisational review and audit carried out by the Managing Director and staff, identified priorities for the organisation's future development, systems upgrades, and training opportunities. Some of these were implemented in 2021, and some will be on going over the next year. The Committee worked through these recommendations and mapped a path to guide future implementation.

Eyal Chipkiewicz resigned from the Boite in August. On behalf of the committee I would like to thank him for his tireless and extensive work, and for the various contributions he made to the Boite in his time as Managing Director, including new program initiatives, organisational improvements, and building external relationships. His rapid response to the pandemic in 2020, both in acquiring funds to ensure the company and team's viability during

Tariro Mavondo (Resonant Heart 6 March 2021)



the pandemic, and also instigating and developing an Adapt not Cancel approach to programming, saw the Boite at the forefront of the streamed live music, and ensured that funds continued to flow to musicians.

Thanks to Therese Virtue, who agreed to take up the position of Acting Managing Director for the remainder of the year. Therese and the staff completed the work on the Boite five year Strategic Plan. Therese also developed the major submission for the organisation's multi-year funding to Creative Victoria, through the Creative Ventures Program. She continued to oversee the small concert

program.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to acknowledge all the staff for their work in 2021. Thanks also to the musicians, singers, volunteers and members for your continued support.

My thanks to fellow committee members for their commitment, and for the many and various ways they supported the organisation this year.

Finally, in late December, the Committee appointed Zulya Kamalova as the Boite's new Director. We wish her well, as she takes over the leadership of the organisation in 2022, and steers the Boite's next chapter.

Director's Report

Therese Virtue OAM

Acting Director (Aug 21 - Feb 22)

Optimism ushered in January 2021. At The Boite we began the year anticipating live music at last and planning ambitiously. A revisiting of the Fig Tree project was developed at the end of 2020, and realised in two sold out concerts on February 21, after a nail-biting lockdown from February 13th to 17th. It was a most positive start to the year.

Performances began at 1 Mark St, 75 Reid St Fitzroy North, 45downstairs, Box Hill Community Arts Centre, a partnership with Flesh After Fifty, and a concert for International Women's Day, all events produced carefully and guided by the current regulations for social distancing, mask wearing, limited audiences and community safety, most events streamed online as well as presented before small live audiences. We felt as if we were recovering.

March ended with Walk For The Music, a new fundraising venture. Walkers sought sponsorship from friends and family and walked 20k through local bushland, raising a handsome \$16,000 for The Boite. Developed by a subcommittee of Boite Committee members who poured endless hours into planning, the project deserves revisiting.

Susan Wright, working with Musical Director Stella Savy enrolled schools for Akoma, The Boite Schools Chorus 2021.

A one day Singers' Festival opened with the

launch of a spectacular new South African vocal ensemble Makepesi, Valanga Khoza's dream come true, and workshops and performances triggered grateful responses from singers who had desperately missed singing across 2020.

Our final live event, before months of intermittent lockdowns was Sarita McHarg's tribute to her musicologist father on June 19th, Sounds of Yarra. Presented and live streamed by Eyal Chipkiewicz and Harmonic Whale Studios, the concert featured a musical collaboration between a collection of 15 local musicians exploring their musical commonalities.

In the second half of 2021, intermittent lockdowns meant projected events were postponed, rescheduled and postponed again. The Boite Schools Chorus went online to the grave disappointment of children, teachers and organisers. Our Freedom Road project was re-worked for an online outcome while we all waited to be able to present it live. At the very end of the year we had the refreshing experience of an intimate (though socially distanced) performance with Nina Rose and friends, and a fine concert at 303 High St. which we produced and streamed for Omid Shayan and Melbourne Amplified Strings.

Two Boite Choirs slid online without a hitch. Iaki Vallejo whose Spanish language choir, Sonidos



Arnold Zable (The Fig Tree Replanted 21 February 2021)

del Alma (sounds of the soul) began after the Singers' Festival in May, steered their way through the disappointments of online singing and were able to rehearse together at the end of the year. The Melbourne Georgian Choir ran a hybrid first semester, and an online second one and launched their virtual performances when they were allowed to gather.

Boite project workers persisted. Susan Wright re-designed The Boite Schools Chorus several times and finished the year with a virtual singing project shared with all the participating schools. We partnered with The Melbourne Veena Festival again to stream the Melbourne performance. Anthony Schulz and Adrian Sherriff produced their Song Appetit online. The Suitcase Series continued online – we are grateful to David Almon for his work in keeping those going. The final event, live at Open Studio was joyful.

Boite Staff worked with City of Yarra to schedule artists for their December 12th Garrawang Festive Yarra Songs in the Square at Curtain Square.

The lesson from 2021 has been the universal need for live music performances.

On August 12th, Eyal Chipkiewicz resigned from the Managing Director's position, and Therese Virtue assumed the role of Acting Director.

Staffing changed across the year. Eyal Chipkiewicz departed in August, Gemma Horbury resigned from the Admin position and after a year managing our Marketing, we lost Tara Gallop

Brennan. Each of those positions has now been successfully filled. The Boite is grateful for the contributions made by all those Staff members who have now moved on.

The Boite's fundraising in 2021 was very successful. The generosity of our donors is acknowledged by Leah Healy. While our failure to qualify for four year funding from Creative Victoria, was a massive disappointment, the offer of an extension of support until end 2023, on the strength of our long

history with them was encouraging.

In another first for The Boite, Leah Healy and Therese Virtue met with Pressroom Philanthropy who agreed to provide a \$30,000 sponsorship to The Boite, \$15,000 cash, \$15,000 in kind. We are most grateful.

The Boite finished 2021 looking forward to a year with more performance opportunities for artists, and a new vision from a new Director and staff.

Personally, I want to thank the people who supported me when I took on the enormous task of Directing the organisation for six months from August to February. In particular I want to acknowledge the tireless work of Leah Healy who took over the accounts on Eyal's departure, and then picked up admin when Gemma left. The Boite owes her a huge debt of gratitude for her dedication and expertise. All staff members had to grapple with the disruptions of 2021 which resulted in much wasted work rescheduling and redesigning events, only to have them cancelled again. To have come out at the other end ready to start again in 2022 is an admirable achievement.

As always, The Boite is grateful to the Boite Committee, Boite Staff, our loyal donors, the supporters and audience members, volunteers, and the musicians who provide us all with beauty and joy, for their work for the organisation across 2021

Treasurer's Report

Daniel Saraev

The financial result for the year ending 31 December 2021 was a surplus of \$80.8K (FY20 \$137.1K), comprising total income of \$500.8K (FY20 \$544.8K) and total expenditure of \$419.9K (FY20 \$407.8K). The closing cash position at year end was \$308.9K (FY20 \$199.1K).

It was a year reflective of an ongoing transition back from the impacts of COVID-19. This culminated in an increase in events and concerts activity (when contrasted to the prior year), with key events that occurred during the year including (by total income):

- Walk for the Music;
- The Fig Tree Replanted;
- The Boite Singers' Festival;
- Sounds of Yarra;
- Makepisi.

The result was an increase in Earned Income for the year to \$133.2K from \$64.0K (FY20).

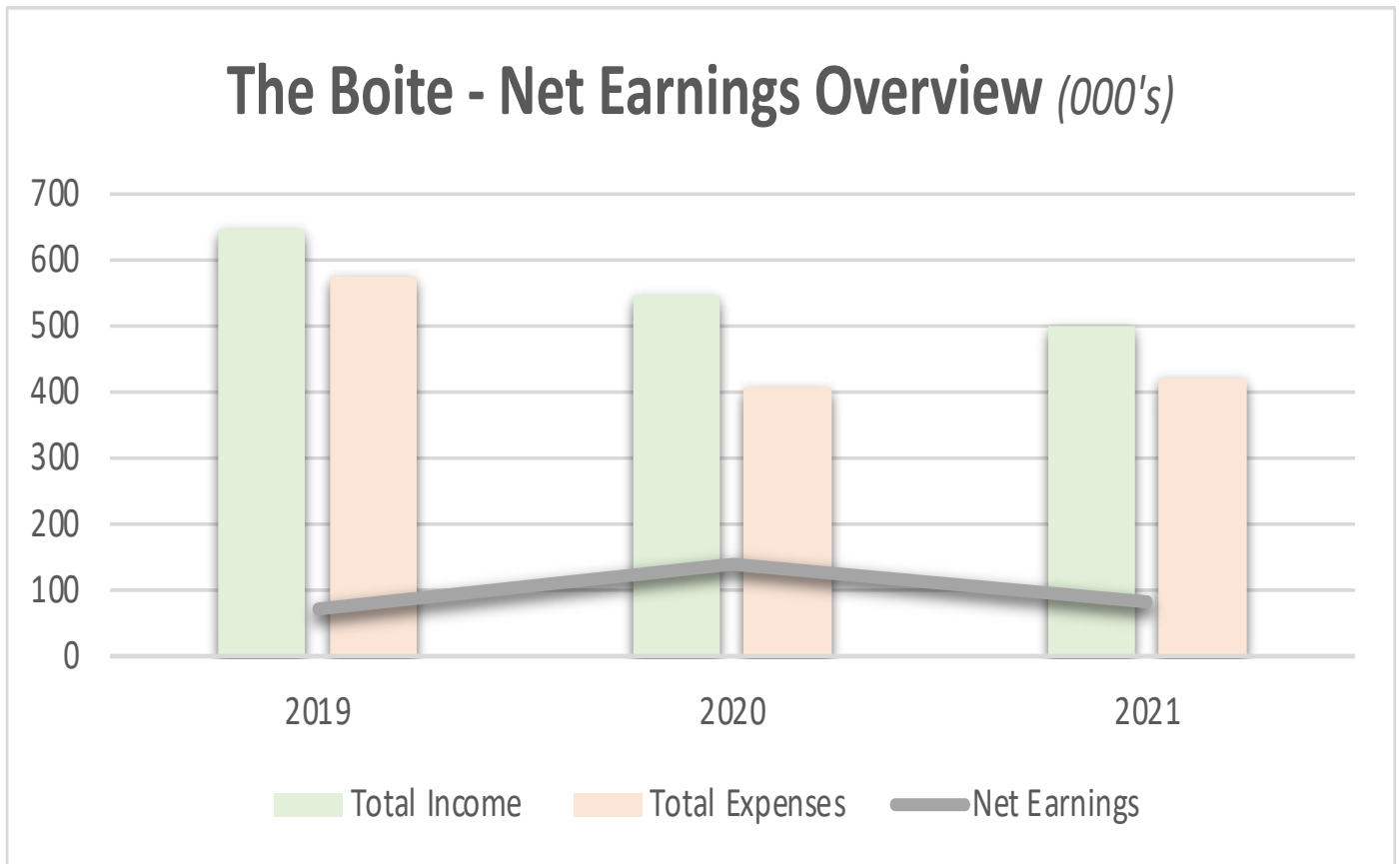
Meanwhile, Grants Income decreased to \$225.6K (from \$246.1K), reflective of timing differences of funding received, while Fundraising

Income was up to \$55.7K (from \$34.9K) from increased donations received.

Other Income decreased to \$54.9K (from \$154.4K). This was expected due to the conclusion of COVID support received during the year, including JobKeeper Payments, the Cashflow Boost Stimulus and Business Support fund.

With respect to expenses, the increase in concerts and events activity also drove a corresponding increase in the underlying expenses, namely through Professional Services and Production expenses, which was \$273.6K and \$34.8K for the year respectively (FY20 \$249.1K and \$10.5K).

A congratulations and thank you to the employees and artists of the Boite for an overall positive year in what's been a tough climate for the Arts industry. A huge thank you to also to the Boite Members, Donors and Grantors for their continued support.



Concert and Performance Program

Therese Virtue

Melbourne, Fitzroy North, Box Hill, Northcote

- **21 concerts: 13 live events (of which 10 were also streamed) 8 online only**
- Programming Therese Virtue, Eyal Chipkiewicz**
- 40 cultural groups represented**



Tsinskarō (The Boite World Music Cafe 20 March 2021 photo: Roger King)

The Fig Tree Replanted first planned for the end of 2020, and realised in two concerts on February 21, after a nail-biting lockdown from February 13th to 17th. A partnership project for the Kadima, the Hellenic Museum and The Boite, the enthusiastic audience (live and viewing online) was inspired by Arnold Zable's book of the same name or their memories of the first iteration of the production. It was a most positive start to the year.

Designed by artist and Boite Committee member, Nela Trifkovic, and produced by Eyal Chipkiewicz, Boite Director, a concert for International Women's Day, The Resonant Heart took place at 75 Reid St. Fitzroy live and streamed, again to an enthusiastic audience.

We partnered with Flesh Over Fifty at

Abbotsford Convent and presented a wonderful concert with the Stiletto Sisters. We felt as if the year of performances was underway, and events at 1 Mark St. in Yarra began.

Concerts at 1 Mark St and 45 downstairs led into a one day Singers' Festival which opened with the launch of a spectacular new vocal ensemble Makepesi. Valanga Khoza and four other singers from South Africa brought the mighty harmonies of South African a cappella to Abbotsford Convent and to a capacity audience of delighted listeners.

In May, Brandon Lee curated a Matsudo Week Concert, at Box Hill, Bela Ciao performed in North Fitzroy.

We watched State Government regulations and set up events to be compliant and safe, live



streaming as well as presenting to limited audiences in the venues. Our final event, before months of intermittent lockdowns was Sarita McHarg's tribute to her musicologist father on June 19th, Sounds of Yarra. Presented and live streamed by Eyal Chipkiewicz and Harmonic Whale Studios, the concert featured a musical collaboration between a collection of 15 local musicians exploring musical elements they had in common.

That was the last of our live events until late November. What followed was a series of re-schedules and further cancellations, demoralising for staff, audience and artists. We are indebted to those supporters who continued to hope as we did, that the events would happen.

At the very end of the year we had the refreshing experience of an intimate (though socially

distanced) performance with Nina Rose and The Smashing Evos, and Play It Martha, and we presented Living in the Machine, in a splendid concert which we produced and streamed for Omid Shayan and Melbourne Amplified Strings. As one instance of the effect of COVID19 on performances, Omid's concert had six different dates and proposed venues before we were able to present it at 303 High St, Northcote.

Online Productions

We worked with The Melbourne Veena Festival again to stream the Melbourne performance. www.youtube.com/watch?v=FyLnKkn1B1o

David Almon produced our Song Appetit featuring Mohamed and Anna Camara. Anthony Schulz and Adrian Sherriff produced their Song Appetit in The Boîte office for online streaming. The Suitcase Series continued online – we are grateful to David Almon for his work in keeping those going. The final Suitcase event, live at Open Studio was a joyful return to a live concert.

The lesson from 2021 has been the universal need for live music performances.

The Boîte Schools Chorus

Susan Wright

Akoma - The Heart Choir Director: Stella Savy

Artistic Director: Mishaël Gyabeng

Master Drummer: Kofi Kunkpe

Project Manager: Susan Wright 5 Rehearsals • 27 Schools • 694 Students

The Boîte Schools Chorus is a Victorian state-wide project actively engaging students in culturally diverse music and song. From May to September students participate in weekly rehearsals at their

schools or community choirs, coming together twice for a combined schools rehearsal in central locations. The project is challenging and inclusive. All students regardless of vocal skill and ability are

encouraged to join. Talented and experienced musicians work with choir members to expand their horizons as global citizens. There are opportunities to read and write text for narrations, create props in the art room and collaborate with other schools toward wonderful final performance.

Music resources and background notes allow the project to cross over into many other areas of the curriculum.

With much happy anticipation Stella Savy, Kofi Kunkpe, 27 schools and I, worked towards staging Akoma-The Heart at Melbourne Town Hall and other venues in regional Victoria. Music and lyrics books were produced for students, musicians rehearsed, t-shirts designed and manufactured and venues booked.

By the end of May 2021, we had managed to have one full combined rehearsal with all participants either via zoom or in person. By early July the complications of another wave of Covid19 infections, as winter set in prevented the staging of any of our proposed concerts. Remote learning and more lockdowns took its toll on the project.

We came very close to staging our Albury concert. So close in fact that the musicians were a 90 mins drive away from Albury, when regional Victoria went back into lockdown and our staff had to be turned around and brought home. There were so many disappointed students and families.

During Term 3, once distance restrictions were lifted, Boite staff sorted and packed from the Project Manger's front room then personally delivered over 700 t-shirts made for the project to each enrolled school. It was a huge job normally done with a team of volunteers. In 2021 Boite staff, family and



BSC T-shirt, hundreds delivered by Boite staff and friends

friends in a show of support and good will, went out of their way to ensure students received their much-prized t-shirts.

In Term 4, we developed an opportunity for each school to produce a video of their students singing two of the Akoma songs wearing their t-shirts. Resources went into production and editing of the raw clips and the finished product was sent back to the schools to share with their school communities. Not all schools were able to be part of this project due to time constraints but the 13 schools that did, loved the opportunity to have a performance outcome.

The continuing challenges of Covid19 in 2021 did not dampen our students', teachers' and choir directors' enthusiasm for the Boite Schools Chorus. We are very grateful for their continued support, goodwill and trust. I would also like to personally thank our musicians Stella Savy and Kofi Kunkpe. Their professionalism, humour and resilience made a difference.



BSC Rehearsal Akoma (Abbotsford Convent 23 May 2021)

Choir Projects

- 3 Choirs • 200 Singers • 55 Rehearsals • 2 Virtual Choir projects completed

Freedom Road Bendigo

Susan Wright

Online in 2021

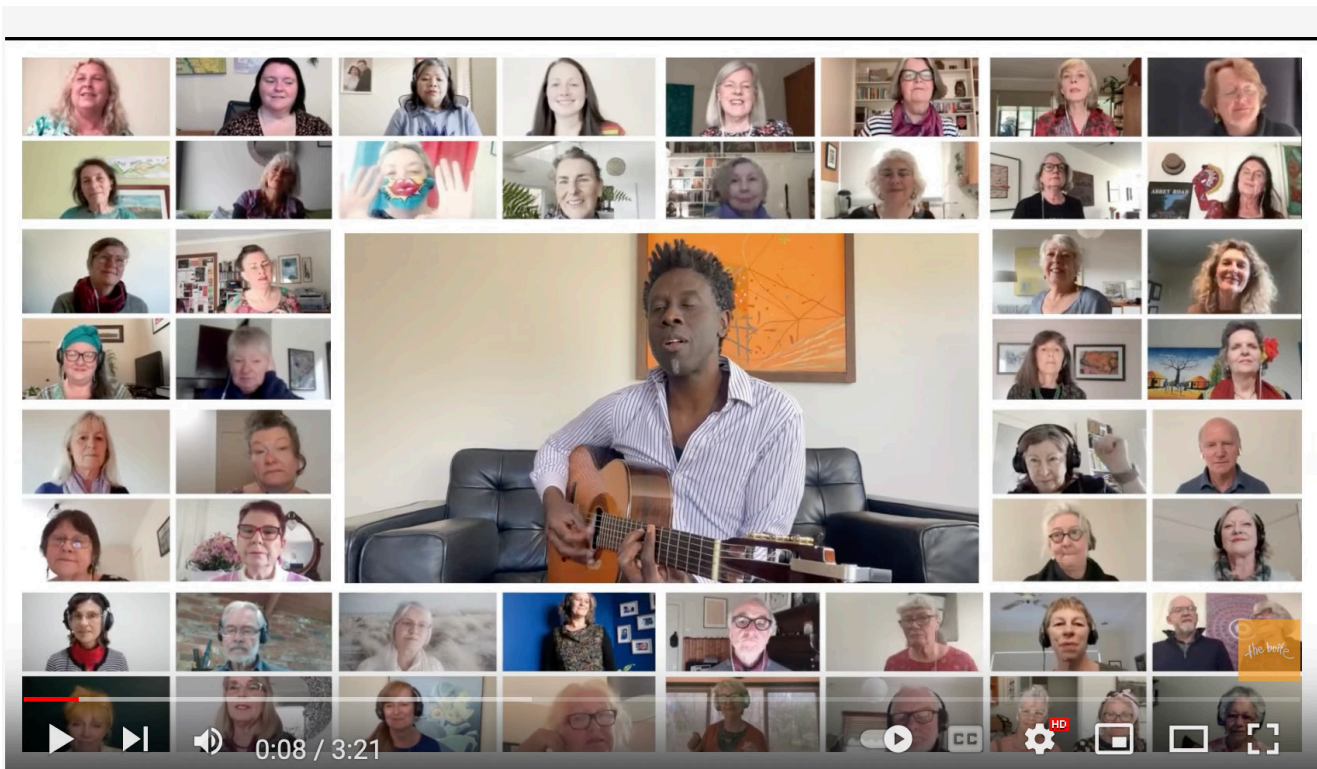
Project Manager: Susan Wright

Choir Director Stella Savy

- 9 Rehearsals • Virtual Choir 'Just Keep Goin' On' with 60 participants

2021 was the 10th anniversary of The Boîte Millennium Chorus staging of Freedom Road. To celebrate this anniversary, we had intended to re-stage Freedom Road, drawing an unauditioned

community choir from regional Victoria, performing at The Ulumbarra Theatre in Bendigo in late October. Enrolments opened very strongly with over 100 participants joining. Unfortunately, continuing



The Boîte Freedom Road Virtual Choir

'Just Keep Going On' (Screen Shot 5 December 2021)

lockdowns and Covid19 restrictions meant that the concert needed to be postponed to 2022.

Even with the concert being cancelled, enthusiasm was very high for us to continue singing online. From this enthusiasm our 'Just Keep Goin' On' Virtual Choir clip was born. With the assistance of Stella Savy, Geoffrey and Georgina Williams rehearsal guide tracks were recorded and shared with information on how to record and submit individual parts. What a challenge it was to us all! Once collected Geoffrey and Georgina looked after the production side and we ended up with a fabulous track with Geoffrey as soloist. The wonderful doyen of Australian gospel singing, Tony

Backhouse joined us from New Zealand to launch the clip online, Sunday 5th December. Tony was impressed with our sound, described the clip as joyous and said that it "just kept me smiling the whole way through".

The Freedom Road concert has been rescheduled for Sunday the 8th May 2022, 2.30pm at Ulumbarra Theatre. The Virtual Choir track can be viewed through The Boite website or on YouTube. www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fhly1tOG8hU

Melbourne Georgian Choir

Roger King

- **Choir Director: Krzysztof Derwinski • Videographer: Jules Ober**
- **Manager: Roger King • 2 terms, 20 rehearsals • 1 video production**
- **22 enrolled in term 1 • 30 enrolled in term 2**

For the second year MGC's program was dominated by COVID constraints.

On 20th February our first rehearsal for 2021 was held outdoors beneath a shady gum tree in Darling Gardens, Clifton Hill just north of Melbourne CBD, with some attending by Zoom.

On 11th March MGC and fellow Georgian singers, Gorani, performed at the official opening of The Collingwood Yards, the new arts precinct in the old Collingwood Tech site. Staging was extremely adventurous, being two elevated walkways 30 metres apart and concealed from each other, with call and response songs being thrown between the stages. It was our first public performance for 15 months, very well received by audience and management and a rare face-to-face gathering for the choir.

Plans for a concert and supra (Georgian inspired musical feast) at the end of term 1 in May were

disrupted by Melbourne's fourth lockdown.

A very successful online supra replaced them.

Term 2 rehearsals were conducted entirely online.

Of the 11 songs rehearsed during the year, one was selected for recording, compiling individual choir members' home recordings and Zoom video recordings. Sisa Tura is a mysterious and moving song presented beautifully by Krys Derwinski and Jules Ober. www.youtube.com/watch?v=46etMqi-0Ek

Great credit is owed to the singers who turned up every week despite the shortcomings of online rehearsals.

Choir members are indebted to Krzysztof Derwinski for his musical and teaching skills and his passion for Georgian songs.

Sonidos Del Alma

Therese Virtue/laki Vallejo

- **Choir Director: laki Vallejo • Manager: Boite admin staff**
 - 4 series, 26 rehearsals
 - 12 enrolled in series 1 • 18 enrolled in series 4

In May 2021, shortly after The Boite Singers' Festival where Colombian born singer and songwriter, laki Vallejo had led a taster of Spanish Language songs, we set up Sonidos Del Alma, a Spanish language choir, led by laki with a repertoire of songs from across Spanish speaking cultures.

An initial enrolment of 12 singers has grown across the year, despite 2021 lockdowns. laki moved seamlessly into online teaching and retained her group of enthusiastic singers.

At the end of 2021, Sonidos Del Alma was able to meet face to face, rehearsing in masks and assuring all members were fully vaccinated. They took an end of year break before preparing for their first performance at Frankston's Ventana Festival, in 2022.

The Boite is delighted to add Sonidos Del Alma to our choir projects.



laki Vallejo conducting Sonidos Del Alma at Ventana Festival, Frankston, photo Roger King

The 30th Boîte Singers' Festival

Susan Wright

Abbotsford Convent
Project Manager: Susan Wright 23 Workshops
• 10 artists • 4 Choirs

The Abbotsford Convent continues to prove to be the perfect home for The Boîte Singers' Festival. A festival on a smaller scale in 2021, held on the first Saturday in May brought expressions of gratitude from singers who had desperately missed joining together in 2020. The festival had a beautiful beginning with a Friday evening concert at Rosina Auditorium launching a spectacular new vocal ensemble Makepisi – Valanga Khoza and four other singers from South Africa. They brought the mighty harmonies of South African a cappella to Abbotsford Convent and to a capacity audience of delighted listeners.

The Saturday began with Finding your Voice with Hatha Yoga led by Avi Misra then we moved on to a joint vocal warm up led by Stella Savy.

From then on participants could choose from song writing with Suzette Herft, Greek folk songs with Anthea Sidiropoulos, gospel with Stella Savy, African drumming with Kofi Kunkpe, Colombian songs with Iaki Vallejo, Voice with Sello Molefi or Bonnie Smith and Ria Soemardjo exploring circle singing and a taste of TakeTina.

Four choirs shared their love of singing and community with our participants. We welcomed the Macedonian Women's Choir, Yarra Gospel, Vox Cops and Zing! (Sing in Dutch). On a beautiful



Macedonian Women's Choir Workshop



Makepisi

sunny May day, choir performances in the Convent gardens rotunda offered delights for a passing crowd as well as Festival participants.

The thirtieth Boîte Singers' Festival was a welcome celebration of singing after many months without choirs or singing groups.

This Connected

Zulya Kamalova

Project Manager: Eyal Chipkiewicz/Gemma Horbury
Convener: Zulya Kamalova
• 120 participants • 14 sessions

I was employed to convene and program the ThisConnected series starting in May 2021.

Initially it was intended to be presented as hybrid (in person/online) events, however as the lockdowns started coming thick and fast, we were only able to meet online.

There was one hybrid session which took place at Victorian Music Development Office, at Collingwood yards, which allowed those who were present to see the venue, which can potentially be used by the Boite and our artists for staging events.

That particular session was dedicated to the question of gigs and venues, which quickly become irrelevant due to the long lockdown and the uncertainty of live performances.

Thus when programming the series I tried to address the issues affecting musicians because of the pandemic.

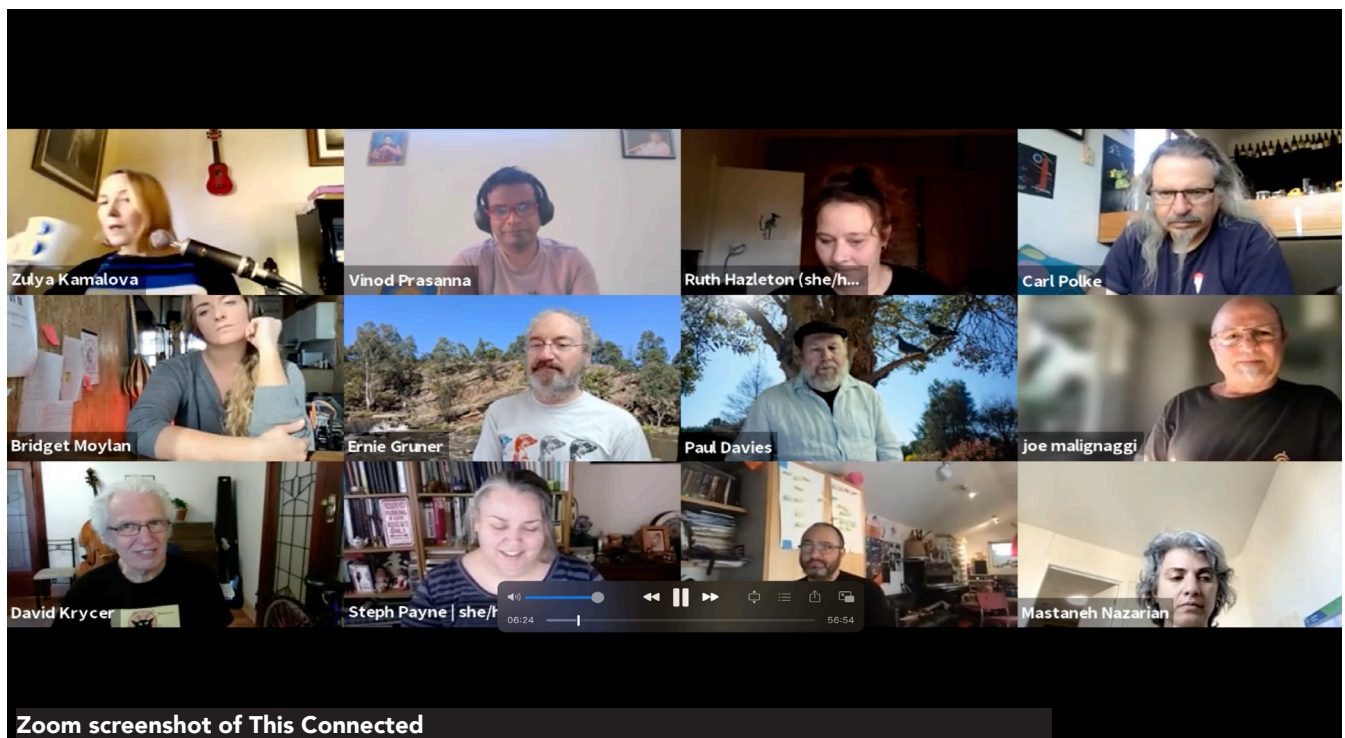
The events included, engaging with Support

Act, explaining the resources available to artists through that charity. We had two sessions with Jan Sky from Brain Potential which were dedicated to looking after mental health.

We discussed problems with the music industry in general with Musicians Australia, and Music Victoria, we addressed the passive income possibilities and attempted an online musical collaboration.

Overall the regular attendees found these sessions useful and necessary. I believe the resilience and creativity of musicians are underutilised and would love to explore some of the ideas we touched upon in those heated discussions.

The number of participants varied from 4 to 17, with a total of about 120. The This Connected Facebook group is still functioning.



Tapestry: Tapping into My Silent Voice

Therese Virtue/Rosa Vasseghi

City of Hume

Project manager: Rosa Vasseghi

• 58 Workshops (face to face and online) • 28 Participating weavers



Women's Tapestries 2021

Rosa Vasseghi developed the second annual season of tapestry workshops for migrant and refugee women and asylum seekers in Hume throughout 2021. This was the second year of a 3 year program which Rosa adapted to online delivery when lockdowns prohibited face to face learning.

Rosa's work must be commended. She ensured that all the project participants had online access. She located funding for devices such as ipads and ensured women had sufficient data to be included in the classes. Rosa also sourced food and delivered food parcels as well as looms and wool to women who were in need during lockdowns.

The project supported women who didn't have health cards, and purchased Rapid Antigen Tests for them. She delivered cooked food to women who contracted COVID 19.

Rosa found part time work for a number of asylum seekers, who are still working. Besides tapestry classes, Rosa set up sessions in English language, taught by volunteers, job training, and in women's health and Indigenous culture. She collaborated with local organisations to provide the trainers for these. The significance of her work in the lives of these women cannot be overstated.

The Boite is proud to be supporting this project.

While most of the women's work was conducted online, they produced tapestries which were exhibited in Darebin, in 2021 and the women were invited to lunch there. Some of the work will be part of an exhibition in 2022 at Hume Global Learning Centre, and some at Queen Victoria Women's Centre.

Music Sans Frontieres

Therese Virtue

12.00 – 2.00pm Tuesdays on 3CR 855 AM (and subsequently online at 3cr.org.au)

Co-ordinator: Therese Virtue

Broadcasters: Therese Virtue, Leah Healy, Joe Malignaggi

• 48 programs • 53% Australian content • 46% overseas content • 38 interviews

Music Sans Frontieres provides one of the platforms for The Boite to keep in touch with music lovers and musicians, provide opportunities for artists for broadcasts, airplay, interviews and on air specials.

The program's strong emphasis on local content ensures the project's relevance to the artists we work most closely with. Broadcasting on a generalist radio station provides an opportunity for the program to bring the music of diverse local cultural groups to an equally diverse listenership. 3CR broadcasts in more than 10 languages weekly.

In 2021, more than half the programs broadcast were produced by the presenters in their own homes,

in order to support 3CR's cautious response to the Covid 19 regulations and risks. That represents a massive commitment of time and expertise by the broadcasters. Leah Healy broadcast her last program for 24 months on January 5th, before her maternity leave. She is back on air in 2022

The lack of live performances and big local and National Festivals in Victoria and Australia wide, coupled with border closures certainly limited the number and range of artists available for interviews.

The persistence of the broadcasters under very difficult circumstances is to be applauded.

Marketing and Promotions, Website, Social Media

Therese Virtue

When our valued Marketing Officer, Anastassia Krstevska departed The Boite's Marketing position for a course in dance, we were lucky to have an opportunity to appoint Tara Gallop Brennan. to the position. She was an enthusiastic and hardworking promoter of the events we developed across a very difficult year. Tara also tackled the daunting task of taking The Boite website through a complete makeover. It was a long and complicated exercise. Tara worked closely with Milly of design company, Blue Fairy. We are grateful for Milly's work, and her willingness to support Boite staff through the exercise.

The dynamic website was launched in December, with some elements still undergoing



Tara delivering BSC t-shirts

development, and the Artists' Directory growing substantially since it became accessible.

Tara decided to take up a new opportunity in film-making in January 2022. We thank her for her

work across all aspects of The Boite's marketing and promotions, and her generous involvement with Boite projects.

Walk For The Music

Therese Virtue

- 80 registered walkers • 37 actual walkers • 288 donations by 242 donors on Raisely,
- 5 donations by 5 donors outside Raisely
- Total amount raised \$16,445 (including registration fees and sponsorship) • 6 work-shops**

Partners: Community Bank on Queens Parade (Bendigo Bank): \$1,000 sponsorship, Kids Own Publishing: Bookmaking activity, materials and volunteers, Abbotsford Convent: free use of the lawn, Isaac D. Lamb: Volunteer photographer

Organised by The Boite Fundraising Subcommittee, March 2th saw a new fundraising venture – Walk For the Music, where a team of walkers sought sponsorship from friends and family and walked 11k through local bushland, raising a handsome \$16,445 towards The Boite's year of activities.

We are deeply grateful to the participants and their sponsors, to the volunteers who guided walkers around the route and to staff and the subcommittee of Boite Committee members who poured endless hours into planning and selecting

the route, walking it, devising the program of musical activities that accompanied it and then walked it again on the day.

Boite Staff developed the promotion and the organisational framework for the project.

Participant surveys indicated people's enjoyment of the walk, the beautiful day in local bushland, and an excuse to walk alongside the superb Yarra river.

Occasional singing and percussion workshops along the route, and the opportunity to be fiddled home by Ernie Gruner for some walkers, amplified the enjoyment and made it an activity that deserves revisiting.



Walk for The Music

Donations

Leah Healy

Thank you to all the generous and loyal donors who supported The Boite in 2021.

We are very grateful for your ongoing support. 2021 was a difficult year. Events being on and off again throughout the year made it very hard to navigate.

All your generous donations made a world of difference and encouraged us to keep going. Amidst so much uncertainty, it was reassuring to know we had the support of so many.

Thank you to the Boite Fundraising Subcommittee for all their in-kind support with the

Walk for The Music Fundraiser.

We would like to extend a very special thanks to Pressroom Philanthropy for their donation of \$15,000.

Below is a list of some of our donors, there are more, and we acknowledge your generosity too.

We look forward to sharing many more years of culturally diverse music with you.

In 2021 we raised a total of \$50,390 in cash donations from 384 donors.

Our successful fundraising campaigns in 2021 include:

- Walk For The Music fundraiser – 28th March – 80 participants, 247 donors raised a total of \$16,445
- The Boite End of Financial Year 2021 campaign in June raised a total of \$9650

Thank you to all our donors in 2021 including but not limited to;

Jan Allan, Judy Avisar, Alda Balthrop-Lewis, Yvonne Bellamy, Sue Berwick, Olga M. Black, Marlies Blatz, Anne Bolitho, Nan Brown, Tanya Brown, Priscilla Clarke OAM, Pam Creed, Myfanwy Edwards, Deidre Egan, Gillian Essex, Helen Fallaw, Evan Gellert, Angelina Hajncl, Terry and Christina Hart, Jane Herington, Janet and Graham Hodgson, Tony Iliou, Prue Jolley, Roger King OAM, Susie Langley, Benny and Denise Monheit, Judy Morawetz-Avisar, Stephen Morey, Joan Powling, Rena Pritchard, Judy Rassaby, Roslyn Semler, Klara Sliwa, Mardi Stow, Crina Virgona, Therese Virtue OAM, Orietta Wheatley and Helen Wirtz.

Boite Artist List 2021 – 76 Artists

Beatriz Aguila (Honey Bea), Matthew Arnold, Eugene Belenko, Cora Browne, Anna Camara, Mohamed Camara, Flora Carbo, Theo Carbo, Phil Carroll, Hope Csutoros, Krzysztof Derwinski, Kelly Dowall, Camille El Feghali, Fran Evans, Patrick Evans, Harb Gill, Salvatore Greco, Ernie Gruner, Judy Gunson, Phil Gunter, Costa Hagi, Stewart Haines, Rosco Heck, Gopinath Iyer, Ramnath Iyer, Gosia Kaszubska, Parvyn Kaur, Valanga Khoza, Xani Kolac, David Krycer, Kofi Kunkpe, Brandon Lee, Josh Licht, Nina Lim, Tariro Mavondo, Kavisha Mazzella, Sarita McHarg, James McLean, Sello Molefi, Sarah Moulton, Lionel Mrocki, Freydi Mrocki, Senzo Myeza, Mpaphi Nfandizo Matthews,

Elizabeth Obando, Jacob (Iakovos)

Papadopoulos, Amla Periakarpan, Enio Pozzebon, Anita Quayle, Bhairavi Raman, Gabriel Rehmtulla, Corey Romeo, Enzo Ruberto, Nicola Russo, Stella Savy, Anthony Schulz, Stefania Serna, Omid Shayan, Anthea Sidiropoulos, Manmit Singh, Nanthesh Sivarajah, Bonnie Smith, Aseel Tayah, Brihoney Tilley, Jo To, Nela Trifkovic, Peter Vadiveloo, Iaki Vallejo, Irine Vela, Nick Weiss, Geoffrey Williams, Georgina Williams, Richie Williams, Achilles Yiangoulli, Arnold Zable

Boite Ensembles List 2021 – 12 groups

Bella Ciao Band, Brandon Lee Koto Ensemble, Iyer Brothers, Klezmania, Makepisi, Melbourne Amplified Strings, Nina Rose & The Smashing Evos, Play It Martha, SHAYAN, Saray Iluminado, Stiletto Sisters, Tsinskaró

Kevin Clarke Tax & Accounting

KEIRAINÉ PTY LTD - ABN 70005950318

Certified Practising Accountants

1/415 Lygon Street, Brunswick East Vic 3057

Telephone: 03 9090 7600 Facsimile: 03 9077 9156

Email: admin@kctaxagent.com.au

INDEPENDENT AUDIT REPORT

To the Board and Members of the Boite (Victoria) Inc.

Scope of Audit

We have audited the Financial Statements of the Boite (Victoria) Inc. for the year ended 31 December 2021 comprising the Profit & Loss Statement, and Balance Sheet. The Board of the Boite is responsible for the financial statements. We have conducted an independent audit of the financial statements in order to express an opinion on it to the Board and Members.

Our audit has been conducted in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards to provide reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatements. Our procedures included examination, on a test basis, of evidence supporting the amounts and other disclosures in the financial statements, and the evaluation of accounting policies and significant accounting estimates. These procedures have been taken to form an opinion whether, in all material respects, the financial statements are presented in accordance with Accounting Standards and other mandatory professional reporting requirements so as to present a true and fair view which is consistent with our understanding of the Boite's financial position, the results of its operations and its cash flows.

As an audit procedure, it is not practicable to extend our examination to sales of tickets and goods beyond the accounting for amounts recorded as received and accrued, as shown by the books of the Boite (Victoria) Incorporated.

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

Audit Opinion

Subject to the above comments, in our opinion the financial statements present a true and fair view in accordance with the statutory provisions of the Associations Incorporation Act 1981 and the Accounting Standards listed in Schedule 1 of the Regulations 1998 and other mandatory professional reporting requirements, the financial position of the Boite (Victoria) Inc. as at 31 December 2021 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended.

KEIRAINÉ PTY LTD
T/A Kevin Clarke Tax & Accounting
Certified Practising Accountants



KEVIN CLARKE CPA
Director

Dated 25 March, 2022

The Boite
Balance Sheet
As of December 31, 2021



	TOTAL
Assets	
Current Assets	
Accounts receivable	
1200 Accounts Receivable	7,405.00
Total Accounts receivable	A\$7,405.00
1000 Bank Accounts	
1001b Operating Account (Bendigo)	117,708.85
1002b Donations Trust Account (Bendigo)	95,850.22
1003b ATO Reserve (Bendigo)	12,457.21
1004b Auspice/Grant Reserve (Bendigo)	54,400.28
1005b Petty Cash (Bendigo)	3,214.02
1006 Leave Entitlements Account (Bendigo)	30,632.43
1007 Eltham Account (Bendigo)	0.00
Total 1000 Bank Accounts	314,263.01
1010 Petty Cash	
1011 Petty Cash Floats or Deposits	496.35
1012 Everyday Mastercard (Petty Cash Card)	859.72
Total 1010 Petty Cash	1,356.07
1020 Payroll Liabilities	0.00
1050 Deposit (Clearing Account)	0.00
1051 Undeposited Funds	0.00
1100 Inventory	
1101 CD/DVD Stock	0.00
1105 Other Merchandise	0.00
Total 1100 Inventory	0.00
1400 Prepayments	2,000.00
1401 Debtors (other)	0.00
Total 1400 Prepayments	2,000.00
Total Current Assets	A\$325,024.08
Long-term assets	
1600 Equipment	0.00
Total long-term assets	0.00
Total Assets	A\$325,024.08

	TOTAL
Liabilities and shareholder's equity	
Current liabilities:	
Accounts payable	
2000 Accounts Payable	-651.99
Total Accounts payable	A\$ -651.99
2002 GST Control	0.00
2004 Superannuation Payable	3,791.46
2005 PAYG Tax Control	0.00
2010 Prepaid Income	
2011 Contract Fees	0.00
2012 Ticket Sales	0.00
2013 Merch	0.00
2014 Grants	62,022.00
2015 Auspiced Grants	1,691.27
Total 2010 Prepaid Income	63,713.27
2020 Accrued Expenditure	
2021 Audit Fee	0.00
2022 Fees & Services	0.00
Total 2020 Accrued Expenditure	0.00
2200 Payroll Clearing	130.33
2210 Accrued Leave - AL & LSL	39,079.95
2300 ATO Clearing Account	8,536.00
2320 GST Liabilities Payable	1,420.73
2330 PAYG Withholdings Payable	0.00
Total current liabilities	A\$116,019.75
Shareholders' equity:	
Net Income	80,845.44
3000 Opening Balance Equity	-58,757.76
3900 Retained Earnings	186,916.65
Total shareholders' equity	A\$209,004.33
Total liabilities and equity	A\$325,024.08

The Boite
Profit and Loss
January - December 2021



	TOTAL
Income	
4000 Earned Income	
4001 Ticketing	4,812.76
4001a Concert Tickets	35,586.49
4001b Workshop Tickets	52,732.84
Total 4001 Ticketing	93,132.09
4004 Membership Fees	3,372.74
4005 Food & Drink Sales	1,443.17
4006 CD/DVD Sales	
4006a CD/DVD Sales (Boite)	922.65
Total 4006 CD/DVD Sales	922.65
4007 Merchandise Sales	
4007b T-Shirt Sales	16,940.91
4007c Other Merchandise Sales	2,459.03
Total 4007 Merchandise Sales	19,399.94
4009 Auspice	1,100.00
4011 Contract Fees	10,350.00
4013 Interest	106.28
4014 Services	2,838.64
4016 Postage	4.55
4017 Cancellation Fees	540.00
4018 Administration Fees	10.04
Total 4000 Earned Income	133,220.10
4020 Sponsorship	
4021 Cash Sponsorship	1,298.55
4022 Sponsorship-In Kind	
4022b Staff	7,890.00
4022c Volunteers	4,087.50
4022d Board Members	18,000.00
Total 4022 Sponsorship-In Kind	29,977.50
Total 4020 Sponsorship	31,276.05
4030 Fundraising	
4031 Donations	55,732.60
Total 4030 Fundraising	55,732.60
4100 Grants	
4110 Commonwealth Government Grants	
4111 Australia Council for the Arts	
4111p Australia Council - Project Grants	16,000.00
Total 4111 Australia Council for the Arts	16,000.00
Total 4110 Commonwealth Government Grants	16,000.00

	TOTAL
4120 Victoria State Government Grants	
4121 Creative Victoria	
4121o Creative Victoria - Operational Grants	174,323.00
Total 4121 Creative Victoria	174,323.00
4122 Other Victoria State Government Grants	1,000.00
Total 4120 Victoria State Government Grants	175,323.00
4130 Local Government Grants	
4131 City of Yarra	12,000.00
4132 City of Melbourne	15,000.00
4135 City of Whitehorse	1,500.00
4136 Nillumbik Shire Council	4,272.64
4139 Other Local Government Grants	1,500.00
Total 4130 Local Government Grants	34,272.64
Total 4100 Grants	225,595.64
4900 Other Income	
4901 JobKeeper Payments	34,950.00
4904 Covid Hardship Grants	20,000.00
Total 4900 Other Income	54,950.00
Total Income	A\$500,774.39
GROSS PROFIT	A\$500,774.39
Expenses	
6000 Professional Services	
6001 Creative Services	
6001a Performers	23,597.50
6001b Artistic Direction	3,050.00
6001c Musical/Choir Direction	1,750.00
6001d Programming and Curation	40,647.93
6001e Tutor	14,510.55
Total 6001 Creative Services	83,555.98
6002 Technical Services	
6002b Tech	14,678.64
6002d Event Manager	86.26
6002e Marketing and Publicity	29,153.26
6002f FOH & Box Office	645.45
6002g BOH & Stage Management	250.00
6002h Consultant	12,710.00
Total 6002 Technical Services	57,523.61
6003 Administrative Services	
6003a Project Coordinator	36,142.02
6003c Office Manager	10,144.61
6003d Executive Director	40,936.00
6003f Members and Donors Services	19,391.42
Total 6003 Administrative Services	106,614.05
6004 Voluntary Professional Services	25,890.00
Total 6000 Professional Services	273,583.64

	TOTAL
6100 Production	
6101 Venue Hire	6,551.71
6104 Food & Drink	1,363.62
6105 Materials	1,590.57
6106 Equipment Hire	3,063.64
6107 Booking Fees	1,388.00
6108 Cleaning Fees	14.55
6109 Event Security & Safety	768.00
6110 Liquor Licence/Food Registration Fees	443.87
6111 APRA/AMCOS Fees	138.94
6112 Merchandise Production	
6112b CD/DVD Production	1,024.00
6112c T-Shirt Production	8,164.60
6112d Book Production	4,225.00
Total 6112 Merchandise Production	13,413.60
6119 Volunteers	4,087.50
6120 Other Production Costs	1,939.43
Total 6100 Production	34,763.43
6300 Travel & Accommodation	
6302 Travel Expenses	69.39
Total 6300 Travel & Accommodation	69.39
6500 Promotion	
6501 Design, Layout & Photography	1,625.82
6502 Video Production	300.00
6503 Publicity & PR	1,363.64
6510 Promotional Materials	
6511 Brochure, Flyer, Poster Printing	310.00
Total 6510 Promotional Materials	310.00
6520 External Advertising	
6521 Radio Advertising	4,947.23
6525 Online Advertising	530.00
6525a Facebook Advertising	326.48
6525c Website Advertising	1,800.00
6525d Email Marketing	326.95
6525e Other Online Advertising	398.00
Total 6525 Online Advertising	3,381.43
Total 6520 External Advertising	8,328.66
6530 Promotion Distribution	
6532 Promotion Postage, Courier & Delivery	1,090.72
6533 Poster/Flyer Distribution	420.00
Total 6530 Promotion Distribution	1,510.72
6540 Website	
6541 Domain and Hosting	38.99
6542 Maintenance and Development	2,181.82
Total 6540 Website	2,220.81
Total 6500 Promotion	15,659.65
6600 Overheads	
6601 Office Rent	9,559.31
6602 Utilities	3,277.96
6603 Parking Expenses	1,527.24

	TOTAL
6610 Office Equipment & Consumables	
6611 Printing, Stationery and Office Supplies	1,317.37
6612 Asset Purchases under \$200	632.40
6613 Hardware	21,000.03
Total 6610 Office Equipment & Consumables	22,949.80
6620 Communications	
6621 Office Phones	547.40
6622 Internet Service	1,732.93
Total 6620 Communications	2,280.33
6630 Insurance	
6632 Property	1,075.20
6633 Public Liability	1,283.49
6636 WorkCover	2,587.33
6637 Other Insurance	195.94
Total 6630 Insurance	5,141.96
6640 Software	
6641 Cloud Services	3,447.37
6642 Software Licences	529.63
Total 6640 Software	3,977.00
6650 Bank/Legal Expenses	296.54
6652 Bank Fees and Charges	350.73
6653 Credit Card Fees	656.68
6654 Government Fees and Charges	107.52
Total 6650 Bank/Legal Expenses	1,411.47
6660 Professional Fees & Expenses	
6662 Development Services	250.00
6663 Accounting fees	6,685.02
6664 Auditors' Fees	250.00
6666 Subscription/Membership Fees	334.63
6667 Training Expenses	4,125.85
6668 Conferences	261.10
6669 Other Professional Fees & Expenses	101.55
Total 6660 Professional Fees & Expenses	12,008.15
6680 Donations	639.00
6695 Payroll Expenses	
6695a Wage Expenses	6,616.40
6695b Annual & Long Service Leave	6,425.67
6695f Public Holidays	5,152.50
6695g Sick Leave	2,183.08
6695h Time In Lieu	-2,999.07
6695i Superannuation	15,702.04
Total 6695 Payroll Expenses	33,080.62
Total 6600 Overheads	95,852.84
Total Expenses	A\$419,928.95
NET EARNINGS	A\$80,845.44



In 2021, The Boîte received support from the following organisations:



BOITE.COM.AU



BOITE@BOITE.COM.AU
(03) 9417 1983

