



**kalasangam**



# Annual Review

April 2016 - March 2017

*SanRizvi*  
2017



## Chair and CEO

Dear Friends,

We are delighted to present our annual review for 2016 - 17. This year saw Kala Sangam founder and long standing Artistic Director Dr Geetha Upadhyaya step down after an illustrious career of leading the organisation through many years of successes and achievements, not least of which was the acquisition of St Peters House as Kala Sangam's base. We are extremely proud that Dr Geetha's achievements were also recognised by Her Majesty the Queen with the award of an OBE for her contribution to arts and culture.

This year has once again been filled with creativity. Amongst the many artistic achievements we can look back on, the Passage to Punjab exhibition by Hardeep Singh Sahota, accompanied by the stunning and vibrant imagery of Sara Rizvi, really filled the foyer at St Peter's House with colour and splendour. Elsewhere at the National Centre for Early Music, the arrival of autumn was serenaded by the sounds of both the sitar, played by Nadeem Mehboob and the Dilruba, the 'robber of the heart'- a bowed instrument, played by the talented Surjit Singh.

Music and dance is at the very heart of Kala Sangam and the highlight of the season was undoubtedly the Chitravina concert by internationally acclaimed Chitravina wizard, Ravikiran. We were also delighted to present a contrasting Korean dance ensemble from Hanyang University who presented traditional and contemporary Korean dance with absolute precision.

Recognising the need to develop new and diverse audiences has placed young people at the heart of our work this year. The signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Bradford College has enabled a visual arts exhibition, and a jazz music evening with performing arts students from a range of HND courses at the college.

Regionally significant festivals such as WOW Bradford and The World Curry Festival saw record numbers of people in the building at these high profile events, raising the profile of our centre. The launch of Toshakhana happened here in Bradford and led to Kala Sangam artists being invited to record music at Buckingham Palace for the Splendour of the Subcontinent national tour.

Finally, and by no means least, we have been busy with the Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation funding application. It gives me great pleasure to announce we were successful in securing core funding for the next four years (2018 - 22). We will use this money to deliver a new creative vision for Kala Sangam, as well as continuing to improve our facilities.

The appointment of a new Creative Producer, Alex Croft, will enable us to build on the successes of the past and to move forward with renewed purpose. We would like to thank our funders Arts Council England and Bradford Council as we strive to build upon the tremendous legacy of Dr Geetha Upadhyaya.

Finally, we should like to thank you all for your continued support.

Caroline Harrison - Chair

Ajit Singh - CEO



## Artistic Director's Report

Dear Friends

I am pleased to present this annual report and hope you find it interesting.

This year a variety of dance events ranging from the graceful Kuchipudi to rarely seen Korean dance delighted audiences while the vibrant sounds of Dhol and Bhangra rocked the space!

Kala Sangam's in house production 'Dance Divine' was a unique presentation of a Japanese story while the 'Seasons of Life' was a collaborative response to the poems of the Bronte sisters.

The Butterfly and Resilience exhibition presented the visual arts work of women who faced many challenges in life but emerged victorious.

Eid was ushered in with a unique exhibition of calligraphy by a Bradford based artist and the digital installation Temple of Science was intriguing for audiences.

A variety of string instruments, namely the Sitar, Sarangi, Chitravina and Kora serenaded the stage.

The annual events 'Kala Utsav' and 'Kala Samarpan' were, as always, a family crowd puller while the monthly informal poetry and film screening was a treat for local audiences.

There was a superb range of artists and art forms that enriched Kala Sangam's artistic programme.

This will be my last annual report as Artistic Director as I will be moving on from Kala Sangam. I reflect on these wonderful years at Kala Sangam with pride and am filled with gratitude for your support to Kala Sangam and hope this will continue for many more years to come.

Deep regards

Dr Geetha Upadhyaya - Artistic Director



## Programme and Box Office

The season started with 'Sthree' which reflected on the similarities between women in classical Indian mythology and in the moving poems of the Brontes. Each woman is different in her identity and mythical journey, yet they were united in a shared narrative of love, duty and self-sacrifice. Arunima Kumar, the award winning Kuchipudi dancer, exquisitely executed 'Sthree'.

'Passage to Punjab' celebrated Vaisakhi, the Sikh harvest festival with vibrant Dhol drumming by Punjabi Roots Academy. Stunning art and photography by Hardeep Singh Sahota supported the Vaisakhi theme, followed by a talk by Nima Poovaya-Smith on the textiles of Punjab. Finally this year we were delighted to launch Dr Raminder Singh's book 'The Future of UK Sikhs'.

Kala Sangam artists, in collaboration with the Bronte Museum, wove the colourful performance tapestry 'Season of Life' in response to the lyrical treasures of the Bronte sisters.

Kala Sangam's production 'Dance Divine', which presented the company's artists, was a real family entertainer. This show was based on the Japanese Goddess of light who reflected the divine presence of light in one's life.

In collaboration with the World Curry Festival, the 'Sounds of Sitar' resonated through the reputed sitarist Mehboob Nadeem and Manjit Singh Rasia while the partnership with NCEM presented Surjeet Singh on Sarangi accompanied by Surdarshan Singh Chana in 'Serenade with the Sarangi'.

Inspired by Indian lullabies, Supriya Nagarajan, Duncan Chapman and Mike Mcinerney created an immersive musical experience in 'Lullabies'.

The Bradford College partnership with Kala Sangam presented the 'Northern school of Creative Industries' featuring all the interesting work of the students in performing arts, jazz, technology and theatre.



## International Artists at Kala Sangam

Chitravina Maestro Ravikiran has a steady following in Yorkshire and made sure he did not disappoint his audiences by treating them with his soulful music and brilliant accompanists Prakash and Prathap in 'Sur Sangam'.

The KUM dance company from Anyang University treated the audience to a once in a lifetime experience of traditional and contemporary Korean dance.

## Exhibitions

Jill Boyd's 'Resilience' was interesting whilst Shy Burhan displayed a photographic documentation of 'Butterfly' artwork.

This was followed by an interesting video installation by Shanaz Gulzar and Steve Manthorp called 'Temple of Science' which attracted new audiences to Kala Sangam.

Razwan-ul-Haq captured the spiritual significance of the Islamic calligraphic in his unique 'Breathing Calligraphy'.







## Academy

'Kala Utsav 2016' was, as ever, a great platform for our students to showcase their achievements which was enjoyed by their parents and audiences alike.

Kala Jagran drew dancers and musicians, both upcoming and professional, to present their best to a full auditorium.

We continued to deliver classes in Bharatanatyam and Tamil on Saturday mornings, and new Bollywood Dance provision started in partnership with Trishool Dance Academy in January 2017.

## Children, Young People and Families

The dance and music workshops for a range of schools continued and enabled the company to take a variety of South Asian arts to young people and teachers.



## Near Neighbours project

In September 2016, Kala Sangam was awarded a small grant from Near Neighbours (Church Urban Fund) to deliver an Interfaith Community project with the Anand Milan Centre, a Gujarati community centre, and members of Soka Gakkai International, a Nichiren Buddhist organisation. In this project we aimed to explore the fundamental similarities and differences between these faiths and communities and create a piece of art to reflect our discussions. Preparations for this project began in November, and we delivered four Kathak workshops at Anand Milan Centre. The preparation work delivered here helped us to lay the foundation for future work.





Venue Hire

2016/17 saw a significant increase in the use of the venue by both artistic and non-artistic bookers. The building was more fully utilised during the day in the evening and at weekends.

Room Hire

We saw an increase in bookers across all sectors – Arts, Community and Charity, Public Sector, Private Business and Individuals – wedding parties etc. The highlights included The Challenge - National Citizen Service – for six weeks in August, The World Curry festival weekend in September, Women of the World festival in November and The Anne Frank exhibition for four weeks in March. We also had many regular and repeat bookers including: ESOL language classes, NHS Wellbeing groups, The Prince's Trust – Young Entrepreneurs course, CBMDC – training courses, CCG's – trust board meetings.

Tenants

**FoodWorks** – continued to operate the café and provide our on-site event catering.  
**Dance United Yorkshire** – used our venue as an administrative base and delivered a number of projects here.  
**The Demon Barbers & Breaking Tradition** – expanded their offering and developed their new summer and Christmas live shows in our theatre space.  
**Young Masters Arts Studio** – have gone from strength to strength and delivered arts classes to over 100 children on a weekly basis. We also hosted their annual showcase exhibition and awards ceremony.  
**Crown of Christ Church** – have continued to grow their congregation and worship here twice a week with additional celebration events throughout the year.

New Initiatives

**KS Gala Fundraising Dinner** – this was the first year of our fundraising event and we had fantastic support from the local business community. A great night was had by all as guests enjoyed a sumptuous 3 course meal followed by a charity auction that raised several thousand pounds.  
**KS Kids Arts Camp** – ran for the second year and had more children enrolled. Attendees got a chance to try music, dance, drama and visual arts, culminating with a celebration performance at the end of the week.  
**WOW festival** – we were the key venue partner for the inaugural Bradford Women of the World festival. For three days in November we hosted a celebration of women and girls, we helped to connect, challenge and explore ideas around inspirational women. This was the first of a three year commitment.



Board of Trustees (2016-17)

Chair (appointed 21/07/16)	Caroline Harrison
Vice Chair	Marie O'Reilly
Treasurer	Ian Lewis
Trustee	Pauline Mayers
Trustee	Paul Nash
Trustee	Daniel Prendergast
Trustee	Ravinder Singh
Trustee	David West
Chair (resigned 21/07/16)	Purnima Tanuku
Trustee (resigned 17/11/16)	Avijit Datta
Trustee (resigned 15/01/17)	Zulfiqar Hussain



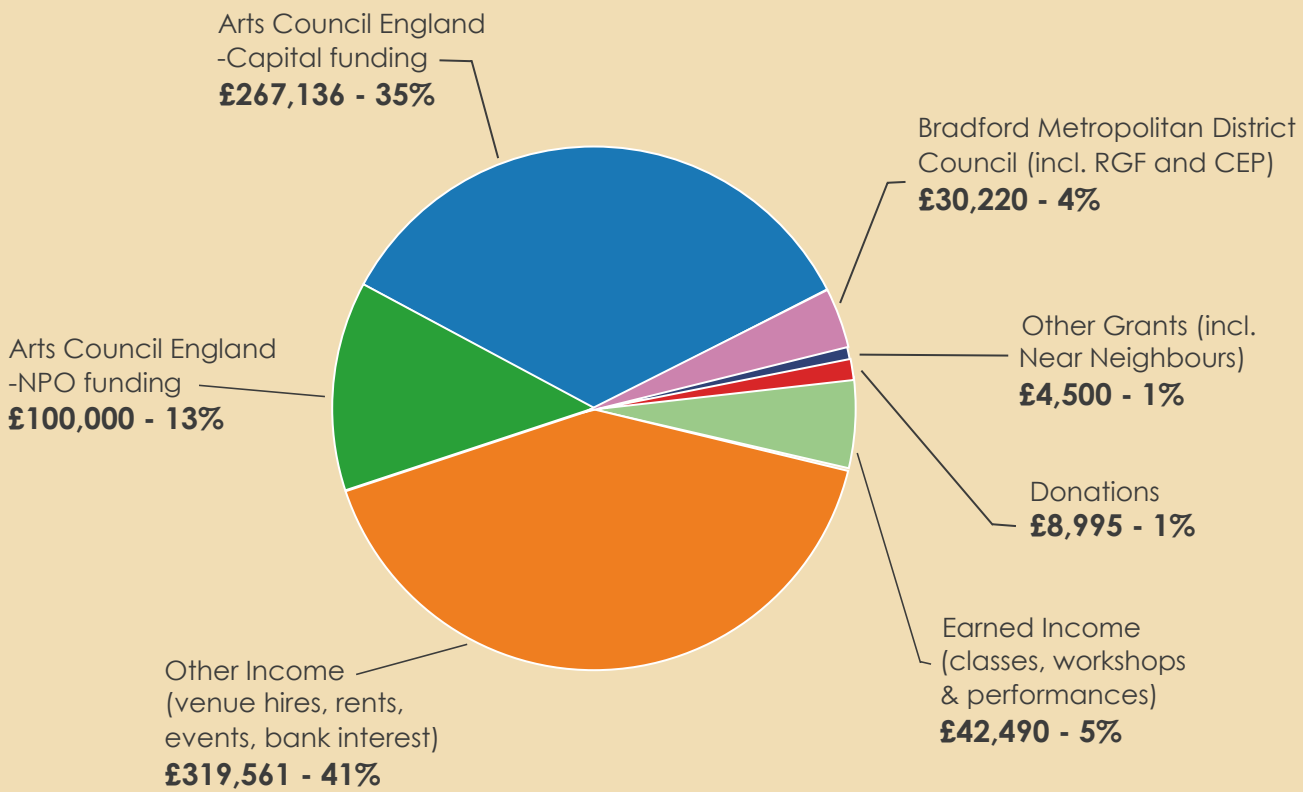


Financial Overview

Statement of Financial Activities Year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total Funds 2017 £	Total Funds 2016 £
<b>Incoming Resources</b>				
Grants & Trust income	120,000	281,856	401,856	309,614
Generated by Activites	42,490	-	42,490	61,909
Other income (inc. Donations & Interest)	240,003	88,553	328,556	209,830
<b>Total Incoming Resources</b>	402,493	370,409	772,902	581,353
<b>Resources Expended</b>				
Costs of Generating Funds	10,280	-	10,280	8,432
Costs of Charitable Activities	408,595	82,213	490,808	423,489
Governance Costs	8,243	-	8,243	21,469
<b>Total Resources Expended</b>	427,118	82,213	509,331	453,390
<b>Net Incoming/(Outgoing) Resources</b>	(24,625)	288,196	263,571	127,963
Transfers between Funds	42,796	(42,796)	-	-
<b>Net Movement in Funds</b>	18,171	245,400	263,571	127,963
Total Funds brought forward	215,439	1,150,649	1,366,088	1,238,124
<b>Total Funds carried forward</b>	233,610	1,396,049	1,629,659	1,366,088

Balance Sheet Year ended 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017	31 <sup>st</sup> March 2017 £		31 <sup>st</sup> March 2016 £	
<b>Fixed Assets</b>		1,376,571		1,148,279
<b>Current Assets</b>				
Debtors, Prepayments and Stock	77,725		113,970	
Cash at Bank and In-Hand	432,013		253,699	
<b>Total Current Assets</b>	509,738		367,669	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	256,650		149,860	
<b>Net Current Assets less Current Liabilities</b>		253,088		217,809
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		1,629,659		1,366,088
<b>Funds</b>				
<i>Restricted funds:</i>				
Capital Restricted Funds		1,396,049		1,150,649
Other Restricted Funds		-		-
<i>Unrestricted funds:</i>				
General Funds		142,772		94,990
Designated Funds		90,838		120,449
<b>Total Funds</b>		1,629,659		1,366,088

Incoming Resources



Revenue Funders



Other Funders and Supporters





**kalasangam**

 kala.sangam

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 kalasangam\_arts\_centre

 TheKalaSangam

**Kala Sangam Arts Centre**

St Peter's House  
1 Forster Square  
Bradford, BD1 4TY

**Tel: 01274 303 340 · Email: [info@kalasangam.org](mailto:info@kalasangam.org)  
[www.kalasangam.org](http://www.kalasangam.org)**

**Company no. 03195878 · Charity no. 1055488**