

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Annual Report and Accounts

year ended 31 March 2000



Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

General Information

Administrative office

The Manor House,
80 East End Road,
London N3 2SY

020 8349 5724

Solicitors

Paisner & Co,
Bouverie House,
154 Fleet Street,
London EC4A 2DQ

Auditors

Blick Rothenberg,
12 York Gate,
Regent's Park,
London NW1 4QS

Bankers

Midland Bank plc,
31 Euston Road,
London NW1 2ST

COIF Charity Funds,
St Alphage House,
2 Fore Street,
London EC2Y 5AQ

Charity Number

280389

Company Number

1488690

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Chairman's Statement

The Ben Uri Art Society has spent considerable time this year seeking suitable premises and in May we relocated to the Manor House, 80 East End Road, London N3 2SY. We intend to keep the question of a permanent home and gallery for the Ben Uri under review, but in the meantime look forward to *an exciting and full exhibition programme in the beautiful Grade II, 18th Century listed building, on the same site as the Jewish Museum, Finchley, the Manor House Jewish Book Shop and the Manor House Society.*

Because of the vast amount of time which has been spent seeking new premises, the Ben Uri concentrated on periodic exhibitions, surrounded by a series of complementary events, forming mini 'festivals' and building up good working relationships with other cultural and educational organisations, rather than holding a continuous programme of exhibitions this year.

In April 1999 we held an evening sponsored by Laurie Lowenthal in memory of his dear late wife, Cecily, to receive formally (and gratefully) four works by Bernard Meninsky into our Permanent Collection. These were donated by the Contemporary Art Society in memory of Cecily Lowenthal.

From May to the end of August 1999, we showed a selection of work by Israeli artists from our Collection.

In November we held an exhibition of the work of Jewish Stage and Film Designers, specially selected for us by the art historian and Ben Uri patron, Charles Spencer.

In February 2000 we mounted an exhibition of Jewish Cartoonists and Political Caricaturists, featuring the work of Harry Blacker (NERO), Mel Calman, Phineas May and Victor Weisz (Vicky), as well as that of Ralph Sallon MBE who, sadly died at the end of 1999.

We were saddened during the year by the loss of two of the longest-standing and hardest-serving members of the Ben Uri - Harry Blacker and Dr Manfred Altman. Both gentlemen have given many years of service to us and we will miss their enthusiasm and contributions. Manfred will be remembered and revered particularly for his outstanding intellect and for the breadth and depth of his knowledge and love of Judaism and Jewish culture. The memory of Harry's enlightened approach, highly developed sense of humour and generosity of spirit will uplift us for many years to come.

On a happier note, during the year we were delighted to welcome both Norman Rosenthal, Exhibitions Secretary at the Royal Academy and Laurie Lowenthal, who was one of the signatories for our original lease at Dean Street, to join the list of Patrons of the Ben Uri.

We have enjoyed and appreciated the support of several national celebrities this year. Sir Jeremy Isaacs formally opened our Jewish Stage and Film Designers exhibition, which included designs for the Royal Opera and Royal Ballet during Sir Jeremy's tenure. Edwina Currie opened our Jewish Cartoonists and Political Caricaturists. March saw our Annual Picture Fair with Gaby Roslin, TV presenter of Children in Need, Children's Hospital and Crufts. As usual, the evening was a great success.

We have received some excellent publicity throughout the year, gradually raising awareness of the Ben Uri at a time when our capacity for exhibitions was limited. This has included providing images for L'Eylah, the magazine of Jews College, and the magazines of the Union of Jewish Students and of NOAM. A two page article in Arts and Crafts Magazine resulted in approximately 200 requests from non-Jewish schools for our Teachers Pack and slides and our Research Packs. We continue to distribute these as part of our education programme.

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Chairman's Statement (continued)

Income for the year was £60,000 in comparison with £57,000 last year, an increase of £3,000. The main reasons for the increase was substantially higher income from exhibitions (up by £10,000) largely as a result of increased sponsorship. This helped offset reductions of £3,000 in donations and £5,000 in investment income. Fund raising income was up by £1,000 as a result of greater advertising income.

Costs continued to be carefully controlled during the year but increased by £28,000. The greater part of this increase (£19,000) relates to increased expenditure on exhibitions and higher storage costs for the Permanent Collection. Most of the remainder of the increase relates to expenditure on fundraising which did not bear fruit in the current financial year but is expected to facilitate the Ben Uri's return to a higher level of fundraising in the future.

The Council continues to keep the financial position under careful review and is satisfied that the Society can continue to operate on its present basis despite the continuing deficits incurred. A fundraising programme is being developed and will be implemented in the coming year.

As ever, we are grateful to all those people and organisations who have supported the work of the Ben Uri. We are pleased to acknowledge donations from the Kessler Foundation, the Kennedy Leigh Trust and the SE Franklin Trust and a legacy from the will of the late William Morris Ross. We would also like to thank those who donated works of art to our Collection over the last year, including the Contemporary Art Society, Jane Stuckey, Irving Bourne, Yoram Ranaan and John Brandler. Our grateful thanks are also due to all those who have worked for us during the year, especially Jo Velleman, our dedicated and tireless Executive Director, for ensuring that Ben Uri remains at the forefront of the Jewish art world and for her efforts in relocating us to our new home at Manor House.

Leslie D Michaels

Chairman

22 June 2000

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Report of the Council of Management for the Year Ended 31 March 2000

Introduction

The members of the Council of Management (in their capacity as Trustees and Directors) present their report on the affairs of the Ben Uri together with the financial statements and the report of the auditors for the year ended 31 March 2000.

The activities of the Ben Uri

The Ben Uri Art Society was founded in 1915 and named after Bezalel Ben Uri, the craftsman-builder of the Tabernacle, who is mentioned in Exodus 31.

The Ben Uri has been at the heart of the artistic and cultural life of Anglo Jewry since its foundation and its activities during the year continued to be concerned with the promotion of Jewish art as a fundamental part of the Jewish cultural heritage. With more than eight hundred paintings, sculptures, drawings and prints, the Ben Uri Art Society holds one of the most prominent Jewish art collections in Europe.

The Ben Uri is a registered member of the Museum and Galleries Commission and provides a showcase for exhibitions of contemporary art as well as for its permanent collection. The collection includes works by the foremost Jewish artists of this century including David Bomberg, Mark Gertler, Jacob Epstein, Leon Kossoff, Frank Auerbach and RB Kitaj.

The collection is also used as a vital source of information for students researching the work of Jewish artists. The Ben Uri provides a number of facilities for assisting teachers, students and researchers, promoting understanding of both the rich culture and artistic diversity of Jewish artists.

A review of the progress for the year and the financial report for the year are included in the *Chairman's Statement* (on pages 2 and 3).

Structure and corporate governance

The Ben Uri Art Society is incorporated, in England & Wales, as a company whose liability is limited by guarantee and with the status of a registered charity.

The affairs of the Ben Uri are directed by the Council of Management all the members of which are formally appointed as directors of the Ben Uri. The Council is involved in the determination of policy and in monitoring its implementation. The Council meets approximately six times a year.

The Members of Council during the year were:

Leslie Michaels - Chair

Dr Manfred Altman (deceased June 1999)

Andrew Balcombe

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Report of the Council of Management for the year ended 31 March 2000 (continued)

Andrew Coleman - Hon Treasurer
Muriel Emanuel (elected November 1999)
David Glasser
Lewis Goodman OBE
Irving Grose
David Kut
Sydney Levinson
Robert Lewin
Estelle Lovat
Laurie Lowenthal (retired April 1999)
Lois Peltz
Michael Posen
Stephen Rosenberg (retired November 1999)
Gerald Rothman - Hon Secretary
Joanne Shaw
Alice Schwab

Responsibility for the day to day activities of the Ben Uri lies with the Executive Director, a remunerated officer of the Ben Uri.

Statement of the Council of Management's responsibilities

Charity and company law requires the Council (in their capacity as Trustees and Directors) to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Ben Uri and of the income and expenditure for the year then ended. In preparing those financial statements, the Council is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Ben Uri will continue in business.

The Council has responsibility for maintaining proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the Ben Uri and enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 1985. It also has responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the Ben Uri and for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Report of the Council of Management for the year ended 31 March 2000 (continued)

Year 2000 compliance

Many computer and digital storage systems express dates using the last two digits of the year and thus have required modification or replacement to accommodate the year 2000 and beyond in order to avoid malfunction and resulting commercial disruption. The Council is aware of the Year 2000 issue and will continue to monitor it carefully. Given the complexity of the problem, it is not possible for any organisation to guarantee that no Year 2000 problem will occur because at least some level of problem might arise. Nevertheless, the Council is presently not aware of any further action that the Society might take to ensure that it is Year 2000 compliant. To date the Society has not experienced any problems with the Year 2000 issue.

Auditors

In accordance with Section 385 of the Companies Act 1985, a resolution proposing the reappointment of Blick Rothenberg as auditors of the Ben Uri will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

By Order of the Council of Management

Gerald Rothman, 

Secretary

22 June 2000

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Auditors' report

We have audited the financial statements on pages 8 to 15 which have been prepared under the historical cost convention and the accounting policies set out on pages 11 to 12.

Respective responsibilities of the Council of Management and Auditors

As described on page 5 the Council of Management is responsible for the preparation of financial statements. It is our responsibility to form an independent opinion, based on our audit, on those statements and to report our opinion to you.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the Council of Management in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charitable company's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance as to whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs at 31 March 2000 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, in the year then ended and have been properly prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 1985.

Blick Rothenberg



Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditor

12 York Gate,
Regent's Park,
London
NW1 4QS

~~22 June 2000~~ 31 January 2001

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2000

	Notes	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	2000 Total	1999 Total
		£	£	£	£	£
Incoming resources						
Exhibitions & catalogues		21,121	-	-	21,121	11,331
Subscriptions, donations & sundry income		6,336	4,000	-	10,336	13,118
Fund raising events (net)	2	12,399	-	-	12,399	10,928
Interest & investment income	3	8,769	519	7,003	16,291	21,765
Total incoming resources		48,625	4,519	7,003	60,147	57,142
Resources expended						
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>						
Artistic programme		70,380	-	-	70,380	50,931
<i>Other expenditure</i>						
Fund-raising & marketing		22,144	-	-	22,144	14,458
Management and administration		9,393	-	-	9,393	8,881
Total resources expended	4	101,917	-	-	101,917	74,270
Net (outgoing)/incoming resources before transfers						
		(53,292)	4,519	7,003	(41,770)	(17,128)
Transfers between funds		7,003	-	(7,003)	-	-
Net movement of resources before revaluation		(46,289)	4,519	-	(41,770)	(17,128)
Other recognised gains and losses						
Unrealised (loss)/gain on investment assets		-	-	(7,385)	(7,385)	9,263
Net movement of funds		(46,289)	4,519	(7,385)	(49,155)	(7865)
Fund balances brought forward		192,406	9,143	129,646	331,195	339,060
Net movement for the year - as above		(46,289)	4,519	(7,385)	(49,155)	(7865)
Fund balances carried forward		146,117	13,662	122,261	282,040	331,195

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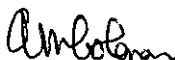
Balance sheet at 31 March 2000

	Note	2000 £	1999 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	6	<u>122,261</u>	<u>129,646</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	7	3,880	6,781
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>161,937</u>	<u>199,270</u>
		165,817	206,051
Creditors: amounts falling due within 1 year	8	6,038	4,502
Net current assets		<u>159,779</u>	<u>201,549</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>282,040</u>	<u>331,195</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted		146,117	192,406
Restricted		13,662	9,143
Endowment		<u>122,261</u>	<u>129,646</u>
	9	<u>282,040</u>	<u>331,195</u>

Approved by the Trustees in their capacity
as directors on 22 June 2000

LD Michaels – Chairman

AM Coleman – Treasurer



Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Cash flow statement for the year ended 31 March 2000

	Unrestricted Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	2000 Total	1999 Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Net (deficit)/surplus before transfers	(53,292)	4,519	7,003	(41,770)	(17,128)
<i>Adjustment of net (deficit)/surplus onto cash flow basis(see note below)</i>	(4,332)	(519)	(7,003)	(11,854)	(28,809)
Cash (out)/in flow from operating activities	(57,624)	4,000	-	(53,624)	(45,937)
Returns on investment and servicing of finance					
Investment income received	8,769	519	7,003	16,291	21,765
Transfers	7,003	-	(7,003)	-	-
(Decrease)/increase in cash (see note below)	(41,852)	4,519	-	(37,333)	(24,172)

Notes

Adjustment of net (deficit)/surplus onto cash flow basis

Investment income receivable	(8,769)	(519)	(7,003)	(16,291)	(21,765)
Movement in debtors	2,901	-	-	2,901	(6,642)
Movement in creditors	1,536	-	-	1,536	(402)
	(4,332)	(519)	(7,003)	(11,854)	(28,809)

Changes in net liquid funds during the year

Opening net liquid funds	190,127	9,143	-	199,270	223,442
Increase/decrease in cash as above	(41,852)	4,519	-	(37,333)	(24,172)
Closing net liquid funds	148,275	13,662	-	161,937	199,270

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000

1. Accounting policies

a Basis of accounting

Except that investments are stated at market value, the financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. They have been prepared in accordance with Company Law and applicable accounting standards (including of the Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities) and on a going concern basis.

b Income and expenditure

Income is brought into the financial statements when received or when there is certainty of receipt. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis.

The results of exhibitions and fund raising events are recognised in the financial statements in the period in which the event takes place. Costs incurred and income received in connection with forthcoming events are deferred at the balance sheet date. If a decision is taken not to proceed with an event, the costs are written off.

The Statement of Recommended Practice on Accounting by Charities requires that costs be allocated between direct charitable expenditure and other expenditure. For those categories of expenditure where direct attribution is not applicable, apportionment has been applied on the basis of the time estimated to have been devoted to each activity.

Direct charitable expenditure includes the costs of maintaining the permanent collection and of mounting exhibitions and takes into account an appropriate proportion of overhead costs.

c Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used for any aspect of the Ben Uri's work. Restricted funds comprise contributions received for the building fund. The endowment fund is a capital fund only the income from which can be spent. Income from the endowment fund can be used for any aspect of the Ben Uri's work.

d Investments

Investments are stated at market value. Changes in market value are allocated to the Fund to which the investments are attributed.

e Works of art

Works of art consist of paintings, sculptures and prints acquired by the Ben Uri by donation and bequest. Works are held for historical, artistic and educational reasons, principally as inalienable assets. For this reason it is considered inappropriate to attribute a value to them in these accounts, despite this now being a requirement of Financial Reporting Standard 15 "Tangible Fixed Assets", which applied to these accounts for the first time this year. The Ben Uri has not complied with this accounting standard since the exposure draft of the revised Statement of Recommended

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000 (continued)

Practice on Accounting by Charities will, if enacted in its present form, result in the Ben Uri continuing with its existing accounting policy of not attributing a value to these assets.

f Cash flow statement

The Ben Uri has presented a cash flow statement although not required to do so by Financial Reporting Standards. The format for the cash flow statement is consistent with that required by Financial Reporting Standards except that additional information has been presented showing the cash flow for each Fund in addition to the total.

2. Fund raising events

	2000	1999
	£	£
Gross income	15,308	13,368
Expenditure	(2,909)	(2,440)
Net income from fund raising events	<u>12,399</u>	<u>10,928</u>

3. Interest and investment income

	2000	1999
	£	£
Income from UK listed investments	7,003	7,862
Bank and other interest	9,288	13,903
	<u>16,291</u>	<u>21,765</u>

4. Analysis of total resources expended

	Personnel Costs	Other Costs	Total 2000	Total 1999
	£	£	£	£
<i>Direct charitable expenditure</i>				
Artistic programme	24,240	46,140	70,380	50,931
<i>Other expenditure</i>				
Fund raising & marketing	10,101	12,043	22,144	14,458
Management & administration	6,061	3,332	9,393	8,881
Total resources expended	<u>40,402</u>	<u>61,515</u>	<u>101,917</u>	<u>74,270</u>

The Ben Uri employs two members of staff (1999: 2).

Audit fees for the year were £1,200 (1999: £1,175).

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Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000 (continued)

The Ben Uri benefits from the provision, without charge, of a variety of skills and other services by the Members of Council. The benefit is not reflected in these accounts since it is not regarded as practicable to estimate its monetary value.

5. Transactions with Members of Council

No director or person defined by Accounting Standards as "related to them" received any remuneration for services as a director or in a management capacity during the year
No amounts were paid in reimbursement of any expenses incurred on behalf of the Ben Uri

6. Investments

	2000	1999
	£	£
<u>UK listed investments</u>		
Opening balance at market value	129,646	120,383
(Loss)/Gain on revaluation	(7,385)	9,263
Closing balance at market value	<u>122,261</u>	<u>129,646</u>

Investments comprise income units in a common investment fund constituted under Schemes made by the Charity Commissioners.
The historical cost of the investments is not available.

7. Debtors

	2000	1999
	£	£
Income from exhibitions	-	4,432
Other debtors	3,880	2,349
	<u>3,880</u>	<u>6,781</u>

8. Creditors

Amounts falling due within one year

	2000	1999
	£	£
Accruals and deferred expenditure	5,621	4,502
Other creditors	417	-
	<u>6,038</u>	<u>4,502</u>

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000 (continued)

9. Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 March 2000 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Fund £	Restricted Fund £	Endowment Fund £	Total £
Investments	-	-	122,261	122,261
Debtors	3,880	-	-	3,880
Cash	148,275	13,662	-	161,937
Creditors	(6,038)	-	-	(6,038)
	<u>146,117</u>	<u>13,662</u>	<u>122,261</u>	<u>282,040</u>

10. Statutory and technical accounting information

This note contains information required to comply with statutory and technical accounting pronouncements:

(i) In relation to the statement of financial activities

None of the Ben Uri's activities was acquired or discontinued during the current or previous years. Accordingly all of the Ben Uri's results relate to continuing operations.

Save as disclosed in the Statement of Financial Activities, the Ben Uri has no recognised gains and losses. Accordingly a statement of total recognised gains and losses for the year would be the same as the statement of financial activities and has not been presented.

The summary income and expenditure account for the year ended 31 March 2000 is as follows:

	2000 £	1999 £
Income from continuing operations	56,053	51,720
Expenditure from continuing operations	<u>(104,826)</u>	<u>(76,710)</u>
Net (expenditure)/income before transfers	(48,773)	(24,990)
Transfers from endowment fund	7,003	7,862
Net expenditure for the year	<u>(41,770)</u>	<u>(17,128)</u>

Income and expenditure from continuing operations are the gross amounts relating to restricted and unrestricted funds

The summary income and expenditure account is derived from the Statement of Financial Activities and accompanying notes which provide full information on the movements during the year on all the funds of the Ben Uri.

Ben Uri Art Society Limited (by guarantee)

Notes to the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2000 (continued)

No taxation is payable as the Ben Uri is a registered charity and accordingly is entitled to exemption from taxation on its charitable activities under the provisions of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1988.

(ii) Balance sheet

There are no pension or other contingencies at 31 March 2000 and 1999. At 31 March 2000 the Ben Uri had a commitment to pay £921 within 12 months under a licence to occupy land and buildings (1999: £4,667).