The Contemporary Art Society

(A charitable company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2012

Company number: 255486

Charity number: 208178

THE CONTEMPORARY ART SOCIETY

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 March 2012

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The Trustees are pleased to present their annual report for the year ended 31 March 2012.

1. REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Charity Number	208178
Company Number	255486
Registered Office	11-15 Emerald Street London WC1N 3QL

Directors and Trustees

The directors of the charitable company are its Trustees for the purposes of charity law and throughout this report are collectively referred to as the Trustees.

Mark Stephens (Chair)
Myriam Blundell
Javid Canteenwala
Tommaso Corvi-Mora
Sarah Elson
David Gilbert
Zachary Leonard (from November 2011)
Keith Morris
Pia Sarma
Cathy Wills (from November 2011)
Edwin Wulfsohn

Peter Heslip (to November 2011)	Arts Council England Observer
Sabine Unamun (from November 2011)	Arts Council England Observer

Director	Paul Hobson
Solicitors	Finers Stephens Innocent 179 Great Portland Street London W1W 5LS

Bankers	Lloyds TSB Bank plc Southampton Row London WC1B 5HR
Auditors	Mazars LLP Times House Throwley Way Sutton Surrey SM1 4JQ

2. STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Contemporary Art Society is a charitable company limited by guarantee, registered on 7 April 1931, and is governed by the Memorandum & Articles of Association. It was registered as a charity with the Charity Commission on 22 September 1962.

The Contemporary Art Society exists to develop public collections of contemporary art in the UK. We play a leading role in building inspirational collections of modern and contemporary art for audiences across the country. We do so in order to ensure the widest possible access to the work of living artists for audiences nationally and make a significant contribution to the cultural heritage of Britain.

The Trustees, who are identified on the preceding page, present their report and the financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2012 which have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006, the Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2005), and applicable UK accounting standards.

Composition of the Board, organisation and Trustee induction and training

The Board of Trustees, which can have up to 25 members, directs the charity through quarterly meetings, and there are executive committees with delegated powers, which meet more regularly. The Chair of the Trustees during this period was Mark Stephens, who was appointed as Chair in September 2010, having served as Interim Chair from June 2010.

The Chair is subject to a formal performance review by the Trustees annually.

The Chair and Trustees have been actively involved through the year in supporting and advising the Director and senior staff during the process of strategic planning and organisational development.

The Finance and Audit Committee meets quarterly in advance of Trustee meetings to review in detail the charity's financial affairs and is chaired by Trustee, David Gilbert. Other committees may be formed to support specific needs as necessary.

The charity regularly reviews the skills, networks and experience of the Board through the Nominations Committee, chaired by Trustee, Myriam Blundell. Two new appointments were made during the year, to replace departing Trustees and to bring appropriate skills to the Board to ensure optimum support, advice and networks are available to the executive team. These were Zachary Leonard and Cathy Wills.

All candidates for Trusteeship have discussions during the selection process on the role they will be expected to take. These discussions involve the Chair, the Director and other Trustees when appropriate. Candidates are reviewed by the Nominations Committee, comprising the Chair, three Board Trustees and with the Director in attendance. Recommendations are then made to the Board for full approval.

Board induction includes meetings with senior staff as well as the provision of a pack of information about the Contemporary Art Society, which includes:

- Articles and Memorandum of Association
- Trustee Code of Conduct
- Historical information about the Contemporary Art Society
- Recent quarterly and annual reports and accounts
- Trustee meeting minutes
- Recent publications and catalogues
- Information on Contemporary Art Society activities relevant at the time (e.g., forthcoming exhibitions, events and major grants-funded programmes etc.).

Articles or publications about the role of Trustees from such organisations as the Charity Commission are available to Trustees to provide guidance and assurance. The Chair and Director are available to assist Trustees with any queries they may have. All members of the Board give their time voluntarily and receive no benefits from the charity.

Risk Management

The risk register is reviewed at least annually by the Trustees and updated to reflect the development of management processes, to address newly identified risks and to implement controls and procedures designed to manage and mitigate previously identified risks. The charity has made developing a mixed economy of support by broadening the private funding base and increasing unrestricted funding for the charity a strategic priority over the past four years, and we will continue to diversify and strengthen the revenue mix, in order to spread risk. Developing philanthropic giving and grants from trusts and foundations, and working towards creating an Endowment are strategic priorities for the organisation in the next three years. These objectives will be achieved by investing in the charity's capacity to fundraise effectively during this period, and by developing strategic initiatives that attract funding, as well as by continuing to increase the organisation's visibility and networks of supporters and stakeholders.

Management

The Contemporary Art Society is managed by the Director, to whom the Senior Management Team reports. Paul Hobson has been the Director of the Contemporary Art Society since 2007. His senior management team includes Sophia Bardsley, Deputy Director; Lucy Byatt, Head of National Programmes; Fabienne Nicholas, Head of Consultancy; and Dida Tait, Head of Membership and Market Development.

A new three-year position of Development Manager was created in September 2011 to provide much needed support with our fundraising capacity. A new role of Manager, Public Collection Development was also created in September 2011 to provide additional capacity with our work with museums.

The Contemporary Art Society operates an annual review system led by the Director, designed to support staff in making the fullest contribution to the charity and to provide them with timely feedback on performance and professional development.

3. MISSION, VALUES, OBJECTIVES, ACTIVITIES AND ORGANISATION

Founded in 1910, the Contemporary Art Society is a charity which exists to support and develop public collections of contemporary art in the United Kingdom and to encourage an appreciation and understanding of contemporary art. This is achieved through raising the funds to purchase and commission new works of contemporary art for our UK-wide network of Museum Members, and by securing gifts of works for these collections for public benefit.