



**The Trustees' Annual Report and Financial Statements  
for year ending March 2005**



**Registered Charity No. 1107850**

**Company Limited by Guarantee, Registered in England No. 05250986**

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Supported by



Dende: a MIX company 2005/06

## **DENDE COLLECTIVE**

### **General information**

*Dende Collective* is a London-based theatre company. It became a limited company on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2004 and a registered charity on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2005.

### **Charity number**

1107850

### **Registered address**

Oval House, 52-54 Kennington Oval, London, SE11 5SW

### **Banker**

The Co-operative Bank

### **Accountants**

Coppard & Co

114 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4BE

### **Website**

[www.dendecollective.org](http://www.dendecollective.org)

### **Trustees**

Valerie Boulet

Karena Johnson

Justine Markovitz

## THE TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT

### INTRODUCTION

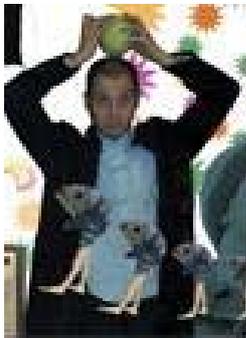
This has been an incredibly active year for *Dende Collective* theatre company with a research project, a Christmas show, numerous educational projects and a tour all happening within the space of twelve months.

With limited company and now charitable status, *Dende* has set in place stringent financial controls and reports regularly to its trustees on its artistic and financial management. Its membership of the Independent Theatre Council has been vital during this time and the company is extremely grateful to the team at ITC for all their help and support during the past year.

A key aim for the company has been establishing ongoing and productive relationships with new venues. Taking work out of our home at the Oval House Theatre and into new spaces has been an exciting development for the company and over the past year we have established a particularly strong relationship with Lyric Hammersmith. They have nurtured the company and been instrumental in getting it to think through and formulate a three-year artistic plan and wish-list for the future. In addition to the Oval and Lyric Hammersmith, the company now has good, developing links with a number of venues following its tour (which started just before the end of this financial year). Southill Park Arts Centre, South Street Reading, the Leeds Met Studio Theatre, Birmingham Repertory Theatre and the Bristol Old Vic are all venues that have hosted *Dende's* work and the company looks forward to returning to these venues in the future and developing long-term partnerships with them.

## THE COMPANY'S ORIGINS AND INCOME BACKGROUND

*Dende Collective* was created in 1999 by Mark O'Thomas and André Pink and is a growing multi-ethnic collective of artists from many nations all united in creating pioneering new work through a total integration of writer, performer and director in the devising process. Montse Gili joined as a core member in 2001 and it became an associate company of the Oval House Theatre in 2003.



The company has its roots in Brazilian 'physical' theatre and much of its work has a strong Latin American flavour to it.

## FINANCIAL STATUS

In addition to our performance work, the company is involved in a range of educational projects with young people throughout London and the South-east and exists as a non-profit-making charity to further our work in the arts.

The company does not exist to make a profit. Its income derives from trusts, foundations, theatre venues, box office receipts and Arts Council of England grants.



## EDUCATIONAL PROJECTS 2004-2005

In the past year, *Dende* has developed work with a varied range of partners – venues' youth theatre groups, primary, secondary schools and community groups. A diverse range of skills and thought-provoking experiences has evolved through an exchange between artists and young people and members of diverse communities.

Projects for the past year include:

**Arts Depot Youth Theatre** – two storytelling projects.

**King William School** – devising performance for A' Level Drama.

**Ferrier Vietnamese Women's Group** – shadow puppet project.

**Haggerston Comprehensive School** – Lorca project.

## PRODUCTIONS 2004 -2005

*Dona Flor & Her Two Husbands* Lyric Hammersmith Studio

*Guernica* – play reading 'War Stories' season

Oh!, Oxford House

*Christmas Eve at the Piranha Inn* The Oval House Theatre

*Onefourseven* UK Tour.





Arts Depot Youth Theatre performing *The Dragons*.

Mark O'Thomas and André Pink have definite talent and a clear style of their own. *Theatre Record, Spring 2003.*

This is promising work from a young company who are intent on forging a unique voice for themselves... The evening has an endearing madness and a rare determination to play with theatrical form. *The Guardian on OneFourSeven*

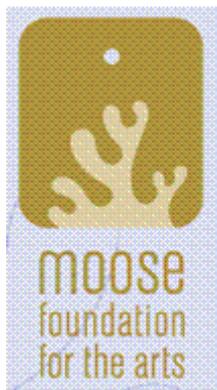
## DONA FLOR IN 'the MIX'

Following a week's intensive research with six actors and three musicians, the company presented a showing of a work-in-progress at Lyric Hammersmith Studio on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2004 as part of 'the MIX' season.

An adaptation of Jorge Amado's *Dona Flor & Her Two Husbands*, the company experimented with the use of shadow puppets in storytelling for the first time, and played to a full house.



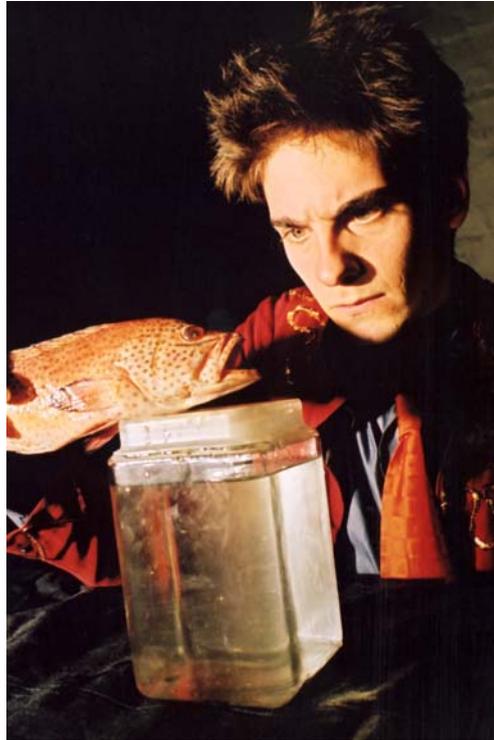
This project was funded by a grant from the Moose Foundation for the Arts and *Dende Collective* is extremely grateful for the help and support that organisation has given to the project.



Lyric Hammersmith has now programmed the piece into its spring season for a three-week run in March 2006 and the company will be pursuing funding for this project in the near future. Importantly for the company, the project cemented its approach to developing theatre through an ongoing devising process with performers, writers, actors and this case musicians and puppeteers.

## CHRISTMAS AT THE PIRANHA INN

Developed out of the idea of its *Time Out Critics'* Choice piece *The Piranha Lounge*, the company put together a Christmas murder mystery show for the Oval House Theatre in December 2004. Commissioned and funded by the theatre itself, ten actors performed in a work where a collection of weird and wacky characters find themselves snowed in at a haunted hotel on Christmas Eve.



## GUERNICA – REHEARSED READING



This reading formed part of the *War Stories Festival* and was presented at the Oh!, Oxford House theatre in East London.

Guernica, written by Spanish playwright Arrabal, has been rarely performed outside of Spain. By transposing the play's setting to contemporary Iraq, the company explored relations between the massacre of Guernica and current-day Fallujah.

## ONEFOURSEVEN

Following on from an earlier Arts Council-funded research project,

OneFourSeven explored the memories and recollections of Angelo Walker, a young immigration officer who tries to come to terms with the onset of a serious illness. Through a series of waiting rooms, the audience were presented with colourful and poignant moments from the life history of one man and his family

Uplifting and life-affirming, OneFourSeven celebrated the joy of being alive with deeply touching moments of pathos and humour. Performed in the round, this highly engaging and vibrant piece was fused by the company's distinctive South American style to create an evening of physical theatre, packed with intriguing characters, beautiful images - a truly uplifting celebration of life



OneFourSeven was rehearsed at Lyric Hammersmith, who supported the company throughout the tour.

*OneFourSeven* began its tour at the Oval House Theatre in London on 27<sup>th</sup> April 2005. However, much of the company's activity up until the end of March 2005 was geared towards the forthcoming tour in April. Following the London run, the company then toured to the following venues:

South Street Reading  
Southhill Park Arts Centre, Bracknell  
Studio Theatre Leeds Met  
Birmingham Repertory Theatre  
Bristol Old Vic Studio - Mayfest



**“..strangely for an evening framed by a death, it was funny almost without remission. Inventive, poignant and hilarious: a troupe to watch.”**

**Venue Magazine– Mayfest - Bristol Old Vic**

**‘Astonishing international theatre of the highest calibre.’  
What’s On, London**

## **THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

### **INCOME**

<b>Arts Council Grant (stage 1 of 3)</b>	<b>15,945.00</b>
<b>Moose Foundation for the Arts Grant</b>	<b>5,000.00</b>
<b>Devising workshop at King William School</b>	<b>220.00</b>
<b>Private donation</b>	<b>700.00</b>
<b>Box office receipts from Lyric Studio</b>	<b>2,326.99</b>
<b>London Borough of Greenwich – Ferrier project</b>	<b>2,237.00</b>
<b>Net interest</b>	<b>2.16</b>

### **EXPENDITURE**

<b>Pre-production tour costs</b>	<b>9,723.26</b>
<b>Shadow puppet workshop costs</b>	<b>2,237.00</b>

### **BALANCE SHEET**

**as at end of March 2005**

<b>Total income</b>	<b>26,428.99</b>
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>11,960.26</b>

### **CURRENT ASSETS**

<b>Bank/cash</b>	<b>15,555.04</b>
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### **LIABILITIES**

<b>Budgeted spending for tour</b>	<b>39,937.00</b>
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## NOTES

The budget shows a shortfall due to the fact that our financial year- end falls at the beginning of our tour. The Arts Council made two further payments to the company in April and June 2005, which enabled the tour to be brought in on budget and with no cash deficit. Full details will be available in next year's report.

## ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT SPECIAL NOTE

This is our first year of operating as a charity. Consequently, the Charities Commission has not yet submitted its request for our year-end accounts (these are not due until next year).



The trustees take their financial responsibilities extremely seriously and are pleased that *Dende Collective* has engaged Coppard & Co. 114 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4BE to oversee its accounting structures and assist with compiling its annual statutory accounts .



*OneFourSeven* in rehearsal during its development phase.



A scene from Time Out Critics' Choice *The Piranha Lounge*.

This report looks at the work of *Dende Collective* for the financial year ending 31 March 2005.

It describes the company's activities and provides a statement of accounts and grants awarded.

Further copies of this Annual Report are available from:

**Dende Collective**  
**Oval House Theatre**  
**52-54 Kennington Oval,**  
**London, SE11 5SW**

**020 7 582 0080**

Electronic copies are available from:

[www.dendecollective.org](http://www.dendecollective.org)

[info@dendecollective.org](mailto:info@dendecollective.org)

This annual report has been generously supported by Deutsche Bank.



## **SUPPORT DENDE**

**There are a number of ways you can help:**

### **By donation**

You can make donations by cheque. Please make cheques payable to: DENDE COLLECTIVE.

Our account no. is 65169960 Sort Code: 08-92-99

The Co-Operative Bank

PO Box 250

Delf House

Southway

Skelmersdale

WN8 6WT

### **By Gift Aid**

Did you know that by signing a declaration we can increase the value of your gift by 28%? We can reclaim the tax that you have already paid on your gift. If you are a higher rate taxpayer, you can reclaim the difference between basic and higher rate tax.

### **By regular giving**

Please contact us for a standing order form.

For as little as £5 a month, you can really help us plan for the future.