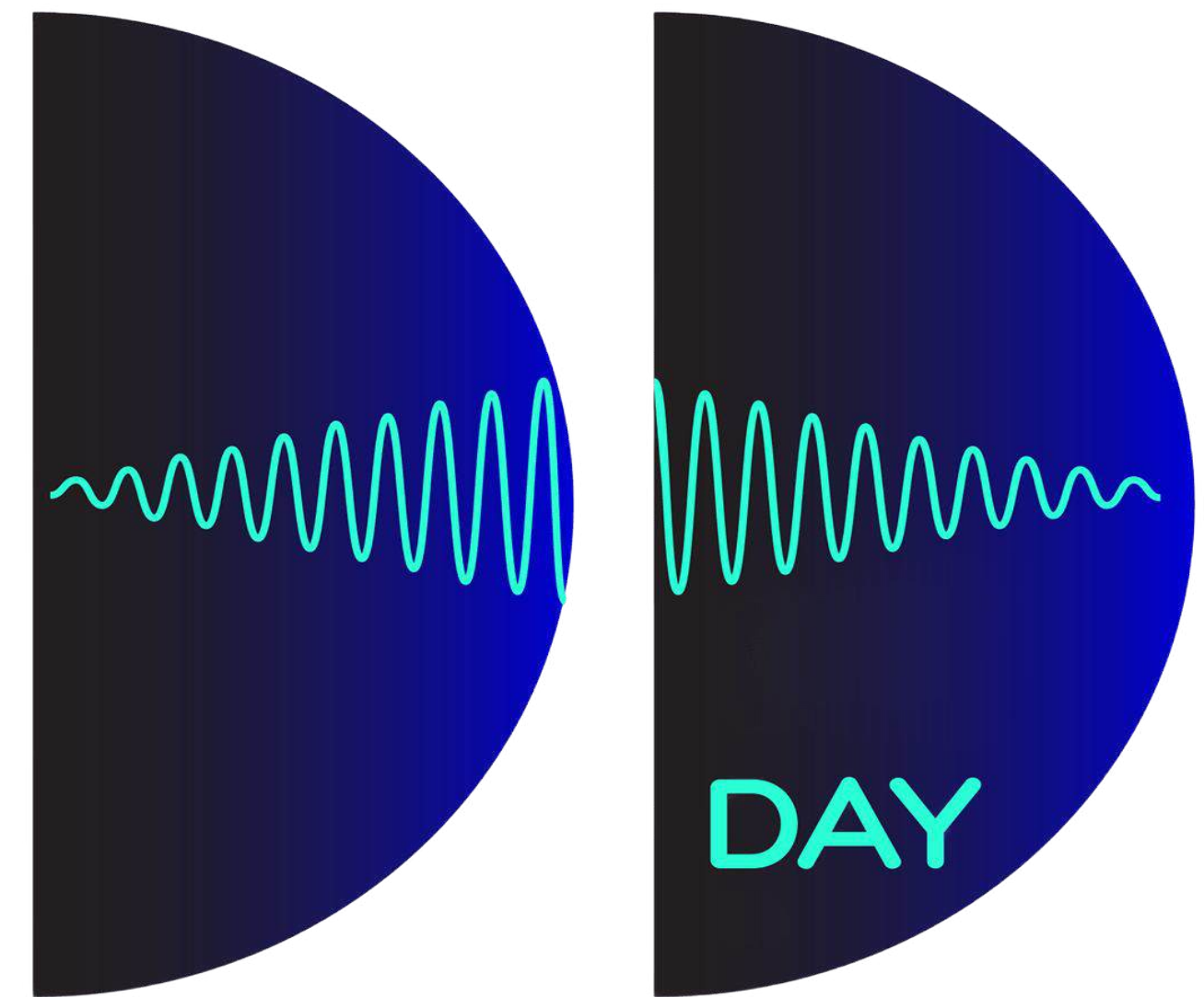


2025

DELIA DERBYSHIRE DAY

10 YEAR SOCIAL IMPACT REPORT



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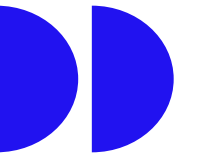
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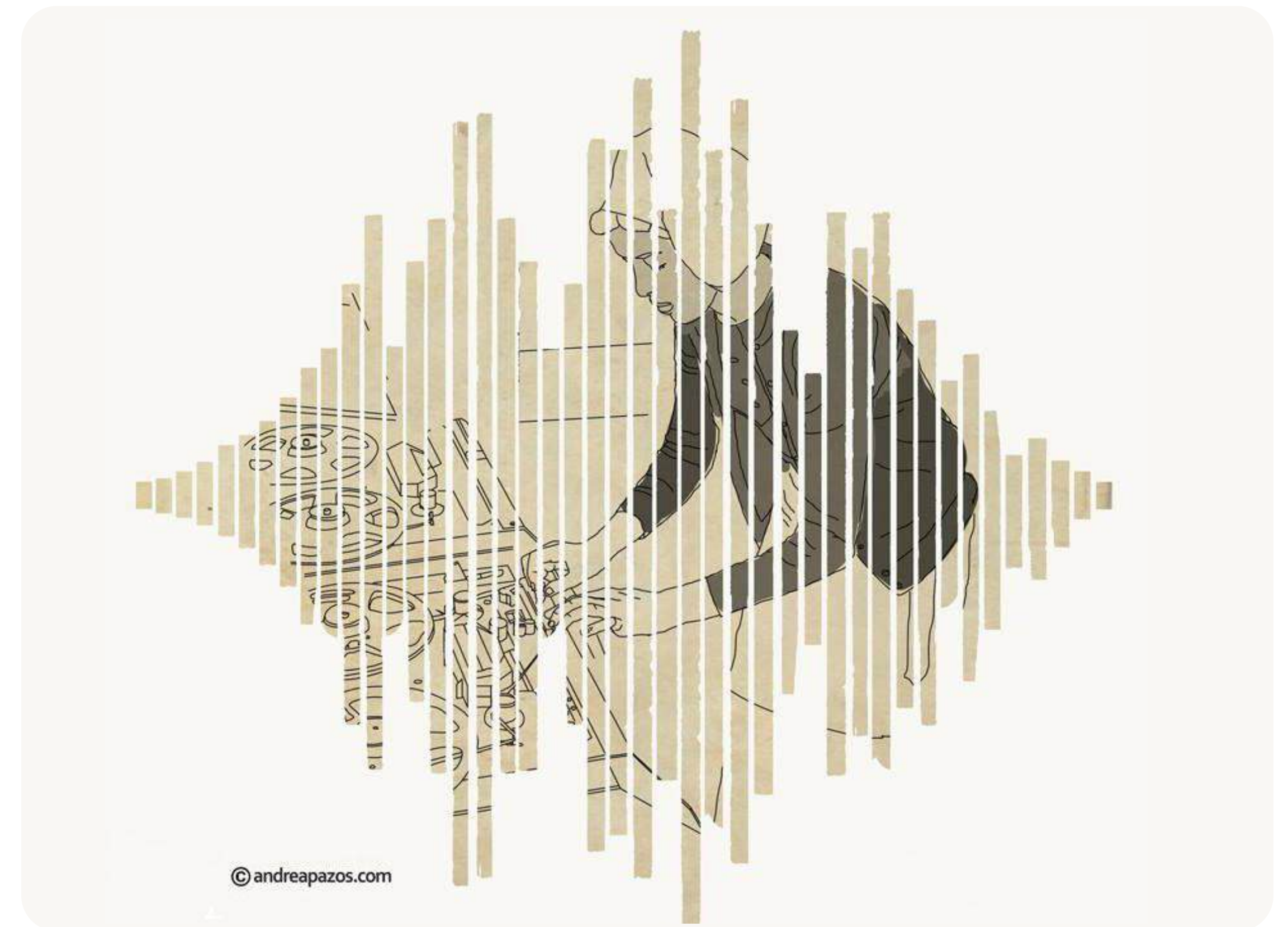
Methodology

Opening statement



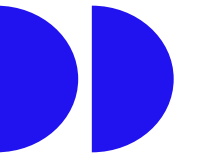
From our Chair of Trustees

It has been the greatest of joys to experience the growth, reach and enduring impact of Delia Derbyshire Day since the charity was founded in 2015. Delia's remarkable creativity was informed by a deep curiosity – about the sounds in the world around her and how they were produced – and an instinctive sense of openness and enthusiasm for collaboration that ran across boundaries of genre, gender, age, class and nation. Toward the end of her life, she reflected how *'Some people made themselves into little islands. They were very secretive about their work and their techniques [...] but I was always very generous in telling people everything I knew'*. Delia Derbyshire Day has sought to embed those values into our ethos, encouraging creative conversations, understanding and opportunities to make new work, through our activities with schools, emerging as well as established practitioners, and the wider public. There is still much to do but it's our hope and belief that those core principles of curiosity and generosity have the potential to nurture a more inclusive approach to thinking, making and being, whether that's in education, the creative industries and the societies we live in. I hope that the following report will give you an insight into the range of our work and the potential benefits of practicing a Delian mode.



© andreapazos.com

DD DAY – 10 Year Social Impact Report



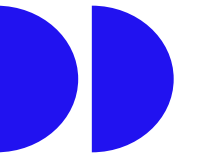
Delia Derbyshire Day (DD Day) became a registered charity in 2015, in recognition of the work of Delia Derbyshire (1937–2001), a pioneering composer and sound designer, best known for her groundbreaking electronic realisation of the *Doctor Who* theme. Delia was a trailblazer, whose work helped shape the landscape of British electronic music.

Ten years later, the organisation's work has evolved into a nationally recognised charity that not only honours her legacy but also uses it as a springboard for education, inspiration, creativity, and social change.

Over the past decade, DD Day has delivered performances, festivals, residencies, educational workshops, and digital projects that engage thousands of people. Each initiative has brought Delia's remarkable work into dialogue with today's artists and communities, demonstrating the continuing relevance of her ideas while creating space for new voices to emerge.

This 10-year Impact Report captures that story, reflecting on the milestones, the partnerships and the creative journeys that have shaped DD Day's first decade.

Our Vision



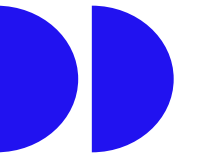
A future inspired by the legacy of Delia Derbyshire,
where creativity belongs to everyone

We envision a future where everyone, regardless of background, has the opportunity to develop creative skills, express their unique voice, and contribute to a culturally rich and inclusive creative sector. Inspired by the pioneering legacy of Delia Derbyshire, we are committed to levelling the playing field by nurturing a diverse new generation of artists, technologists, heritage specialists and creative thinkers who are equipped not only to survive but to thrive and themselves inspire others. Through education, collaboration and amplification of underrepresented voices, we aim to transform access to creativity into a right, not a privilege.



© W777 Photography

Our Mission



Building on Delia's legacy, we nurture new voices, expand access, and reimagine the creative sector.

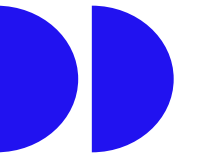
We are an organisation for social change inspired by the life and work of electronic music pioneer Delia Derbyshire. We are dedicated to supporting underrepresented artists through inclusive events, hands-on workshops, and creative development opportunities. We aim to make the creative and cultural heritage sectors more accessible and representative, encouraging sustainable regenerative practices that embrace human creativity.

We champion the legacy of Delia Derbyshire as a key figure in the evolution of electronic music by nurturing creativity, curiosity and collaboration across generations and communities. The unique Delia Derbyshire Archive serves as a catalyst for learning and inspiration, supporting the development of present and future artists while celebrating the contributions of those often overlooked in music and technology in the past.



© Marisa Draper

Our Values



These values act as guiding light for our work

Creativity

- Fun
- Authenticity
- Originality
- Imagination
- Self-expression

Curiosity

- Learning
- Recognition
- Positivity

Collaboration

- Teamwork
- Partnership
- Contributions to society

Openness

- Inclusivity
- Diversity
- Respect
- Musical styles & approaches

Objectives

This Social Impact Report is structured around our three organisational objectives:

1

To promote the legacy of Delia Derbyshire, centred around the archive at John Rylands Library in Manchester (England)

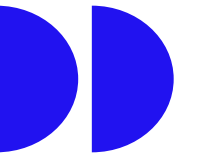
2

To champion Delia Derbyshire's legacy, building the confidence and skills of future creative artists

3

To inspire and deliver opportunities for artists, freelancers and volunteers in the arts and heritage sector, with particular emphasis on Northwest England

Promoting the legacy



Promoting the legacy of Delia Derbyshire, centred around the archive at John Rylands Library in Manchester

At the heart of DD Day is a commitment to promoting the legacy of Delia Derbyshire, centred around the archive held at the John Rylands Research Institute and Library in Manchester. Over the past decade, this legacy has inspired flagship events, touring programmes, artist commissions and broadcasts that have reached thousands of people and over a million through radio, press, podcasts and television.

Alongside this, DD Day has become a trusted hub for enquiries, advice and opportunities. We connect people with Delia's work, her collaborators and her archive.

The impact has been transformative, engaging audiences, widening access to cultural heritage, raising awareness of women's role in electronic music and providing a platform for underrepresented artists to develop and share their work. By celebrating Delia's life and achievements, Delia Derbyshire Day has become a catalyst for creativity, representation, and inspiration across the cultural sector.

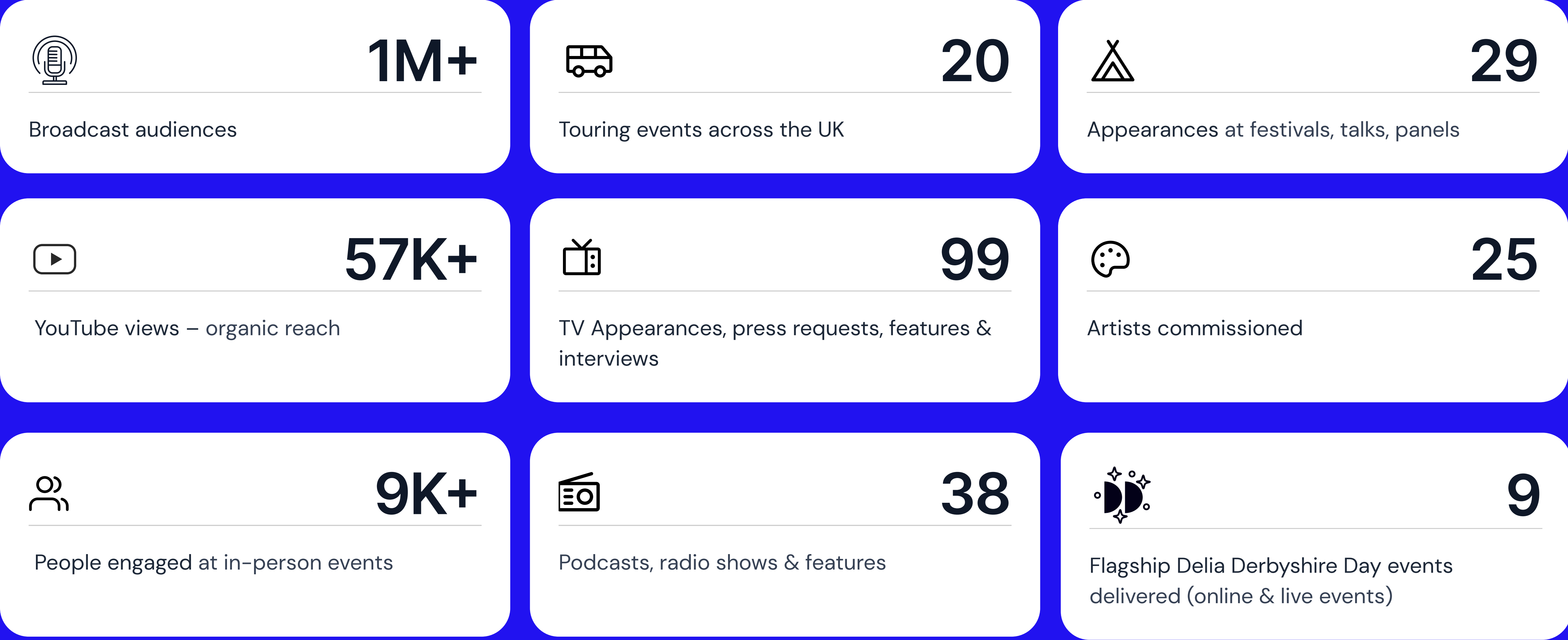


© Shirlaine Forrest

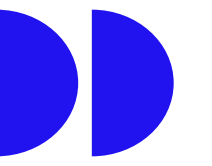
“ Delia’s recognition is important – unfortunately posthumously. I was only familiar with the Doctor Who theme tune – now I appreciate what they made and how they made it. At events like this you have permission to deconstruct and appreciate it all – it’s amazing. DD Day is important for female artists to get recognition they deserve – it’s equality.”

DD Day event attendee

10 Years at a glance



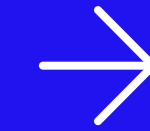
Impact Map



ACTIVITIES



OUTCOMES



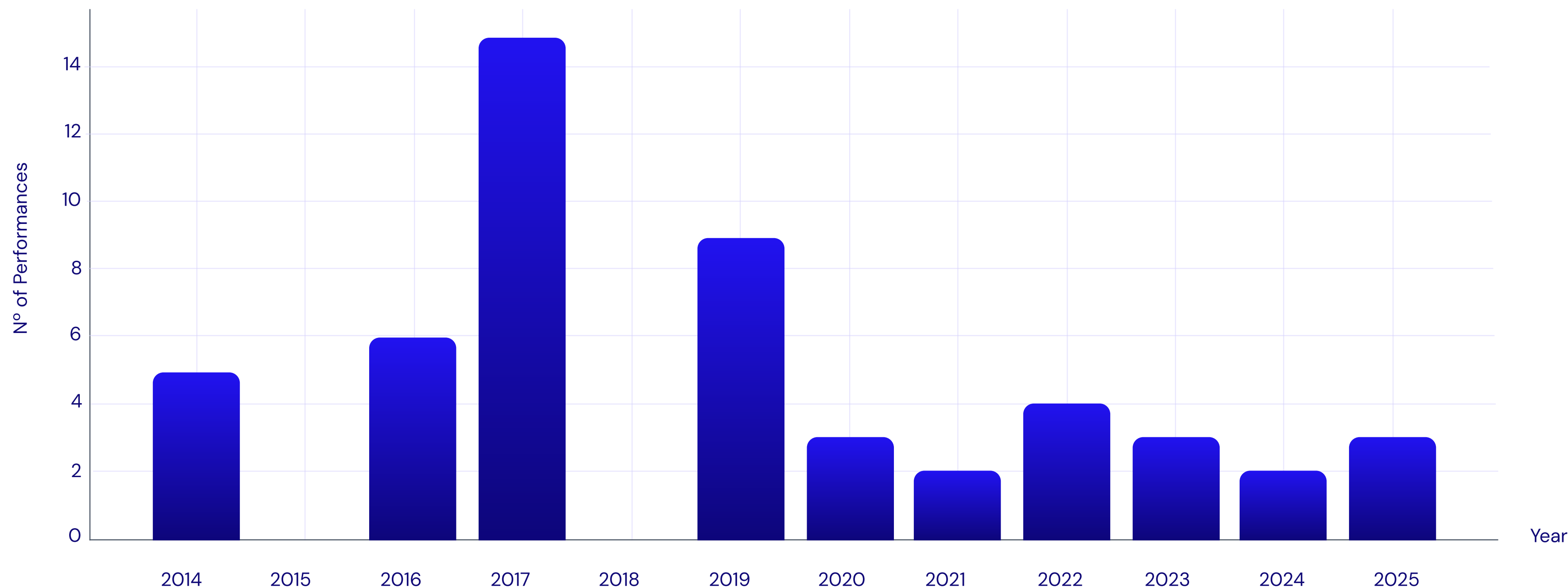
IMPACT

- Exploring Delia's archive and working methods through public events
- Serving as champions for women in electronic music, past, present and future
- Delivering expertise and consultancy advice

- People are inspired by Delia and our activities
- Increased awareness of Delia's work and influence on British electronic music
- Increased representation of women in electronic music
- A platform for underrepresented artists to share their expertise
- Increased opportunities for a wider range of artists to collaborate on, produce and perform new work

- Increased opportunities for underrepresented artists
- Arts and cultural heritage are more accessible and representative
- Delia is championed as a key figure in the evolution of electronic music
- The DD Archive is a catalyst for inspiration
- A wider range of people have increased awareness of women in electronic music, past and present

Number of Performances

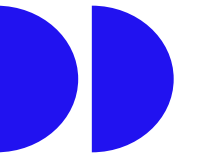


*There were no DD Day events in 2015 and 2018 as they were operating in a 2 year fundraising cycle ie. time was needed to recuperate, fundraise and support new commissioned work.

Over the past decade, Delia Derbyshire Day has brought together hundreds of artists, staff, volunteers, and experts to deliver unique events inspired by Delia’s legacy. Peaks in involvement and performances show how the charity has scaled up its impact over

time while the dip in 2020 – 2021 reflects the challenges of the pandemic. Despite this, activity quickly rebounded with new art, collaborations and audiences continuing to flourish, demonstrating the resilience and creativity at the heart of DD Day.

Case Study



DD Day 80th Birthday Heritage Project

In 2017, Delia Derbyshire Day marked what would have been Delia Derbyshire's 80th birthday with a National Lottery Heritage Fund supported project. Centred on the Delia Derbyshire Archive at the John Rylands Library, the project combined digital innovation, live events, education programmes and artist commissions to expand public engagement with Delia's legacy and the heritage of electronic music.

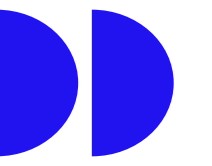
The programme included the production of a short film about the archive and the creation of 50 digital facsimiles of Delia's working notes, correspondence and graphic scores. These resources were taken into schools and community workshops, enabling children and adults to explore and interpret the archive in hands-on ways beyond the library setting, which can only be accessed by people over the age of 18. Alongside this, DD Day developed an innovative digital tool, the *Deliaphonica Game*, which introduced online audiences to Delia's working methods and inspired people to

experiment with sound in playful, accessible ways.

Flagship public events were delivered in Manchester and Barrow-in-Furness with workshops, talks, performances and new artist commissions. An eight-week learning programme with two Manchester primary schools gave children the opportunity to create their own electronic music and a film about Delia, while a public symposium in partnership with Digital Women's Archive North connected Delia's story with wider issues of women's representation in electronic music and heritage. The outcomes of the project were significant. Children and young people reported being inspired by Delia's archive, with one pupil remarking:

"The pictures from the Delia Derbyshire Archive are fantastic. I like the special music scores she drew. I could start to see where her ideas came from. Some even inspired me to try and make my own!"

Case Study continued...



DD Day 80th Birthday Heritage Project

Adults attending events also described how the project deepened their understanding of Delia's work and its place in the history of British electronic music. The *Deliaphonica Game* attracted more than 1,400 visits and was praised for its simple, engaging design, with users calling it *"a really great way to learn about her pioneering methods."* Female artists were commissioned to create new works in response to Delia's archive, and girls outnumbered boys in workshops, highlighting the project's role in providing new role models and challenging underrepresentation in electronic music. One participant stated:

"The most gratifying part of the DD Day workshop was the fact that girls outnumbered boys 6 to 2. If DD Day can't inspire girls, nothing can."

The project made the archive more accessible to a much wider audience. Children, community members and festival-goers who

might never have visited an archive were able to see and handle digital copies of Delia's working notes, graphic scores and sound cue sheets. For many, this was their first encounter with an archive and it sparked curiosity about heritage more broadly.

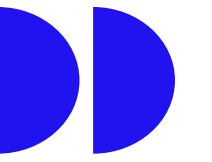
The overall impact was to position Delia Derbyshire more firmly as a key figure in the history of British electronic music while also using her archive as a catalyst for new inspiration, creativity and artistic development. Arts and cultural heritage became more accessible and representative, and the project created new opportunities for artists and underrepresented voices to collaborate, produce and perform. In celebrating Delia's life and achievements, DD Day is growing a supportive community that values creativity, collaboration and inclusion, demonstrating the lasting power of heritage to inspire both personal and cultural change.



© Belle Vue Productions

" I've been greatly inspired by all the Delian celebrations today, and by playing the Deliaphonica game. Great app! Amazing how reversing the samples and adding delay totally transforms them, particularly the guitar scrape. I love how you can mix Delia's voice with the rhythm and melody loops. "

Championing Delia's Legacy

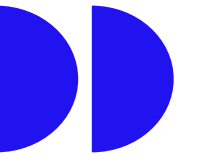


Championing Delia's legacy to build the confidence and skills of future artists

Building on Delia's legacy, DD Day has placed education at the heart of its work, building the confidence and skills of future creative artists and technicians. Over the past decade, more than 3,300 young people have taken part in electronic music workshops and courses across schools, colleges, universities and community settings. Alongside this, teachers and school staff have been engaged through dedicated training, giving them the knowledge and confidence to teach electronic music and inspire their students. By combining Delia's pioneering archive and working methods with hands-on learning in music technology, sound design, digital arts and creative collaboration, DD Day has opened up new opportunities for creative learning, increased representation in electronic music and made cultural heritage more accessible and relevant to the classroom and beyond.



© W777 Photography

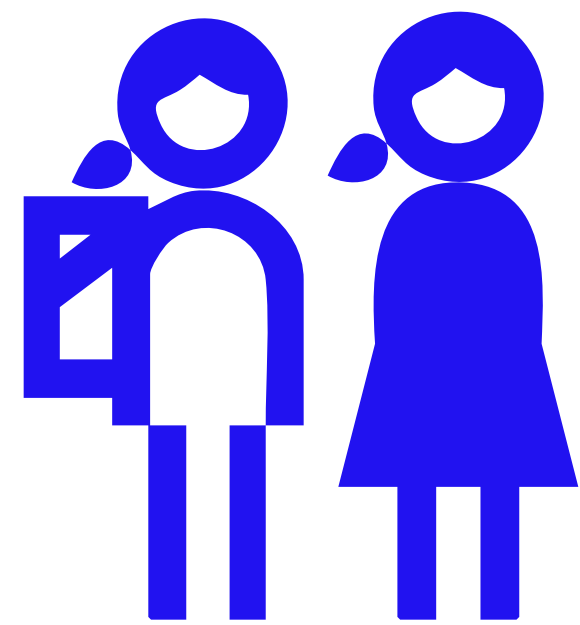
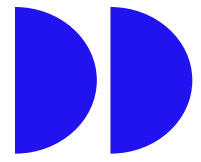


© Caro C

" I didn't know the Doctor Who theme was made by a girl. Maybe that could be my job one day. "

Year 6, Medlock Primary School, Manchester

10 Years at a glance



3306

Children and Young People



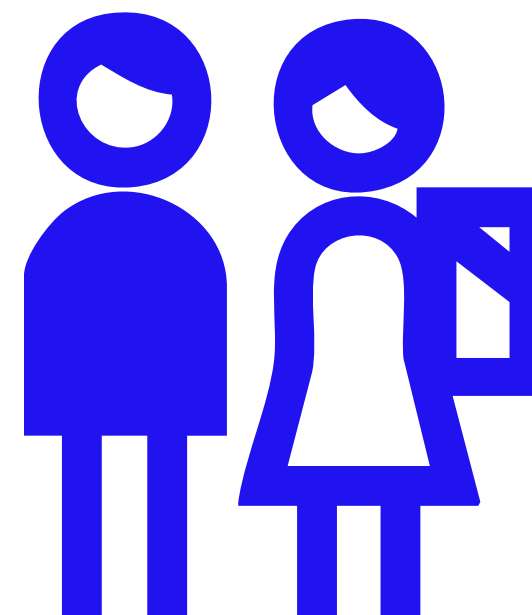
44

Workshops



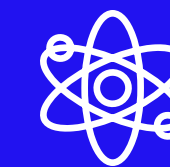
5

5 Courses (online and in-person)



8

Different Settings – primary schools, high schools, alternative education provision, FE colleges, HE colleges, universities, conservatoires, community events, festivals, online & in-person



25

School staff present at workshops



5

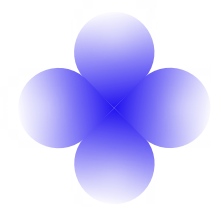
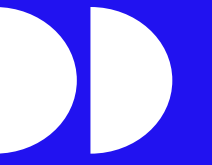
Teacher training sessions delivered



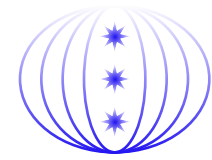
20

Teachers engaged

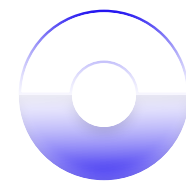
Skills reach



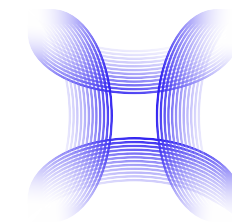
Electronic Music
Composition



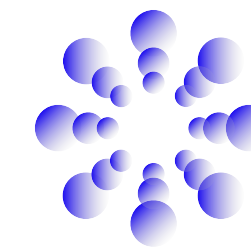
Performance



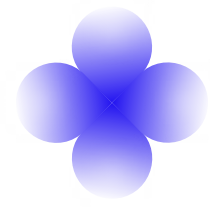
Film making



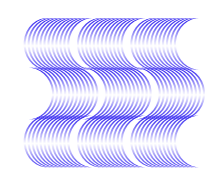
Music Production



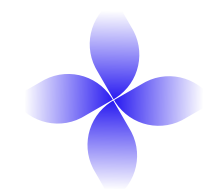
Sound Design



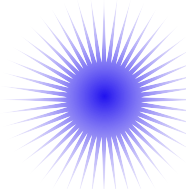
Critical Listening



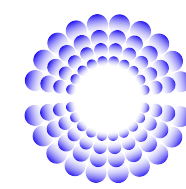
Digital Arts



Music Technology



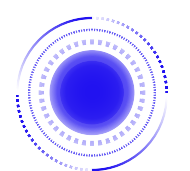
Creative
Collaboration



Heritage
Engagement

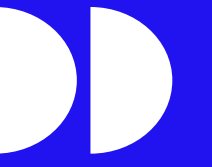


Audio
Engineering



Film Making

Geographical reach



Scotland

Northern Ireland

Cumbria

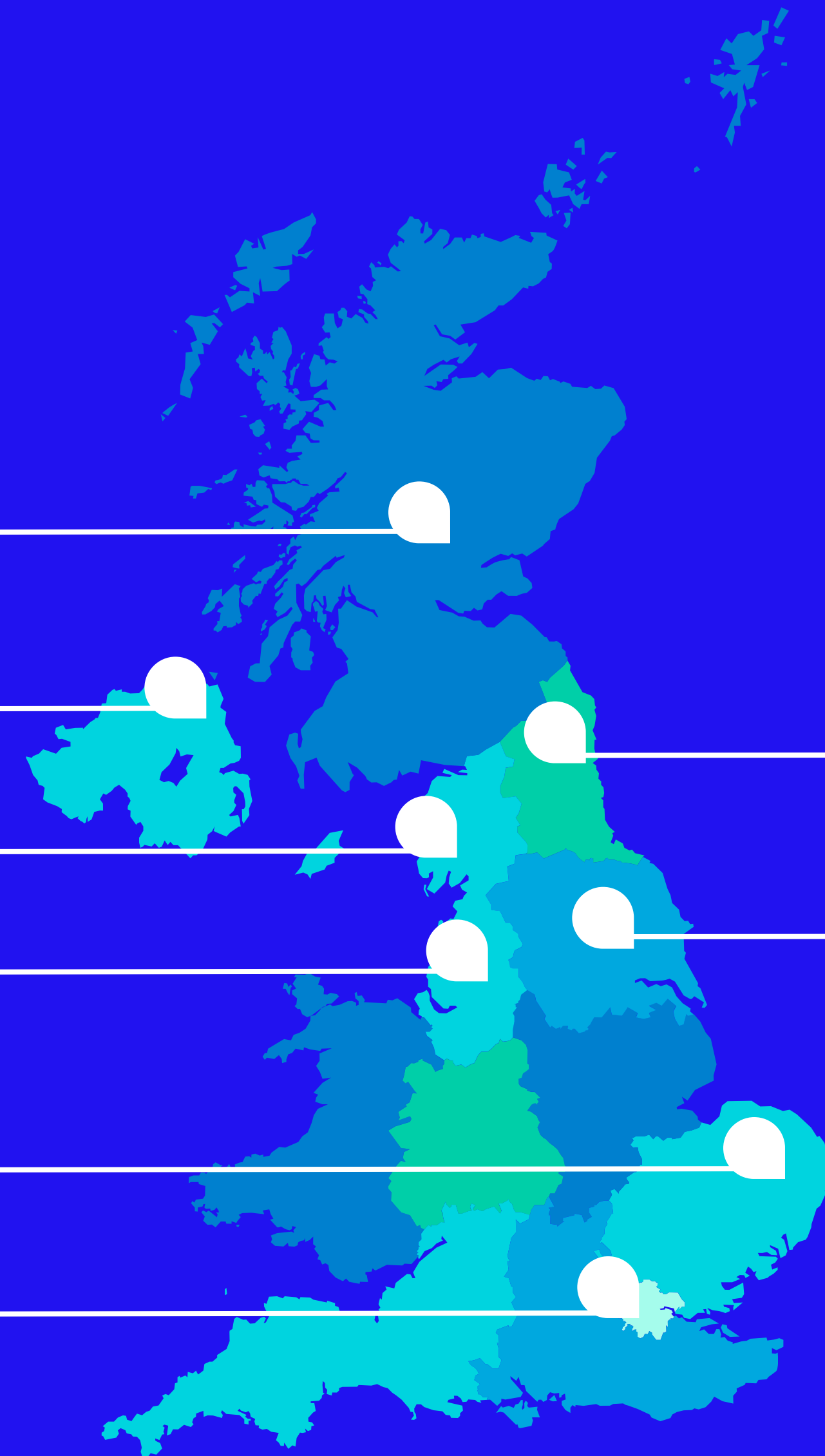
Manchester

Norwich

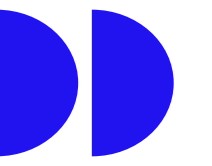
London

Newcastle

Yorkshire



Impact Map



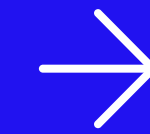
ACTIVITIES

- Designing and delivering electronic music/sound workshops and courses for use in education and community settings, inspired by Delia's work and working methods
- Giving teachers the skills to teach electronic music via teacher training and being part of workshops with children



OUTCOMES

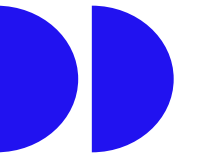
- People are inspired by Delia and DD Day activities
- Increased representation of women in electronic music
- Increased awareness of Delia's work and influence on British electronic music
- Wider range of people involved in making electronic music
- Increased access to understanding and composition of electronic music
- More teachers are able to teach electronic music in schools
- The Delia Derbyshire Archive is a catalyst for learning and inspiration



IMPACT

- Increased inspiration
- Increased aspiration
- Increased creativity
- Increased confidence
- Increased enjoyment of creative activity via technology
- Supporting the development of present and future artists
- Increased awareness of overlooked pioneers in electronic music
- Arts and cultural heritage are more accessible and representative
- Increased skills and competence in using music technology for teaching composition
- Increased learning and inspiration via the heritage (DD Archive)

Case Study



Doctor Who Remix Project

In 2024, Delia Derbyshire Day partnered with Music For Life to deliver Phase 2 of the *Doctor Who Remix* project in primary and high schools in Helsby, Cheshire. Supported by the Postlethwaite Music Foundation, the project set out to bring Delia Derbyshire's pioneering legacy into the classroom, blending electronic and acoustic approaches to music education. The aim was not only to inspire pupils with Delia's work on the *Doctor Who* theme but also to build confidence, creativity and new skills for both students and teachers.

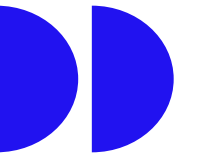
"I think I have become more creative and grown my imagination. It has also given me a better insight into music"

The programme included six workshops across one primary and one high school. Pupils learned about the structure and building blocks of the *Doctor Who* theme before composing and producing their own remixes using iPads and GarageBand,

alongside acoustic instruments such as euphonium and trumpet. For many, this was their first opportunity to hear or record live instruments and the combination of traditional and digital approaches widened participation and opened up new creative pathways. Primary pupils showcased their work in a celebration event for families, while the high school group produced a creative video to go with their live recording.

A key feature of the project was its accessibility. Half-class group sessions allowed for more individual support. The technology also made music-making more inclusive: children discovered that compositions could be created from simple sounds and everyday objects, breaking down barriers to entry. One pupil commented that they enjoyed *"how simple objects can create such interesting sounds; music can be free and expressive without rules."* Others spoke of their enjoyment, describing the project as *"fun, unusual, unique, modern, inspiring."*

Case Study continued ...



Doctor Who Remix Project

Several expressed their desire to continue: *"Yes x 3... I hope I can carry on making music on GarageBand."*

Through this engagement, pupils gained not only technical skills but also inspiration, aspiration, confidence, and creativity. They developed a better understanding of how music is constructed and had the opportunity to collaborate in small teams, learning the value of experimentation and play.

"Delia is inspiring because she was making music we would listen to now, but like 50 years ago. And it must have taken her ages as we have computers now."

The project also placed Delia Derbyshire firmly in the spotlight, raising awareness of her influence on British electronic music and highlighting the underrepresentation of women in the field. By presenting Delia as a role model, the project inspired girls in

particular to see themselves as potential music-makers.

Teachers benefitted alongside pupils. A dedicated CPD session gave Music For Life staff greater competence with GarageBand and new confidence in teaching electronic music. This not only enhanced their own skills but also ensured the legacy of the project would continue in classrooms, with more teachers now equipped to embed electronic music into their practice. Parents also recognised the impact, praising how the project made music accessible and relevant:

"I love that children have been given the opportunity to explore sound and create music in this way. So accessible using everyday objects and their own body."

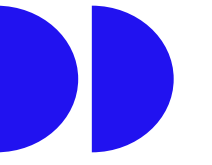


© Belle Vue Productions

" The work of Delia Derbyshire Day is becoming increasingly important as music education opportunities decrease in British schools. "

Brian Hodgson, Delia's friend, collaborator & inventor of TARDIS and Dalek sounds

Inspiring & Delivering Opportunities



Inspiring and delivering opportunities for artists, freelancers and volunteers in the arts and heritage sector, with particular emphasis on Northwest England.

Supporting artists, freelancers and volunteers in the arts and heritage sector, particularly across Northwest England, has been central to DD Day's mission. Through a rich programme of creative commissions and employment opportunities, DD Day has enabled artists to engage with the DD Archive – and now the accompanying DD Day Archive – producing new work that both honours Delia's legacy and pushes creative practice forward. Supported by funding from a range of national and regional funders, this work has expanded access to employment in the creative and heritage sectors, enriched professional portfolios and strengthened the skills, confidence and networks of those involved. At the same time, it has built a supportive community of practitioners, promoting collaboration over competition and embedding sustainable and inclusive practices in the region's creative landscape.



© Anna Budrys



© Anna Budrys

“ DD Day was a great experience and supported my ambition from the beginning. The experience has left me with a sense of personal growth and development of my practice. ”

Izzy Bolt, commissioned artist 2021

10 Years at a glance

We awarded



Artist applications received

120



Number of performances

52



Creative commissions
responding to Delia's Archive

29



Artists employed

23

Funding awarded by 13 Total Grants



Arts Council England



National Lottery Heritage Fund



Postlethwaite Music Foundation



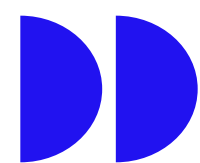
Granada Foundation



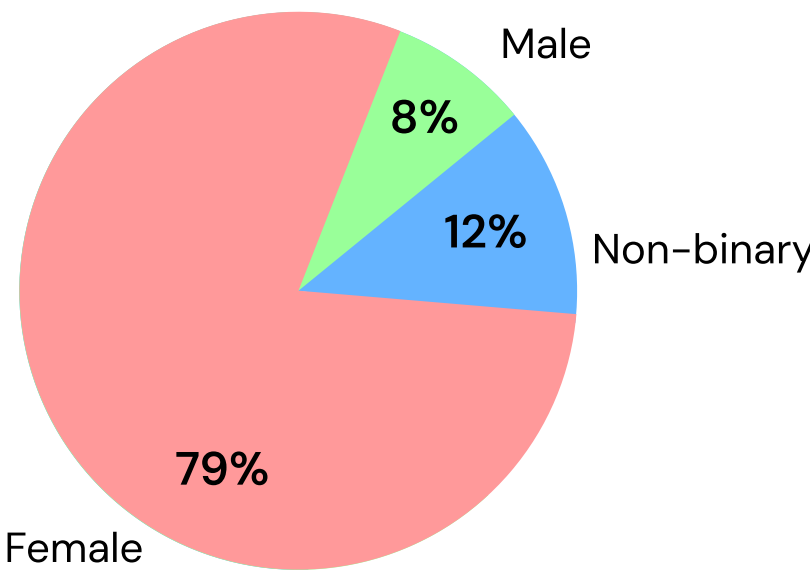
PRS Foundation



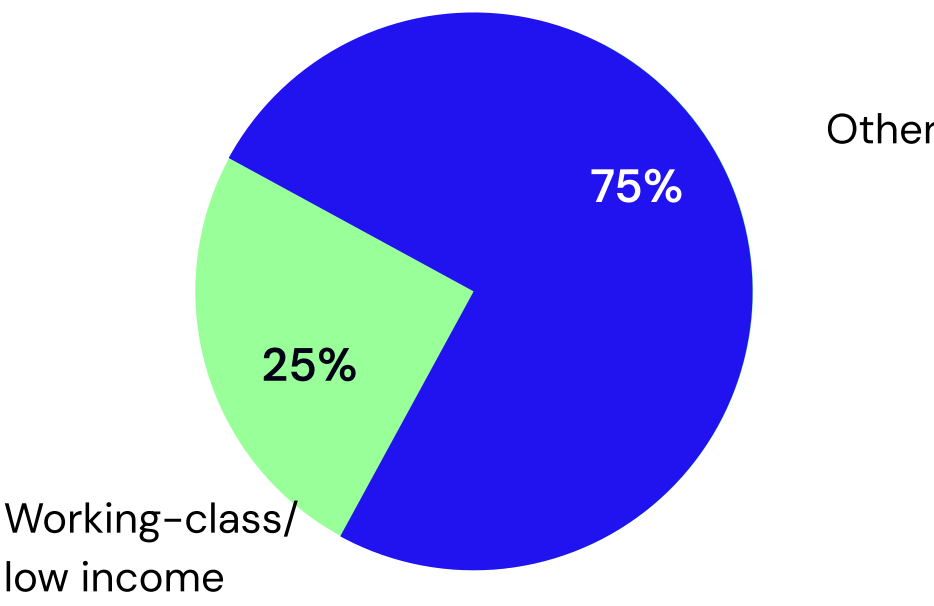
Artists Demographics



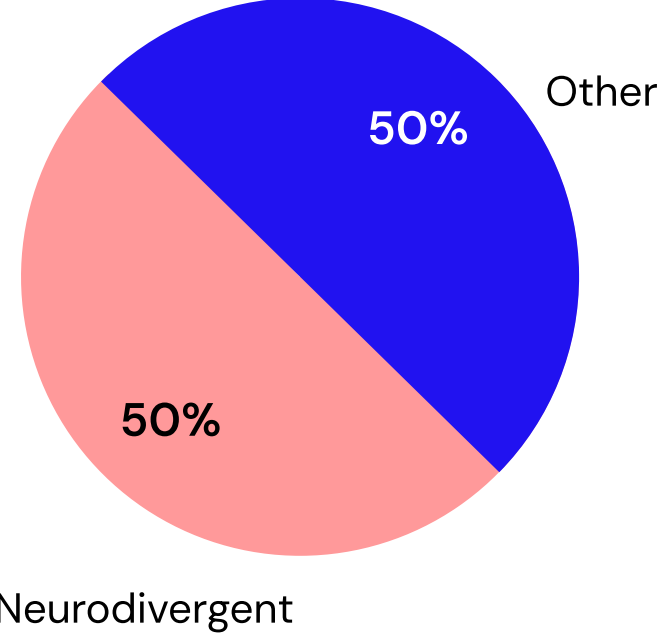
Gender Identity



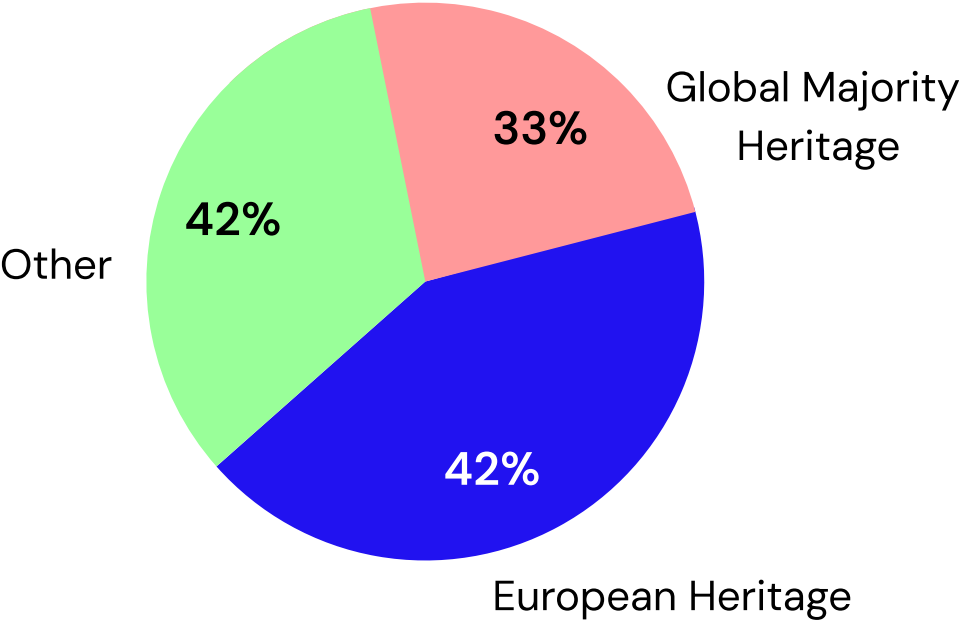
Socio-economic Background



Neurodivergent



Heritage

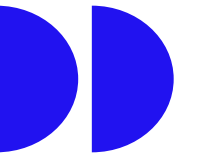


The demographic profile of artists commissioned and supported by Delia Derbyshire Day reflects a strong commitment to inclusivity and representation in electronic music and the cultural heritage sector. A significant majority of artists identify as female or non-binary, directly addressing the underrepresentation of women in the field. Diversity is also evident across other characteristics: one quarter of artists come from working-class or low-income backgrounds, and half identify as neurodivergent, showing how DD Day creates supportive spaces that value different perspectives and ways of working.

Heritage representation further enriches this picture, with 33% of artists identifying as Global Majority Heritage, alongside those from European and other backgrounds. Together, these figures demonstrate how Delia Derbyshire Day is not only preserving and promoting Delia's pioneering legacy but also embedding her spirit of openness, accessibility and collaboration by nurturing a culturally rich and representative creative community.

* These charts highlight the diversity of artists engaged through DD Day commissions, showing representation across gender, class, neurodivergence and heritage.

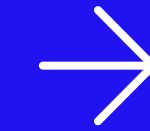
Impact Map



ACTIVITIES



OUTCOMES



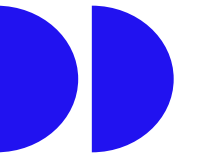
IMPACT

- Offering creative commissions responding to the DD and DD Day archives
- Providing ongoing employment and development opportunities
- Building a supportive creative community

- A wider range of people have increased access to employment opportunities in the culture and heritage sectors
- Artists have developed their creative and professional practice
- Participants and artists have strengthened their professional portfolios
- Individuals have developed new skills, interests and confidence
- Participants have gained positive references supporting further employment and opportunities
- More people have been able to access archives and heritage resources
- Creative professionals and aspiring practitioners have received increased support

- Increased opportunities for underrepresented artists and freelancers in the cultural heritage sector
- Arts and cultural heritage are more accessible and representative
- The DD Archive is a catalyst for inspiration, skills, and artistic development
- A wider range of people have increased awareness of women in electronic music, past and present
- Sustainable, regenerative practices are fostered within a creative community in electronic music, digital art, and heritage (primarily in the NW England)
- A culture of collaboration rather than competition

Case Study



Joy Ingle, DD Day 2023 Commissioned Artist

In 2023 DD Day commissioned Manchester-based composer and heritage worker **Joy Ingle** as part of its ongoing commitment to supporting underrepresented artists. The commission offered Joy the opportunity to create new work in response to Delia's Archive collaborating with filmmaker/visual artist Laura Spark and supported by mentor Suzy Mangion. The project exemplified how DD Day builds confidence and skills, creates access to professional opportunities and uses Delia's legacy as a catalyst for artistic development and inspiration.

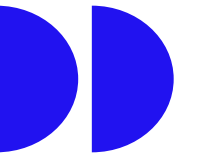
For Joy, the commission felt perfectly aligned with both their personal interests and professional practice. A fan of both Delia Derbyshire and *Doctor Who*, they were drawn to the opportunity to engage so directly with Delia's working methods and to reflect on heritage as a source of creativity. Access to the archive was fundamental, as Joy explained:

"It informed so much, if not all, of the work. Thinking about how to interpret heritage in different ways and translate it into creative mediums has really helped my practice."

Working with Laura on an interdisciplinary piece was another significant development. Rather than composing in response to a completed film, Joy and Laura worked side by side, allowing the music to guide the visuals at times. This collaborative process was new and rewarding, fostering a spirit of experimentation and mutual learning.

Mentorship was also key. Suzy, a composer who had previously worked on a DD Day project, provided guidance on structuring the process, leaving time for mixing and mastering and thinking about the life of the work beyond its premiere.

Case Study continued...



Joy Ingle, DD Day 2023 Commissioned Artist

Joy found this support particularly valuable:

“Up until this point all of my composition tutors have been male, so it felt really lovely to talk to another woman in my field.”

The public event at Manchester Central Library, where Joy and Laura’s work was premiered, brought these creative processes into the spotlight. The audience response confirmed that Delia’s archive remains a powerful source of inspiration, and that new work developed in dialogue with her legacy can honour the past whilst speaking to the present and the future.

For Joy, the project resulted in a strengthened portfolio, increased confidence and valuable references and connections to support future opportunities. They described being proud of the outcome, noting how the project had given them the chance to try something new, test their skills and collaborate across disciplines

in ways that will continue to shape their career.

By centring Delia’s archive as both inspiration and resource, the project not only supported Joy’s artistic development but also contributed to a culturally rich and inclusive sector. It stands as evidence of how heritage, creativity, and collaboration can come together to inspire, sustain, and empower the artists of today and tomorrow.

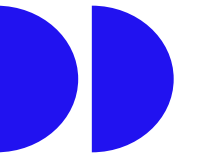


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" I am happy to say that, as a result of my work on the DD Day project, I am now a formal artist-in-residence at FACT Liverpool. I AM SO HAPPY that the DD Day project has unquestionably led me to a profession as an artist! "

Dongni Liang

Methodology



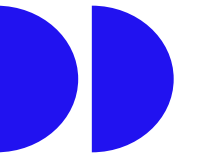
This report was compiled by Turn Up the Value using comprehensive quantitative and qualitative data gathered by DD Day throughout their 10 year history as a registered charity (2015 – 2025).

The report is guided by a Social Accounting methodology and approach, ensuring that it abides by the Social Audit Network's guiding principles:

- Clarify purpose
- Define Scope
- Engage stakeholders
- Determine materiality
- Make comparisons
- Be transparent
- Verify accounts
- Embed the process



With thanks



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Design by Andrea Pazos