

Nicholas Payne

Place of birth
Education

Bromley, England
Eton College as a King's Scholar
(A levels in English, Greek and History)
Trinity College Cambridge
(BA in English Literature)

Work experience

2003 - 2022

Opera Europa

Director of the leading service organisation for professional opera houses and opera festivals throughout Europe, with a membership of over 230 companies

1998 – 2002

English National Opera

General Director of the company based at the London Coliseum, with responsibility for artistic programming and standards and business management

1991 – 1998

Royal Opera House Covent Garden

Director of the Royal Opera, with responsibility for the opera programme and for international relationships

1989 – 1990

Leeds Festival

Artistic Coordinator of this 17-day 1990 Festival of all the arts

1982 – 1993

Opera North

General Director with the task of establishing the programme and reputation of this Leeds-based company in a national and international context

1976 – 1982

Welsh National Opera

Financial Controller with responsibility for planning, budgeting, marketing and dramaturgy

1970 – 1976

Arts Council of Great Britain

Subsidy Officer with responsibility for music, opera, dance, arts centres and regional development

1968 – 1970

Royal Opera House Covent Garden

Finance Assistant with responsibility for production budgeting and costing and ticket sales for both opera and ballet

1967 – 1968

Arts Council Arts Administration Course in its inaugural year

1966 – 1967

Paterson International Concert Management
General Assistant working on promoting artists and concerts

**Fellowships and
other activities**

Honorary Member of The Royal Northern College of Music (since 1992)
Honorary Doctorate Leeds Metropolitan University (since 1993)
Honorary Member of The Guildhall School of Music and Drama (since 1999)

Trustee of the Peter Moores Foundation (2003-2014)

Trustee of the Kiri Te Kanawa Foundation (since 2015, vice-chairman since 2023)

Chairman of Music Preserved (2009-2015), current Council member

Chairman of Birmingham Opera Company (since 2016)

Regular writer, broadcaster and lecturer on operatic and general arts subjects and jury member on international singing competitions

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*London
19 June 2024*

G J N Payne

