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ASSOCIATION OF BRITISH ORCHESTRAS



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A symposium dedicated to developing a shared manifesto for contemporary classical music presented by the **Association of British Orchestras** with **ACCORD – The Alliance for New Music** in association with the **Canadian High Commission** supported by the **Performing Right Society**

## **SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES**

### **WEDNESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2004, LONDON**

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#### **JOHN AXON**

John Axon has been with PRS, and now the MCPS-PRS Alliance, for 21 years. He has held a number of senior management posts and has had responsibility for many of PRS' functions during that time. He qualified as a Chartered Accountant in 1972 with Touche Ross and worked in the brewing and retailing industries before joining PRS in 1983. In 1997, on the formation of the MCPS-PRS Alliance, John was appointed PRS Director of Performance Licensing, responsible for PRS general (site based) music (public performance) licensing and revenue in the UK. Shortly afterwards the role was expanded to include responsibility for PRS' licensing of broadcasters and the income streams derived from them. In 1999 he also assumed responsibility for the embryo PRS licensing operation of new technology and on-line music use. In September 2000 he became Executive Director PRS, with a seat on the Board of PRS and, under a further reorganisation of the MCPS-PRS Alliance, became a member of its Management Board. He now has responsibility for the PRS business functions covering Public Performance Sales, International, PRS Agencies abroad and the PRS share of the Alliance's broadcast and online revenues.

#### **RICHARD BERNAS**

Richard Bernas is a Gramophone award-winning conductor and Music Consultant at Tate Modern. The events he has developed there are without equivalent in European museums, gallery rather than concert based. They have included performing Feldman's Rothko Chapel and Tallis' Lamentations in Tate's Rothko Room, commissioning Rebecca Saunders' Chroma for the large Turbine Hall, performing music during such exhibitions as Arte povera and Brancusi, and collaborations with BBC Radio 3. As well as conducting many of the BBC Orchestras and performing extensively in Europe he has worked with many of today's leading composers. World premieres have varied from Maw's Odyssey at the Festival Hall to Stockhausen's Sternklang in the Berliner Tiergarten, including James Dillon's Oceanos for the BBC Proms and a number of ballets for The Royal Ballet at Covent Garden, where he has been a guest for a dozen years. Highlights of his theatre work include Mozart's Idomeneo for the Theatre du Capitole, Toulouse, the Ravel Operas for Opera Zuid, Holland and Britten's Prince of the Pagodas at Covent Garden and the MET. This season he gives the Swiss premiere of Turnage's Greek (which he recorded for Decca) and returns to Covent Garden for Henze's Ondine and Stravinsky's The Soldier's Tale.

#### **DAVID BUTCHER**

David Butcher has been Chief Executive of Britten Sinfonia since its foundation in 1992. He produced the first business plan for the orchestra and has overseen the exciting emergence and development of Britten Sinfonia from humble beginnings to its pre-eminent position as one of Europe's leading orchestras. David studied at the University of London Goldsmith's College and then worked at the Academy of St Martin in the Fields from 1986 to 1989. From 1989 to 1992 he was General Manager of the National Youth Music Theatre and developed the NYMT's profile overseas with tours to Japan and the USA. Alongside promoting a variety of acts including Paul Merton, the Mary Whitehouse Experience, the Reduced Shakespeare Company and Kit and the Widow, he also produced the theatre version of Ned Sherrin's popular BBC Radio 4 talk-show, Loose Ends, and a successful sketch show with Willie Rushton and Simon Rae. In addition to his Britten Sinfonia role, David was elected to the Board of the Association of British Orchestras and was a Director between 1998 and 2003 with responsibility for the Education and Chamber Orchestras Managers' group. He is an Arts Council Performance Assessor, a panel member for Arts and Business East and a Board Member of spmn – promoting new music.

## **CHRIS CRAKER**

Record company executive, musicologist, author, record producer and marketing guru, Chris Craker has been involved at the forefront of the recording industry for over fifteen years, working in association with many of the world's most eminent companies including EMI Classics, Decca, BMG, Sony, Classic FM, and Warner Classics. He has also collaborated with many independent companies including Naxos, ASV and Koch, and set up his own label Black Box in the mid 1990's. Having been a director of the Sanctuary Records group for the last three years, he has now formed a new group of record labels – Quartz, Enzyme and Onyx, which embrace the best values of the traditional record company business model but also take advantage of the very latest state-of-the-art technologies in downloading and digital marketing and distribution.

## **SIMON CROOKALL**

Simon Crookall read Economics at King's College, Cambridge, where he was awarded a Choral Scholarship. He moved to Scotland in 1983 to take up the post of Academic Assistant at the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, and was later promoted to Assistant to the Principal and Front of House Manager. He was General Manager of the Queen's Hall in Edinburgh from 1989 to 1995 and then joined the Royal Scottish National Orchestra as General Manager, becoming Chief Executive in January 1997. He was elected Chairman of the ABO in November 2001.

## **CATHY GRAHAM**

Cathy Graham was educated at Birmingham University and the Royal Northern College of Music, Manchester. After her studies she moved to Stockholm, where she spent 14 years as a teacher, vocal coach and répétiteur. On returning to Britain she worked with the Contemporary Opera Studio at the English National Opera and Almeida Theatre, followed by a brief period as an Artists' Manager. Between 1994 and 1997 she was Executive Director of *spnm - promoting new music*, during which time the organisation won the 1997 Prudential Award for the Arts. She has been Managing Director of the London Sinfonietta since October 1997. She is a board member of the ABO.

## **SALLY GROVES**

Sally Groves is a Director of Schott & Co. Ltd., where she is the London Head of Contemporary Music for Schott Music International. She has been responsible for building and promoting the Music of Our Time catalogue for the past twenty-eight years. The distinguished roster of composers includes Dutilleux, Goehr, Henze, Ligeti, Penderecki, Tippett, Martland and Turnage. Sally Groves is Chair of the trustees of the British Music Information Centre, a director of the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra and the Birmingham Contemporary Music Group and a Governor of the Royal Northern College of Music. She also serves on the North Music Trust. She was a member of the Executive Committee of the Society for the Promotion of New Music from 1979-90, becoming its Chairman for the last two years. She has also served on a number of Arts Council panels, the Executive Committee of New Macnaghten Concerts and the original steering group of English National Opera's Contemporary Opera Studio.

## **RICHARD KING**

Richard King joined Faber Music as a Music Editor in 1989. He was responsible initially for growing the Company's educational and sales publishing programmes, notably in choral music where he instigated the Faber Music choral list. His appointment as Editorial Director in 1994 saw him take full responsibility for the commissioning of all the Company's printed music titles. In 1997 he was appointed General Manager and progressively assumed responsibility across all the functions of the business. Following his appointment as Managing Director in 1999, he initiated and managed the setting up of the Company's own distribution service in 1999 and has subsequently set in motion significant growth within the Company's media music, rights and printed music businesses. He became a Director of the Music Publishers Association in 2003 and was elected a PRS board Director this year.

## **ANDREW KUROWSKI**

Andrew Kurowski has been on the staff of BBC Radio since 1979, first as a sound-technician and as a member of the music production department for Radio 3. His interests have always been dominated by new music: he studied contemporary music and composition at Cambridge with Alexander Goehr, and is now responsible for the new music output on Radio 3. This embraces not only programme output but also the management of the Network's new music commissions – including the BBC Orchestras and Singers and the BBC Proms. He also represents Radio 3 on matters of new music outside the BBC and for several years was chair of the International Society for Contemporary Music, work which was brought to a head in the 1998 ISCM World Music Days in Manchester. In his years as a Producer and Subsequently Editor in Radio 3's music department, he has worked predominantly on programmes devoted to new music: Music in our Time, Midnight Oil, Hear and Now, Between the Ears and most recently Late Junction. In 1990 he devised and mounted the BBC's Berio at the Barbican weekend, bringing new and rare performances to the London stage. He also oversees the jazz and crossover output of Radio 3 including Mixing It and Jazz Legends, Andy Kershaw and World Routes. Andrew is currently the Editor of the new and specialist music in the London production department.

## **COLIN MATTHEWS**

Colin Matthews was born in London in 1946. He studied music at the Universities of Nottingham and Sussex, where he also taught, and subsequently worked with Benjamin Britten and Imogen Holst. He collaborated with Deryck Cooke on the performing version of Mahler's Tenth Symphony. Since the early 1970s his music has been played widely both in the UK and worldwide, with recordings on Unicorn, Collins Classics and Deutsche Grammophon. From 1992-9 he was Associate Composer with the London Symphony Orchestra, writing amongst other works a Cello Concerto for Rostropovich. In 1997 his choral/orchestral work *Renewal* was given the Royal Philharmonic Society Award for large-scale composition. His ballet score *Hidden Variables* opened the Royal Ballet's season in December 1999, and the large-scale ensemble piece *Continuum* was toured by the BCMG and Sir Simon Rattle. He is currently Composer-in-Association with the Hallé Orchestra and is completing a series of orchestrations of Debussy's Preludes. His orchestral work *Reflected Images* was recently premiered by the San Francisco Symphony Orchestra under Michael Tilson Thomas.

## **GILLIAN MOORE MBE**

Gillian Moore was born in Glasgow in 1959 into a family of keen amateur musicians. She studied music at Glasgow University, the Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama and York University, specialising in piano and twentieth-century music. After leaving university, she worked as a music copyist, a keyboard player in pop groups and a taxi driver before, in 1983, taking up the position as Education Officer with the London Sinfonietta, the first such post of its kind in the UK. Under Gillian Moore's guidance, the London Sinfonietta pioneered participatory educational work, working closely with many of the world's leading composers and performers, and setting an example which has since been followed by many orchestras in Britain and abroad. During this time, Gillian also served on the government's National Curriculum Working Group, appeared on television and radio presenting music programmes and gave lectures and presentations all round the world. She left the London Sinfonietta in 1993 to become Head of Education at the South Bank Centre, developing an approach which integrated educational and artistic activity. Gillian Moore was Artistic Director of the ISCM World Music Days in Manchester in 1998, and returned to the London Sinfonietta as Artistic Director in the same year. She combines this post with running the audience development programme *Inside Music* at the Royal Festival Hall and being a Visiting Professor at the Royal College of Music. In 1991 Gillian was awarded the Sir Charles Groves Award for services to British Music, in 1992 she was created an Honorary Member of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, and she was awarded an MBE in the 1994 New Year's Honours list. Later in 1994, she took up an Arts Council Artists' Development Award for a period of study at Harvard University. She received the ABO award in 1998 for contribution to British orchestral life, and was given the FRCM in 2000.

## **NORMAN ROSENTHAL**

Since 1977 Norman Rosenthal has been Exhibitions Secretary of the Royal Academy of Arts, London, where he is responsible for all loan exhibitions. He has been associated particularly with a series of exhibitions at the Royal Academy documenting the art of the 20th Century, as well as organising contemporary art shows in London and other cities. Norman Rosenthal has undertaken many television and radio broadcasts over the years and contributes numerous articles to catalogues and journals throughout the world. He is frequently a panel member for both British and international artist awards.

## **SUSANNAH SIMONS**

Susannah Simons is Head of Public Affairs and Outreach BBC Radio and Music. In this capacity she is responsible, amongst other things, for the education and audience development work of all of the BBC's Performing Groups and the Proms. A graduate of the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, she began her career as a studio manager in BBC Radio before becoming a presenter. She presented the Radio 4 PM programme for ten years, before leaving in 1987 to present Channel 4's Business Daily. In 1992 she became the presenter of Answering Back on Channel 4 and at the same time became one of the founder members of the team that set up Classic FM. Whilst at Classic FM she presented Masters of their Art, as well as initiating the Music Teacher of the Year competition, Classic FM Families and the Yamaha Classic FM Music School, all initiatives designed to increase and broaden the audience for classical music. She was also Director of Communications of Classic FM's parent company GWR until December 2002 when she returned to the BBC. Susannah is the Chair of the National Youth Dance Company, a member of the board of the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment, and is on the London advisory board of Arts and Business. She has previously served as a Governor of More House School and was on the advisory board of the Royal Ballet between 1998 and 2000.

## **DAVID WHELTON**

David Whelton was born in 1954, and was trained as a pianist and organist. Prior to taking up his position as Managing Director of the Philharmonia Orchestra, David worked as a freelance musician, as a teacher at Guildhall School of Music and Drama, as well as for Yorkshire Arts Association, Leeds City Council, and in the Music Department of the Arts Council of Great Britain, (now the Arts Council of England). As Managing Director of the Philharmonia Orchestra, David Whelton is responsible for engaging conductors and soloists, agreeing the repertoire to be performed, planning recordings, overseas tours and regional engagements, as well as overseeing the Orchestra's budget. The Philharmonia Orchestra is resident at the Royal Festival Hall in London, and also has residencies in Bedford, Leicester and Paris. In addition to his work at the Philharmonia, David Whelton is a Director of Prussia Cove, a member of Mayfield Valley Arts Trust, and a former director of the Association of British Orchestras.

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