

Nicholas Payne

BIOGRAPHY

Nicholas Payne has been Director of Opera Europa since 2003, since when he has concentrated on building both the membership and the services offered by this leading organization for professional opera companies and opera festivals throughout Europe.

He has worked in opera since he joined Covent Garden in 1968 for the final two years of the David Webster/Georg Solti period. After a spell at the Arts Council of Great Britain during the early 1970s, he worked for four different UK opera companies over 27 consecutive years. He has been Financial Controller of Welsh National Opera; General Administrator of Leeds-based Opera North; Director of the Royal Opera Covent Garden; and General Director of English National Opera.

During this time he has established professional contacts throughout the operatic world and has written and broadcast regularly on operatic and general arts subjects.