



Andrew Mosely to become Non-executive Chair of Longborough Festival Opera

Longborough Festival Opera is delighted to announce the appointment of Andrew Mosely as Non-executive Chair of the Board of Trustees from 1st September 2023.

The news comes as Longborough unveils plans for its Ring Cycle year (2024), which will see the festival stage all four productions in Wagner's epic *Der Ring des Nibelungen*, as well as a new production of Puccini's *La Bohème*.

Andrew brings a wealth of experience to his new role together with a passion for opera. Andrew has spent over thirty years in senior corporate leadership roles in the UK and the US. He has extensive experience as a board level advisor in the delivery of performance insights within blue chip organisations, primarily in the financial services, technology, media and consumer products sectors. After retiring in 2020, he is currently Chairman of Metapraxis Nordic AB, a Swedish management consultancy, and a Trustee and Treasurer of the Cosman Keller Art and Music Trust. In addition to an MA in Physics, he was awarded a BA in Opera Studies in 2020 and is currently researching for a PhD at Newcastle University in the intersection of opera, surrealism and gender.

Andrew succeeds Lizzie Graham in the post. Lizzie served as Interim Chair for one year following her husband and Longborough co-founder Martin Graham, who stepped down after 20 years in the post. Martin and Lizzie will retain their close interest in all aspects of Longborough's continuing success. The next generation of the Graham family also remains involved with Longborough's day-to-day operations, with Polly as Artistic Director and Leo serving as a Trustee with Lizzie.

Andrew comments: *"This is an exciting time to be taking over as Chair of Longborough's Board of Trustees. Our artists and musicians are in outstanding form, and, under the Artistic leadership of Polly Graham, we have continued energy and a fresh vision for taking forward the commitment to excellence and innovation which has characterised Longborough's work since the festival was co-founded by Martin and Lizzie Graham in 1991. I look forward to supporting the festival as it reaches yet greater heights of artistic achievement."*



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"Longborough is indebted to my mother and father's inspirational leadership, expertise, passion and enthusiasm," said Artistic Director Polly Graham. "Without their energy and drive, this festival would not exist. We continue to be inspired by their tenacity and daring, and intend to keep taking exciting artistic risks as we plan for the future, sharing great opera with as many people as possible."



Martin and Lizzie Graham achieved what many said was impossible. Fuelled by great passion, energy and determination, they gradually converted a set of agricultural buildings into what is regularly described as an English Bayreuth in the heart of the Cotswolds, loved by its ever-expanding supporter base and respected for its commitment to exceptional performance quality, compelling repertoire and creativity of interpretation.

Over the last thirty two years, Longborough Festival Opera has developed into a modern arts organisation run by a team of professionals drawn from across the arts world, with a mission to support opera as a compelling art form, develop artistic talent of the future and widen the access to music in surrounding communities.

Notes to Editors

About Longborough Festival Opera

Martin and Lizzie Graham started promoting opera in the grounds of their home in 1991 as Banks Fee Opera. Longborough Festival Opera has since grown into an established opera company in the heart of the Cotswolds, with an annual season in a purpose-built opera house seating 500. Martin and Lizzie's daughter, the acclaimed opera director Polly Graham, was appointed Artistic Director in 2018, working alongside Jennifer Smith, Executive Director.

Longborough's intimate auditorium enables the audience to experience the drama and emotion on the stage on an almost personal level, firmly securing the summer season into the diaries of a loyal and ever-increasing audience.

Longborough Festival Opera is a charity relying on ticket sales and the generosity of its members and audience.

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