

COUNCIL MEMBERS 2017/18



Lord Black of Brentwood

Chairman of Council and Nominations Committee

Guy Black has spent his career in the communications industry and is Deputy Chairman of Telegraph Media Group and a former Director of the Press Complaints Commission. As Chairman of the Commonwealth Press Union Media Trust and Vice President of News Media Europe, he also has a significant international media role. He has been a member of the RCM Council since 2009, and became Chairman in 2017. He was educated at Brentwood School – where he first discovered his passion for music, and where he is now a Governor – and then at Peterhouse, Cambridge, from which he graduated in history. He is a former Chairman of The Hanover Band, and a former Trustee of the Imperial War Museum. He was made a Life Peer in 2010, and has spoken widely in the House of Lords on media issues, music education and the Commonwealth.



Peter Dart

Peter Dart is a global marketing professional with over 40 years' marketing experience, having worked on many of the world's most recognisable brands. Since 2001 Peter has worked as a Director in the WPP parent company for Sir Martin Sorrell, where his most important client is Unilever plc. He was previously Chairman of Added Value Group Marketing Consultancy, a company he founded in 1988 and which was bought by WPP. From 1978 – 1988 Peter worked for Unilever, where he was Marketing Director in Asia and Europe. Peter read Physics at Hertford College, Oxford, where he was also the Organ Scholar. He is a Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music and Associate of Trinity College of Music. He is Chairman of the Royal Choral Society as well as a trustee of VCM/Voces8/Apollo5 and the Director of Music of St Mary's Parish Church in Wargrave. Beyond his musical interests and professional life, Peter participates in many charitable, educational and not-for-profit institutions – for instance he recently helped The Royal Foundation develop Invictus Games and Heads Together. He is also a Trustee of The Prince's Foundation for Building Community.



Jane Barker CBE

Deputy Chairman of Council, Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee

Jane Barker is a Chartered Accountant and is the Chairman of Marsh Ltd and Mercer Ltd. She is a member of the Chapter of Salisbury Cathedral. Her previous executive roles have included being Finance Director and then Chief Executive of the Equitas Group of Companies, of which she remains a non-executive Director, and Finance Director of the London Stock Exchange. In a non-executive capacity she has served on the Council of the Open University and chaired its Audit Committee and was a member of the Partnership Council of Clifford Chance. Jane was awarded CBE in the Queen's Birthday Honours List of 2014.



Douglas Gardner

Chairman of the Estates Committee

Douglas Gardner is a Chartered Surveyor, having taken a degree in Land Economy at London University. Currently he is Director of Industrial Realisation plc. Previously he was a Governor [1995-2001] and then Chairman of the Board of Governors [2001-09] of Nuffield Health, one of the UK's largest charities; Chief Executive of the Properties Division of Tarmac plc [1975-83]; Chairman and Chief Executive of Brixton Estate plc, a UK listed property investment company [1983-2000]; Chairman of IDP2, an industrial development partnership [2000-07]; a founder and executive Chairman of Halverton REIM, a fund management company [2004-08]; a Director of Invista Real Estate Investment Management Holdings plc, a quoted fund management group [2010-12], a non-executive director of a Jersey based Invesco Trust, Hirco plc, a company undertaking the development of townships in Mumbai and Chennai [2006-11] and Prime plc, a company developing modern GP surgeries. He was also a member of the Investment Committee of AXA's European Industrial Partnership [2001-05].



Andrew Haigh

Andrew is a freelance consultant supporting entrepreneurs. He was previously an Executive Director at Coutts, one of the UK's leading wealth managers building customer propositions with a focus on successful entrepreneurs. He began his career as an investment banker in both London and New York before moving to be finance director of NatWest's International Businesses Division in 1993, followed by roles in the offshore islands running retail and private banking businesses. He returned to New York in 1999 for 2 years to act as country head for the NatWest Group's US businesses. He has spent 2 years in China helping create the first domestic private bank in the country. His external interests are around the arts and education including board memberships of the Photographers Gallery and the Chisenhale Gallery.



Sir George Iacobescu

Sir George Iacobescu is the Chairman and Chief Executive of Canary Wharf Group. Born and educated in Romania, where he graduated in Civil and Industrial Engineering, he emigrated to Canada in the 1970s where he was responsible for the construction of some of the largest projects in North America. Sir George came to London in 1987 to start the Canary Wharf Project. Over 30 years he has overseen the transformation of a derelict dockland into one of Europe's largest and fastest growing business districts, with parks, public art, and hundreds of shops and restaurants. Sir George is Vice Patron of the British Society of Sculptors and a former Trustee of the British Museum. He was the founding co-Chairman of Teach First, a charity recruiting high flying graduates to teach in inner-city schools. Sir George is currently a Commissioner on Lord Heseltine's Thames Estuary Commission and a member of the Mayor of London's Brexit Advisory Board. He was awarded CBE in 2003 for services to regeneration and knighted in 2012 for services to charity and the community. Sir George is a passionate supporter of the arts, and in particular classical music, opera and jazz.



Ruth Keattch

Ruth Keattch has over thirty years' experience in the financial services industry and is currently a non-executive director of Redburn. After studying Mathematics at Oxford, Ruth began her career as a stockbroking analyst and progressed to lead the equities team at Granville. Later she launched and managed a number of investment funds. At Artemis she co-managed the Artemis UK Special Situations Fund before becoming Chief Investment Officer. In that role she coordinated the activities of the fund managers and oversaw risk, regulation and corporate governance matters within the team. Ruth is a keen amateur musician and supporter of the arts. She is a Governor at Ravensbourne and chairs its Finance Committee.



Professor Colin Lawson FRCM

Professor Colin Lawson is Director of the Royal College of Music. He taught at Aberdeen and Sheffield Universities before moving to Thames Valley University as Pro Vice-Chancellor/Dean (2001-5). He has an international profile as a period clarinettist and has played in most of Britain's leading period orchestras. Colin has published widely, especially for Cambridge University Press. He is editor of *The Cambridge Companion to the Clarinet* and author of *Cambridge Handbooks to Mozart's Clarinet Concerto* and *Brahms's Clarinet Quintet*. He is co-editor of a series of *Cambridge Handbooks to the Historical Performance of Music*. He is also editor of the *Cambridge Companion to the Orchestra* (2003) and the recent *Cambridge History of Musical Performance*.



Richard Lyttelton

Over a 34 year career with EMI, Richard Lyttelton managed a number of its overseas subsidiaries. He returned to the UK in 1988 to become President of EMI Classics and Jazz worldwide, a position he held for 20 years. Since retiring from EMI Richard has served as President of the Royal Albert Hall, and Chairman English Touring Opera, Help Musicians UK and Artis Education. He is a liveryman of the Worshipful Company of Musicians and a trustee of both the EMI Music Sound Foundation and the EMI Archive Trust.



Professor Vanessa Latache FRCM

Professor Vanessa Latache studied at the Royal College of Music and completed her training in the USA and Paris. She has performed as a soloist with international orchestras and in the UK including the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra and the BBC Concert Orchestra, working with many leading conductors. Vanessa's recital work has taken her to Europe, the USA and the Far East. She is an advisor to Lang Lang's music school, Lang Lang Music World, in Shenzhen, China, where she formerly held the position of Vice-Chairman. Since September 2005 Vanessa has been Head of Keyboard at the RCM having previously been a professor of piano at the Royal Academy of Music for fourteen years. She was made an Honorary Associate of RAM in 1997. After receiving an FRCM in 2010, she was appointed to the role of Personal Chair at the RCM in September 2011, which has given her the title of Professor of International Keyboard Studies and in 2017 as an extension to her keyboard faculty work, she was made the Associate Director for Partnerships in China. Vanessa is also a Director and Trustee of Eileen Rowe Musical Trust and a Director of London Classical International Piano Competition.



John Nickson

John Nickson has worked for the British Council and English National Opera where he was responsible for both communication and fundraising and at The Royal Academy of Arts and Tate where, in addition to fundraising, he was also responsible for The Royal Academy Trust and the Tate Foundation. He has been a trustee of Atlantic College, United World Colleges International and MANGO (Management Administration for Non-Governmental Organisations) and is currently a trustee of Opera Rara and London Music Masters. He is an advisor, mentor and volunteer with a number of education and arts organisations and is also a campaigner for more philanthropy. His first book, *Giving Is Good For You*, was published in 2013 and royalties are divided between the RCM's scholarships fund and MQ: Transforming Mental Health. His second book, *Our Common Good- if the state provides less who will provide more?*, was published in 2017.



Andrew Ratcliffe

Chairman of the Audit Committee

Andrew is a past President of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) and a member of its Council. He spent his career with PwC, leading a variety of large international audit engagements in a range of industries and carrying out other advisory work. He also served as a member of the PwC UK firm's Board and as the chairman of PwC's Global Board, which oversees the PwC international network. He is now a consultant and the trustee of a number of charities. He graduated from Cambridge University in 1976 having read mathematics. From 1 August 2017, Andrew will be a Trustee, and Chair of the Audit Committee of University of London.



Geoffrey Richards

Geoff was born in Richmond, Yorkshire, UK on 25th September 1950 and is resident in Switzerland & Principality of Liechtenstein. Geoff was head of the Fleming Family & Partners International Family Offices, Trust & Administration businesses, Chairman of Fleming Family & Partners In Zurich. Geoff also chaired Fleming Family & Partners Singapore Family office & Trust services business, Geoff was an executive director of Fleming a Family & Partners Group until he retired in December 2009.

Geoff is also an adviser & Trustee to various Charitable Trusts & Foundations & he continues in these roles which he enjoys a great deal and gives his services to most on a voluntary basis.

Following Geoff's retirement from the Fleming Group on 31st December 2009, Geoff founded Richards & Partner Consulting Limited in order to continue with his Trustee & Advisory consultancy to International families.

Geoff is a Freeman & Liveryman of the City of London, a past member of The Prince's Charities Council, a past Member of the Philharmonia Trust (15 years), an Honorary member of the Royal College of Music, an International Ambassador for the Royal College of Music's - More Music Redevelopment campaign, and an Honorary member of the University of Lund-Sweden's student choir.



Alethea Siow

Alethea Siow is a solicitor specialising in banking and corporate work. After spending over 15 years in private practice in the City (and briefly in Hong Kong), she is now Head of Structured Finance at a London based property developer, Blackfriars Investments. She is a Trustee of the London Early Years Foundation, a leading childcare charity and social enterprise providing day care and parenting support to a diverse mix of families within Central and Greater London. From 1996 to 2014, she was on the Group board of A2 Dominion, a major provider of high quality housing in London and the South East. Alethea has been a past member of the Audit Committee of the Royal Institution and also of the Methodist Council.



Professor Ashley Solomon

In 1991 Ashley completed his studies at the Royal Academy of Music, won the Moeck International Recorder Competition, resulting in a Wigmore Hall solo recital, and co-founded Florilegium. As the group's Director he still spends time performing with them, and his discography of 30 recordings has garnered numerous awards. As a soloist, Ashley has performed worldwide. Much in demand as a teacher he has been a professor at the Royal College of Music since 1994 and given masterclasses and lectures in Australia, Singapore, the Americas and Europe. In 1998 he was made an Associate of the RAM and, in 2000, Honorary Member of the RCM. In 2006 Ashley was appointed RCM's Head of Historical Performance. In 2002 Florilegium became involved with Bolivian Baroque and since 2003 Ashley has been training vocalists and instrumentalists there. In 2008 Ashley was the first European to be awarded the prestigious Bolivian Hans Roth Prize, received in recognition of the enormous assistance he has given to the Bolivian native Indians, including the promotion and preservation of their music. In 2014 he was appointed Chair of Historical Performance in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the RCM and in July 2017 he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music (FRAM), for outstanding services to music which was conferred on him by HRH Duchess of Gloucester.



Elly Taylor

Elly Taylor is the Academic Registrar at the Royal College of Music. She studied Biochemistry and Biological Chemistry at the University of Nottingham. Having worked in marketing for a boutique wine company, she embarked on her career in Higher Education administration, firstly in External Relations at Loughborough University, then as Student Services Manager for a department delivering distance education at the University of New South Wales, Australia. Following a brief spell at the University of Sussex, Elly eventually reached the RCM in 2003, to manage the RCM's Registry. Over the years, she has played a key role in implementing the UCAS Conservatoires admissions system and has project managed the implementation of the RCM's student database. She has developed several online tools including the RCM's online registration system. Elly is a member of the RCM Senate and has also served as secretary to the Conservatoires UK Academic Administration Committee. Elly has played piano, saxophone and sung in various bands over the years. She is an Honorary Member of the RCM, awarded in 2012.



Rhoddy Voremberg
Chairman of Investment Committee

Rhoddy Voremberg is a solicitor and partner at Farrer & Co LLP in Lincoln's Inn Fields. He specialises in advising private clients, especially the owners of landed estates and historic houses and collections, on family succession and capital taxation. He was for 25 years, before moving to Farrer & Co in 2010, a partner at Wilsons in Salisbury, where he was Senior Partner for three years. Rhoddy has a wide range of interests in the arts and is an amateur typographer and silversmith. He was also formerly an international match rifle shot. He is a Trustee of the Stanley Picker Trust which provides grants to assist students undertaking vocational studies in Fine and Performing Arts.



Veronica Wadley CBE

Veronica Wadley was Chair of Arts Council, London until 30 June 2018 and Board Member of Arts Council England. She was editor of the Evening Standard 2002-2009 and chaired the Evening Standard Theatre Awards and Film Awards. In 2010 she was appointed to the Mayor of London's Music Education Taskforce under the Chairmanship of Karen Brock, Head of Music Services in Tower Hamlets, to develop philanthropic music giving. In 2011, Veronica co-founded the Mayor's Music Fund and went on to become Chairman. She continues to support the charity, now called the London Music Fund, as a trustee. From 2012 - 2016, she was Senior Advisor to the Mayor of London. She has worked with many charities and arts companies including Northern Ballet and is now a Governor of the Yehudi Menuhin School, a Member of the City of London Education Board and in 2018, was appointed to the Council of the Royal College of Music. She is also an Independent Director of Times Newspapers and a Non-Executive Director of the Berkeley Group. She was awarded a CBE in the 2018 Queen's New Year Honours List for services to the Arts



David Whelton

Born in 1954, David Whelton trained as a pianist and organist. Following an early career in education, he joined the Yorkshire Arts Association and subsequently Leeds City Council prior to moving to the music department at the Arts Council of Great Britain. In 1988 he was appointed Managing Director of the Philharmonia Orchestra. Under David's leadership, the Philharmonia gained a unique position at the heart of British and international musical life. It has established new relationships with many great conductors, including Esa-Pekka Salonen, Daniele Gatti and Valery Gergiev who shaped its musical history and has developed the orchestra's residencies. The orchestra is recognised today as a pioneer and leader in this work within the UK. David is Chairman of the Mayfield Valley Arts Trust, Trustee of the Philharmonic Trust, Artistic Director of the Klosters Alpine Music Festival, Switzerland and Director of the Three Choirs Festival Association. David is also the recipient of the Association of British Orchestras Special Award (2016) and was recently appointed a Member of Council at the Royal College of Music.



Bob Wigley

Educated at Exeter school and Bath University, Bob forged his career in the financial services industry. Between 1987 - 1996 he was at Morgan Grenfell. He joined Merrill Lynch in 1996; was Co-Head of UK Investment Banking in 2001; Chairman of EMEA Corporate Banking in 2003 and Chairman of EMEA from 2004-09. He is Chairman of Tantalum Corporation, Justinvesting, Stonehaven Associates LLP, Llamabrook plc and NetOTC. In 2008, he chaired a panel of leading London financial services CEOs for Boris Johnson, producing a report on maintaining London's competitiveness and has been an ambassador for UK business appointed by David Cameron, Prime Minister. Bob is an NED of the Qatar Financial Centre Authority. He was a member of the Court of the Bank of England and is also the past Master of the Worshipful Company of International Bankers; In 2008 he was awarded an honorary Doctorate by the University of Bath. He is a fellow of Institute of Chartered Accountants, a visiting Fellow at Oxford and an Honorary Fellow at Cambridge.



Kevin Porter HonRCM
Clerk to the Council

Kevin Porter is Deputy Director and Clerk to the Council. Before joining the RCM he worked at London Guildhall University and the University of East London and for the Council for National Academic Awards. In recent years, he has been involved in quality audits for the Quality Assurance Agency, on HEFCE working groups, chaired CUK committees and is chair of the Board of internal audit consortium Kingston City Group.



Nathan Cho
SU President

Born in Epsom, England, Nathan showed early talent for music when he began playing the violin at age 7. He was educated Berlin, Germany under Michael Sekler, a pupil of David Oistrakh and principal concert master with Konzerthausorchester Berlin. Nathan won his first competition nine months into his studies, placing first in the Berliner Young Musician Competition. Aged 11, he obtained a place at Hanns Eisler Hochschule Berlin, where he studied under Prof. Johannes Kittel and Prof. Ulf Wallin. He came second in the Queen Sophie Charlotte International Violin competition in Mirow. He played as 'Little Mozart' on the Konzerthaus stage in 2007 and was invited later that year to South Korea to perform the whole of Mozart's 3rd Violin Concerto with the KBS Symphony Orchestra. He continued his studies at Harrow School from 2008-2013 as a Music Scholar before attending the Royal College of Music as a Neville Wathen Award holder for his undergraduate degree. He currently serves as President of the Students' Union at the College, representing the student body in various capacities including welfare, events management and as an active member of the Council.