



Date of issue: Thursday 23 October 2025

ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA AND LONDON COLISEUM ANNOUNCE NEW BOARD APPOINTMENTS

English National Opera (ENO) is pleased to announce the appointment of **Phil Edgar-Jones OBE** as Chair of the Board of Directors for its trading subsidiary, **London Coliseum Limited** (LCL). He will be joined by two new board members, **Simon Bailey** and **Tim Leppard**. Simon also joins the ENO board, further strengthening the governance and leadership of the charity.

Phil is Director of Sky Arts, where he has championed accessible, innovative, and diverse programming across the UK's only TV channel dedicated to the arts. He has worked closely with the ENO Board for over a decade and brings a deep commitment to the arts and culture sector. His appointment as Chair of LCL comes at a pivotal moment as the organisation continues to develop bold new approaches to audience engagement and commercial resilience. Phil's unique insight into broadcasting, cultural partnerships, and audience development will be instrumental in driving forward the ENO and LCL's strategic ambitions.

To support the ongoing success of ENO's artistic and commercial operations, Simon has joined the Boards of ENO and LCL. Appointed Chief Financial Officer for The Walt Disney Company Europe, Middle East and Africa in 2014, Simon oversees the financial functions across the region. He brings with him a wealth of strategic insight and financial expertise from over 30 years in the media and entertainment industry that will be invaluable to ENO and LCL's future development.

Tim joins the LCL Board, bringing over 30 years of experience advising clients and investors on the sustainable asset management of Central London property. His deep understanding of commercial property will play an important role in the long-term success of the London Coliseum.

Both Simon and Tim are passionate about the positive impact of the arts on society and ensuring ENO and the London Coliseum are accessible to the widest possible audience.

The Board of Directors for LCL works closely with the ENO Board and includes Jenny Mollica (Chief Executive of ENO and LCL) and Helen Campbell (Chief Financial Officer of ENO and LCL).

Louise Jeffreys, Interim Chair of English National Opera, says: *"As we continue to explore new commercial opportunities for the London Coliseum, the collaboration between the ENO and LCL Boards will be instrumental in unlocking the full potential of the London Coliseum as a vibrant cultural and commercial venue. Together, we're committed to ensuring a dynamic and sustainable future for ENO. We're delighted that Phil, Simon and Tim are with us on this journey."*



Phil Edgar-Jones OBE, Chair of London Coliseum Ltd, says: *"It's a privilege to Chair the London Coliseum Limited Board and to welcome Simon and Tim as new members. Simon brings exceptional financial leadership from one of the world's most iconic entertainment companies, and his insight will be invaluable as we continue to grow and innovate the London Coliseum as a cultural and commercial hub in the heart of the West End. Tim's expertise in sustainable property management and his long-standing commitment to community reflect the values that shape the London Coliseum, the capital's largest theatre. Their appointments mark an exciting new chapter for our venue, and we look forward to the energy, experience and vision they will bring."*

-ENDS-

Notes to Editors

Press information

For any further information, please contact: mediaenquiries@eno.org

Biographies

Phil Edgar-Jones is responsible for driving the vision and strategy for the portfolio of Unscripted Programming at Sky, across Entertainment, Documentaries and Arts. He joined Sky as Head of Entertainment in 2012 and was appointed Director of Sky Arts in 2014, commissioning a wealth of successful programmes on all the arts genres. He also oversaw Sky Arts' move to Freeview in 2020 and was awarded an OBE for services to the Arts in the 2023 New Years Honours list. For Sky Max he's commissioned *A League of their Own* and *Rob & Rom Vs...* to *Dynamo is Dead* and *Never Mind the Buzzcocks* among others. He has recently added Sky Documentaries to his slate and is working with the team on a number of new developments. Prior to that, Edgar-Jones was Creative Director of Remarkable Pictures (part of Endemol UK) where he oversaw *Big Brother* during its Channel 4 years and entertainment projects including the first constructed reality show in the UK, *The Salon*. Edgar-Jones has also worked at Ginger TV (Exec Producer, *The Priory*); Absolutely (exec Producing *The Jack Docherty Show*); and on *The Big Breakfast*, *The Word* and *The Sunday Show*.

Simon Bailey was appointed Chief Financial Officer for The Walt Disney Company Europe, Middle East and Africa (TWDC EMEA) in 2014 and leads the local market and regional finance teams across commercial finance, financial planning and analysis, driving efficiencies, cost management and shared services. TWDC EMEA includes several lines of business including direct-to-consumer streaming, networks, content sales, studio distribution and marketing, consumer products and live entertainment and music. He is a Fellow Chartered Accountant (FCA) and qualified with KPMG in London.



Tim Leppard qualified as a Chartered Surveyor after gaining a BSc (Hons) in Estate Management from South Bank Polytechnic. Since qualifying Tim has advised clients and investors on the sustainable asset management of Central London property for over 30 years. He has been responsible for everything from the day-to-day management of portfolios to whole building refurbishments.

English National Opera (ENO) Board:

- Louise Jeffreys (Interim Chair)
- Hilary Newiss (Interim Deputy Chair)
- Simon Bailey
- Sally Burgess
- Richard Buxton
- Anupam Ganguli
- Professor Ajit Lalvani
- Gillian Moore
- Sally Osman
- Lord Chris Smith
- Patti White

London Coliseum Limited (LCL) Board:

- Phil Edgar-Jones (Chair)
- Simon Bailey
- Helen Campbell
- Tim Leppard
- Jenny Mollica

Headshots

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/4louob0mzzs8jt7s1j87d/AHSdPsbjb9hDdTsnYbB3OfI?rlkey=qci90dlzIqcjfsx2nj659gfbm&st=xz2x5qtq&dl=0>

About English National Opera (ENO)

English National Opera (ENO) is dedicated to creating extraordinary encounters with opera, on stage and beyond. Operas are performed in English to be accessible to the widest possible audience. The Company was founded as Sadler's Wells Opera in 1931, and since 1968 has been resident at the London Coliseum, adopting its present name in 1974. In November 2024, following an agreement with Arts Council England, ENO and Greater Manchester announced details of a new partnership to bring the company's globally renowned cultural offering to the city-region, whilst continuing its substantial opera season every year at the London Coliseum.

Showcasing the wealth of talent nationwide is fundamental to ENO's vision. The Company's talent development programmes nurture the careers of singers through the Harewood Artist programme, musicians through ENO Evolve, and directors through Director Observerships.



English National Opera, creating opera without limits.

www.eno.org

London Coliseum

The London Coliseum is the largest theatre in London with 2,359 seats. Built in 1904 by legendary theatre architect Frank Matcham, the glorious Edwardian architecture and interiors were magnificently restored in 2004. The theatre has been home to the English National Opera since 1968, and hosts some of the best entertainment the capital has to offer.

London Coliseum Limited (LCL) is a wholly owned subsidiary of English National Opera (ENO), managing the London Coliseum and all commercial activities for the ENO group.

www.londoncoliseum.org