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THREE GREATER MANCHESTER BASED TRUSTEES JOIN ENO BOARD

English National Opera (ENO) today announced the appointment of three new Greater Manchester based trustees, further strengthening the organisation's governance as it progresses its pioneering partnership with the city region, alongside its annual London season and nationwide learning and engagement programmes.

Joining the ENO Board are **Professor Malcolm Press CBE** and **Vanda Murray OBE**, who will take up their roles in February 2026, alongside **Caroline Julian**, who joins the board this month.

Professor Malcolm Press CBE has served as Vice Chancellor of **Manchester Metropolitan University** since 2015, and is a distinguished ecologist and higher education leader, holding numerous national and international advisory and trustee roles. Vanda Murray OBE brings over 30 years of senior leadership experience across business, public and charity sectors. These include her current roles as Chair of **Marshalls plc** and **Yorkshire Water**, alongside a previous position as CEO of **Blick plc**. Caroline Julian is Brand and Engagement Director at **British Cycling**, with extensive experience in communications, marketing and cultural policy and a longstanding commitment to supporting the arts in Manchester.

Along with the rest of the Board, the three new members will play a pivotal role in supporting **ENO's Greater Manchester Partnership**, which covers every aspect of opera production and celebrates new possibilities for the artform. Upcoming ENO productions in the city-region include a newly staged concert version of Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, at **The Bridgewater Hall** in **February 2026** and the UK premiere of *Angel's Bone*, the Pulitzer prize-winning contemporary opera by Chinese American composer **Du Yun** and librettist **Royce Vavrek**, in collaboration with **Factory International** and **BBC Philharmonic Orchestra**, presented at **Aviva Studios** in **May 2026**. A range of learning and community outreach programmes are also underway including **PERFECT PITCH**, a celebration of opera and community football in a co-creation between Salford-based outdoor arts specialists, **Walk the Plank**, ENO, community groups and local football teams.

Louise Jeffreys, Chair, English National Opera, said: *"We're delighted to welcome Caroline, Vanda and Malcolm to the ENO Board. Their depth of expertise, leadership experience and strong connections to Greater Manchester's cultural, civic and business communities will be invaluable as our partnership with the city region continues apace, while also strengthening ENO's ongoing work in London and across the country."*

Professor Malcolm Press CBE, said: *"I'm honoured to be joining the ENO Board at such an exciting moment in the organisation's history. ENO's growing partnership with Greater Manchester, alongside its longstanding creative home in London, represents a powerful national model for opera. I look forward to supporting the company's work as it expands opportunities for artists, audiences and communities."*

Vanda Murray OBE said: *"I'm delighted to bring my experience to the ENO Board as the organisation deepens its roots in the city region while continuing to deliver world-class work in London too. Together, this dual focus is helping to open up opera, nurture talent and strengthen the cultural ecology across the country."*

Caroline Julian said: *“What attracted me to ENO is its ambition to be a truly national company – rooted in Greater Manchester and London while strengthening its reach, engagement and impact with communities nationwide. The creativity and collaborations emerging in these places are hugely exciting, and I’m delighted to support ENO as it continues to innovate.”*

ENDS

Notes to Editors

For media enquiries, please contact: Jess Hookway, 07545629316 / jhookway@eno.org

Images can be found here:

<https://englishnationalopera.smugmug.com/Announcements/Greater-Manchester-Trustees-/n-zBxTZ9>

Full details of the [ENO Board - ENO](#)

About English National Opera (ENO)

English National Opera is the national opera company dedicated to creating extraordinary encounters with opera, on stage and beyond. We sing in English to be accessible to the widest possible audience, as well as offering free tickets for under 21s, extended discounts for under 35s, and for as little as £15 for everyone else.

We create opera that feels different, is theatrically and creatively daring and have been doing this to national and international acclaim since being founded in 1931 as Sadler’s Wells Opera. 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.

We are passionate about making opera more inclusive and representative of the society in which we live, and believe that positive change for the industry comes from removing barriers to access.

English National Opera, creating opera without limits.

For more information, please visit: www.eno.org