

Nigel Bates

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Profile

An enthusiastic, versatile and resourceful Musician and Manager, with a lifelong passion for the arts. Broad experience gained in the UK and worldwide from over 6,000 performances, broadcasts and recordings. Able to demonstrate strong track record of success in project and general management, organisation and technical skills. Exceptional administrative, personnel and scheduling expertise in addition to providing musical direction. An approachable and inspiring principal with recognised leadership skills, motivated by and dedicated to excellence, combined with meeting the general wellbeing of fellow artists and co-workers. Strong history of personal commitment to fundraising having devoted a great deal of time in pursuit of sponsorship and organisation of charitable events. Outgoing and energetic with strong business acumen, able to work well as a self-starter and team player, building strong and lasting rapport with colleagues and clients.

Key Skills

- **Industry experience** – a 40 year career in classical music as a player and manager
- **Leadership** – proven project and management skills in every role undertaken
- **Communication** – excellent written and verbal ability
- **Technology** – expert in the use and adaptation of IT to deliver results
- **Deadlines** – results oriented in highly pressured environments
- **Empathy** – deeply held commitment and sensitivity to the music and arts fraternity
- **Governance** – conscious of the importance of procedures, health, safety and the environment

Employment History**Music Administrator for The Royal Ballet****Dec 2012 to date**

- Creation and development of this vital position, dealing with all aspects of music for the Company's many performances
- Engagement of conductors and musicians and implementing artistic decisions within tight scheduling deadlines
- Working with eminent composers and choreographers to bring their vision and creativity to a theatrical reality
- Close relationships with all departments at the ROH including Planning, Broadcast, Production and Fundraising
- Development of young conductor mentoring scheme in conjunction with the Music Director

Freelance Orchestral Percussionist, Editorial Writer & Arts Lecturer (UK & Australia)**Jun 2011 to date**

- **Freelance performer** working with over 15 different London-based orchestras in UK and abroad
- **Freelance editorial writer** – producing regular articles for Royal Opera House Publications & Programmes
- **Freelance arts lecturer** – UK & Australian Arts Societies & Institutions, across five states to audiences totalling >3,000

Producer for BBC documentaries "Maestro at the Opera" & "Pappano's Classical Voices"**Nov 2011 - Jun 2015**

- Successfully coordinated complex TV filming requirements & deadlines within a busy schedule at the Royal Opera House
- Project managed BBC & ROH Directors, performers, stage & TV production teams to achieve a successful outcome
- Effectively oversaw all aspects of event management, production, copyright & post-production for *Maestro*
- Wide general acclaim for the series of successful broadcasts on BBC2 & BBC4 with audiences approaching 4.5 million

General Manager, Fine Music Radio, Sydney, Australia**Jan 2011 - Jun 2011**

- Oversaw high profile local community radio station through major period of change & rebuilt staff & volunteer morale
- Implemented digital radio launch & strengthened relationships with sponsors, clients & major performance venues
- Re-established relations & negotiated new sponsorship deals with the Sydney Symphony Orchestra & City Recital Hall
- Headed project task force, planning & managing the station move from temporary into new purpose-built premises

Secretary & General Manager, Arts Central Queensland, Australia; Writer & Lecturer**Aug 2009 - Jan 2011**

- Founder & administrator for a new arts advocacy group, aimed at promoting professional arts in Central Queensland
- Developed two, five & ten year strategic plans for group growth in consultation with local council & other arts groups
- Contributed a regular column for UK magazine *Classical Music* reviewing the Australian music industry & developments
- Undertook several East Coast tours delivering >20 different lectures on music & theatrical arts to a variety of audiences

Managing Producer, Queensland Music Festival, Brisbane, Australia**Aug – Dec 2010**

- Produced & managed the run-up to the Festival's showcase film music competition, "*Score-It!*" of > 250 individual entries
- Liaised with all Festival stakeholders including 400 secondary schools, 12 film-makers & 2 editing & production studios
- Created a vibrant awareness campaign & clearly defined the Festival competition process, terms & conditions

Project & Music Director, The Central Queensland Messiah Project, Australia **Jan - Jul 2010**

- Professionally led this community project to present Handel's *Messiah* with > 140 volunteer & professional performers
- Established a community orchestra & secured funding of > \$20K sponsorship from state, university, council & businesses
- Successfully oversaw all logistical & artistic matters with >700 people eventually involved, ages ranging from 10 to 83

Section Principal Percussion, Royal Opera House Orchestra, London, UK **Apr 1993 – Jul 2009**

- Led, inspired & managed one of London's busiest percussion sections performing a wide variety of music
- Managed the successful re-launch of ROH Staff Benefit Club, increasing membership by 100%
- Appointed Orchestral Health & Safety representative during ROH major building refurbishment
- Successfully organised fundraising events including televised "*Curtain Call for Aid*" in 2005, raising >£260K for charity
- Successfully performed to the highest international standards, also dealing with admin for payroll, personnel & budgets
- Rebuilt percussion section to full strength in difficult circumstances following retirements & tragic untimely deaths
- Regular public speaker & presenter at significant ROH & other events including TV & Radio
- Invited to serve as Vice-President of The Friends of Covent Garden with a membership of > 25,000 patrons

Director, Artslink International Ltd & Nigel Bates Associates, London, UK **May 1986 – Dec 1993**

- Established start-up business offering email & computer consultancy, later appointed as a director
- Successfully managed central office, customer liaison, helpline & process development & reported to the board
- Produced & analysed customer & management accounts, controlled budgets & cash flow
- Successfully grew customer base to over 300 companies including *ROH, Intermusica, BMG, ICM Artists, Van Walsum*
- Wrote company operating manuals, handled statutory requirements & liaised with government agencies
- Established successful video production house including filming, editing & DVD authoring for ROH, musicians & schools
- Provided technology consultancy, customer support & training & dealt with copyright, royalty issues & clearances
- Recognised for achievement by receiving 2003 "*Best Documentary Film*" award from the *UK Institute of Videographers*
- Undertook extensive administrative analysis leading to improved changes in tasks & processes for The Philharmonia
- Established & managed a successful instrument hire service to orchestras, institutions & music venues
- Successfully managed & coordinated musician services; dealing with personnel, payroll, arranging, transport & logistics

Freelance orchestral percussionist, UK **Jan 1986 – Apr 1993**

- Undertook many hundreds of engagements as a percussionist, both as section principal & sub-principal, for most London orchestras & ensembles including: *BBC Symphony, BBC Concert, London Symphony, London Philharmonic, Royal Philharmonic, The Philharmonia, English Chamber Orchestra, City of London Sinfonia, Academy of St Martins*
- Gained extensive & highly varied experience in concerts, broadcasts, theatre, film & CD recordings
- Regularly invited to tour UK & worldwide, concurrent with music teaching & projects across several schools & colleges

Professor, Guildhall School of Music & Drama, London, UK **Feb 1982 – Jul 1986**

- One of the "big four" established music conservatoriums in London, awarding music degrees & performance diplomas
- Appointed as **Professor of Percussion**, whilst simultaneously developing performance & business careers

Director, Acorn Audio, Croydon, UK **Sep 1979 – Aug 1988**

- Established a business providing audio, editing & production services for musicians, orchestras, schools & colleges
- Successfully provided consultancy services for technical support, copyright, audio installation & management

Principal Percussionist, Sadlers Wells Royal Ballet Orchestra, UK **Sep 1979 – Aug 1983**

- Principal Percussionist to the sister touring company of the Royal Ballet
- Successfully undertook extensive UK Tours & gained in-depth experience of logistics
- Initially engaged as percussionist with the Orchestra, rising to Principal within eighteen months

Lance-Sergeant, Band of the Scots Guards, London, UK **Aug 1975 – Sep 1979**

- Served as Lance-Sergeant in one of the top military bands in the UK, duties ranging from concerts to major Royal events
- Percussionist with the military band receiving promotion to Lance-Sergeant

Personal Summary

Date of Birth	19th July 1957
Education	Whitgift School, Croydon [1969-1975] : 2 'A' Levels - English & Music ; 7 'O' levels
Driving Licence	Full Driving Licence
Other Interests	History, technology & film

Referees

Available on request