

MEDIA RELEASE

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Opera Australia welcomes Professor Glyn Davis AC back to Board

Rod Sims AO, Chair of Opera Australia, today announced that Professor Glyn Davis AC has been appointed to the Board, effective immediately. Chair from November 2021–September 2022, Professor Davis has been appointed as a non-executive director.

“When I heard Glyn was stepping down as Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet, I contacted him on behalf of the Board to invite him to rejoin the Board. I was delighted he agreed. Glyn brings a deep understanding of OA’s mission and considerable experience on arts boards.

“Glyn’s insights will be instrumental as OA prepares for the opportunities and challenges of the years to come and the evolving priorities of the whole sector. Glyn is a passionate champion of opera, so it’s timely to welcome him back as we celebrate 70 years of exceptional artistic achievement,” Sims said.

During his previous tenure, Davis played an instrumental role guiding OA through the pandemic and its return to the stage. Three years on, he rejoins the Board at a crucial time with a recruitment process underway for three leadership positions: CEO, Director of Opera, and Music Director.

Marking his return to the Board, Professor Davis said, “I was delighted to be approached by Rod to return to the Opera Australia Board and community.

“I am excited to be offered another opportunity to contribute to the vibrant future of Australia’s national opera company and to work with its leaders, artists, creatives and employees as OA continues to deliver spectacular performances for diverse audiences,” Davis added.

Professor Davis joins Board Directors Professor Warren Bebbington AM, Greta Bradman AM, Warwick Bray, Jonathan Feder, Jane Hansen AO, Michelle Kam, Deena Shiff, Chair Rod Sims AO and Andrew Sisson AO.

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PROFESSOR DAVIS BIO

Professor Glyn Davis AC is a public policy specialist, an Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne and Visiting Professor in the Blavatnik School of Government at the University of Oxford.

Professor Davis recently completed a term as Secretary of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. He previously held leadership roles in the tertiary and philanthropic sectors, including as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Melbourne from 2005 to 2018.

Professor Davis has long been engaged in the arts, including the boards of the Queensland and Melbourne Theatre companies. He was Chair of Opera Australia in 2021–22 and is delighted to return to the Board after a three-year absence working for the federal government.

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