

Biographies

Hannah Rothschild

Chair, Illuminated River Foundation

Hannah Rothschild is a writer, a filmmaker and Chair of The National Gallery. She also serves on boards of various philanthropic trusts and museums.

Her biography, 'The Baroness', was published in the UK, USA and seven other territories. Her first novel, 'The Improbability of Love', was published by Bloomsbury in May 2015 and in the USA by Knopf in November 2015. It has been shortlisted for the 2016 Bailey's Women's Prize for Fiction.

Her features and interviews appear in W, Vanity Fair, The Telegraph, The Times, The New York Times, The Spectator, British and American Vogue. Her documentaries have been shown on the BBC, HBO and at film festivals including Telluride, the London Film Festival and Sheffield. Working Title and Ridley Scott optioned her original screenplays.

In August 2015 Hannah became Chair of the Trustees of the National Gallery. She is the co-founder of the Artist on Film trust and a trustee of Tate and Waddesdon Manor.

Sarah Gaventa MA (RCA)

Director, Illuminated River Foundation

Sarah is a public space and public art expert and curator, and was previously Director of Public Space at the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment, she recently curated 'Out There: Our Post War Public Art' exhibition at Somerset House for Historic England. Sarah has been an Associate at Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners, and has a degree in art history and a MA from the Royal College of Art/ V&A. She is an honorary Fellow of the Landscape Institute for her outstanding contribution to landscape.

Malcolm Reading

Architect and Competition Director

The Competition is being managed by Malcolm Reading Consultants (MRC). Malcolm, an architect by training, founded the company after six years as Director of Design and Architecture at the British Council. He has overseen international architectural competitions for leading organisations, including the V&A, the Foreign & Commonwealth Office, the Solomon R Guggenheim Foundation, Mumbai City Museum, Glasgow School of Art, New College, Oxford and the Natural History Museum. He was on the Board of Historic Royal Palaces from 2005-2014, is a trustee of English Heritage, a fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and an honorary fellow of the Royal Geographical Society. He joined the Sovereign Grant Audit Committee in June 2015.

Malcolm was president of the 2014 Prix W architectural prize, a judge of World Architecture News' 21 for 21 Award, the AIA (American Institute of Architects), UK Excellence in Design award and World Architecture News' Education Award 2015. He writes regularly for the Architects' Journal.

Adrian Evans

Illuminated River Schools Project Director

Adrian is Festival Director of The Mayor's Thames Festival, London's biggest free festival. This high profile celebration of creativity and community takes place every year on and around the River Thames. He built the festival up from scratch, launching it in September 1997 with a spectacular high wirewalk across the Thames. The festival now involves a summer-long programme of creative workshops involving thousands of people from all over London and an artwork project that links the Thames with river cities all over the world. The festival weekend, which takes place during the second weekend of September, includes spectacular events and a huge night time procession on Victoria Embankment. Over 800,000 people attend.

Adrian is also Festival Director of Coin Street Festival, a three month season of music, crafts and popular arts which celebrate London's cultural diversity. These events take place in public open spaces around Oxo Tower Wharf.

For Big Time, London's Official Millennium Celebrations, Adrian programmed the seven music stages around the Thames and produced Millenni-Mum (a huge participatory sculpture of a mother and child sited by the Oxo Tower involving the creative contributions of thousands of school children). In 2000, he developed The Meridian Clock, sited in Greenwich by the Cutty Sark. A 40' high animated clock sculpture involving the creative contribution of over 2,000 young people.

Between 1989 and 1991, Adrian produced Archaos, the notorious French 'chainsaw-juggling' circus group. He produced Archaos in all territories outside of France.

From 1988 to 1995, Adrian promoted world music festivals and concerts, including many presentations at the Royal Festival Hall and The African Prom at the Royal Albert Hall.

Adrian's first event on the River Thames in 1987 involved floating a boxing ring on the Thames. He produced "The Unofficial Heavyweight Championship of the World" by People Show for the London International Festival of Theatre.