

# Murray Greig

Murray grew up in Charnwood in the small village of Cropston and was encouraged learn the cornet at Richard Hill Primary School. This led to him joining the Barlestone Victoria Brass Band before becoming part of the Loughborough Band organisation, both in the Youth and Senior bands.

Murray was fortunate to have had incredibly inspirational teachers including his father Malcolm, Keith Robertson-Ritchie, Eric Wood and Bud Fisher, before he joined the Leicestershire School of Music where he was taught by Don Blakeson and played in the Big Band, Brass Ensemble, Training Orchestra before gaining a place in the Leicestershire Schools Symphony Orchestra (LSSO).

He later went on to study the trumpet at the Royal Northern College of Music (1984-1988) with Howard Snell, and during this time, as well as maintaining his connection with brass bands (Leyland and Fodens), he played principal trumpet with the European Community Youth Orchestra conducted by Claudio Abbado.

He joined the Orchestra of the Royal Ballet in 1988 before taking up the position of principal trumpet with the Orchestra of Opera North (1989 - 2021). He also regularly appeared as guest principal trumpet with most of the other leading orchestras and ensembles in the UK, (LSO, RPO, Philharmonia, ROH, CBSO, BSO, WNO, BBC Philharmonic, Hallé, RLPO, BBCSSO, RSNO, Scottish Opera) as well as many abroad.

He can be heard on orchestral and chamber recordings on labels including Deutsche Grammophon, Chandos, Naxos, Decca, Signum, Telarc, Cala, and Hyperion.

Murray has been professor of trumpet at the Royal Northern College of Music since 1990 and since 2022 has been Head of the School of Wind, Brass and Percussion - Director of Brass. He also taught the trumpet for many years at Chetham's School of Music and has worked as trumpet tutor with the National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain. Many of his former students now hold positions in orchestras and Universities throughout the UK, Europe, Asia, and America. He has given recitals, master classes and served as competition juror throughout Europe, America and Asia, as well as the leading British Conservatoires.

His passion for music and teaching others comes very much from his own teachers, and the desire to '*give back what he received*' is very much at the heart of his work. He was involved as Head of Instrumental Learning at Opera North in overseeing the provision of instrumental music education through its Award Winning '*In Harmony*' programme, as well as establishing the '*Pathways*' programme and its very own 'Opera North Youth Orchestra'. Whilst at Opera North he also devised and set-up the 'RNCM / ON Professional Experience Scheme'.

Murray served for many years on the Board of Directors of the International Trumpet Guild and in 2002 hosted the International Trumpet Guild Conference at the RNCM. For a number of years, he edited the Orchestral Section column in the ITG Journal and has also written for Classical Music and The Brass Herald magazines.

Murray performs on Yamaha and Schagerl trumpets.

