Professor Dame Jane Glover, DBE FRCM HonRAM (Music, 1968)

Acclaimed British conductor and musicologist Professor Dame Jane Glover was recently awarded the Royal Philharmonic Society’s Gamechanger Award for her pioneering work in bringing more female conductors to the stage. She has conducted all the major symphony and chamber orchestras in Britain, as well as orchestras in Europe, the United States, Asia and Australia, and she is much in demand on the international opera stage. She has been Music of the Baroque’s music director since 2002.

Jane was the first woman to conduct at Glyndebourne, the second woman to conduct at the BBC Proms and also the Royal Opera House, Covent Garden and, as recently as 2013, the third woman to conduct at the Metropolitan Opera.

Jane came up to Oxford in 1968 to read Music and completed both her undergraduate studies and her DPhil on 17th century Venetian opera while at St Hugh’s. She undertook her first engagements as a conductor while she was a student at Oxford, including the first performance in modern times of Cavalli’s Rosinda for the Oxford University Opera Club. She was appointed as a Lecturer in Music in 1976, became a Senior Research Fellow in 1982 and was elected an Honorary Fellow of St Hugh’s in 1991.

Jane made her professional debut at the Wexford Festival in 1975, conducting her own edition of Cavalli’s L’Eritrea. She joined Glyndebourne in 1979 and served as music director of Glyndebourne Touring Opera from 1981 to 1985. She was artistic director of the London Mozart Players from 1984 to 1991 and has also held principal conductorships of the Huddersfield and London Choral Societies. From 2009 to 2016 she was Director of Opera at the Royal Academy of Music, where she is now the Felix Mendelssohn Visiting Professor. She was Visiting Professor of Opera at the University of Oxford in 2015.

Jane is a renowned Mozart specialist, and has conducted all of the Mozart operas across the world regularly since she first performed them at Glyndebourne in the 1980s, however her core operatic repertoire also includes Monteverdi, Handel and Britten.


Jane holds a personal professorship at the University of London, and she is a Fellow of the Royal College of Music, an Honorary Member of the Royal Academic of Music, and the holder of several honorary degrees.

Jane was appointed Commander of the British Empire in 2003 and was made a Dame in the 2021 New Year’s Honours for services to music.