



September 2007

Benjamin Twist is appointed as a Trustee of the Theatres Trust.

Margaret Hodge, the Minister for Culture, announced today that Benjamin Twist has been appointed as a Trustee of the Theatres Trust. His term of appointment will run from 8 October 2007 to 7 October 2010.

Biographical notes

Mr Twist is a free-lance theatre director whose portfolio of work includes main stage theatre, opera and music theatre as well as shows for and with young people and community plays. Before this, he was Co-Founder and Director of the Merry Mac Fun Company where he had responsibility for tour planning, administration and financial management (1985 to 1988). He then became Resident Director at the Traverse Theatre in Edinburgh, before becoming Artistic Director and Joint Chief Executive of the Contact Theatre in Manchester, where he had responsibility for policy and artistic development (1994 to 1998). Currently, he chairs the Scottish Arts Council's Lottery Committee, and serves as a member of the Joint Board of the Scottish Arts Council and Scottish Screen. Mr Twist is a member of the Labour Party and has occasionally delivered leaflets.

Background

The Theatres Trust Act 1976 established the Theatres Trust to 'promote the better protection of theatres for the benefit of the Nation'. The Trust has a UK wide remit to secure theatre use. Local authorities are required to consult the Trust on planning applications affecting land on which there is a theatre. The Trust provides help and advice on theatre planning and property related issues, to theatre management teams, Government agencies, and grant-making bodies.

TT trustees give their services on an honorary basis but may claim reasonable travel and subsistence

Public Appointments

This appointment has been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.