

Christopher Redgate (b. 1956)

Christopher Redgate is currently the Evelyn Barbirolli Research Fellow at the Royal Academy of Music and has recently been elected a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Music (FRAM).

As the recipient of a three year Arts and Humanities Research Council Fellowship (2009-2012) at the Royal Academy of Music he was able re-think the key-work of the oboe and, in collaboration with Howarth of London, to build the Howarth-Redgate 21st Century Oboe. This instrument has been built with extended capability for 21st century music that includes microtones, multiphonics, extended range and electronics. He now performs exclusively on this instrument.

Since his time as a student at the Royal Academy of Music Redgate has specialised in the performance of contemporary oboe music developing significantly several aspects of oboe technique, leading him to a re-evaluation of a number of performance practices.

Christopher Redgate has performed in most European countries, Scandinavia, Australia, America, Canada, Mexico and China. He has worked with many ensembles including Quatuor Diotima, Ensemble Exposé, Cikada Ensemble, The Arditti Quartet, Suoraan, Ensemble Modern, Kreutzer Quartet, London Sinfonietta, The Coull Quartet, Lontano, Firebird Ensemble, Music Projects/London, The Pittsburgh New Music Ensemble, Ixion, Apartment House, Trio Krosta, Topologies and the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra.

Many composers have written for him including Brian Ferneyhough, Michael Finnissy, Richard Barrett, Sam Hayden, Roger Redgate, Edwin Roxburgh, Christopher Fox, James Clarke, Paul Archbold, Dorothy Ker, Michael Young, Fabrice Fitch, David Gorton, Joe Cutler, Edward Cowie and Gwyn Pritchard.

In addition to his performing activities he lectures extensively, takes many masterclasses, composition classes and research seminars and writes on oboe related subjects (a new book: *21st Century Oboe* is in progress at the moment), composes and works occasionally as an adjudicator and examiner. From 1986 to 1992 was professor of oboe at the Internationale Ferienkurse für Neue Musik, Darmstadt.

His recordings, many of which have received substantial critical acclaim, can be found on the *Oboe Classics* label, *Metier/Divine Art* label and *NMC*.

Christopher Redgate studied at Chethams' School of Music (1971-75) and the Royal Academy of Music (1975-79). During his time at the Academy he won a several prizes and represented the Academy in a number of concerto performances. His professional career was marked by winning a number of international prizes including The Gaudeamus Competition, The Royal Overseas League chamber music and woodwind soloist prizes, The Martigny International Competition and the ISM competition.