

August 2012

Reappointment of Tate Trustee

The Prime Minister has reappointed Elisabeth Murdoch as a Tate Trustee, for the four years commencing 18 August 2012.

Biographical details

Since founding Shine in 2001, Elisabeth Murdoch has steered its growth from a single multi-genre independent to a multi-company production house spanning three continents, incorporating international distribution and feature film production. Prior to setting up Shine, Elisabeth joined British Sky Broadcasting as General Manager before rising to Managing Director, Sky Networks with overall responsibility for Sky's programming business, group consumer marketing and its news, film and entertainment channels. Whilst there she oversaw the launch of Sky Box Office, the UK's first pay-per-view service and the creating of Sky Pictures and Sky Productions. She began her career in television at the Nine Network in Australia as a researcher in 1990, later joining Fox Television in Los Angeles as Programme and Promotion Manager for seven stations. She then went to the FX Cable Network as Director of Acquisitions. In 1995, she started her own company, EP Communications, managing two dominant NBC affiliate television stations KSBW-TV and KSB-TV. The stations won one national and five Californian Emmy Awards as well as the 1995 Peabody Award for Broadcast Excellence. Elisabeth was first appointed a Tate Trustee in August 2008. She holds no other public appointments.

Background

Tate's mission, laid down by the 1992 Museums and Galleries Act, is to increase public understanding and enjoyment of British art and International modern and contemporary art. Its responsibilities are safeguarding and enhancing its assets which are the collections, expertise in the collections and subject area, and the buildings. Tate seeks to spread the benefits of those assets by maximising access and developing value for visitors, satisfying stakeholders and through effective organisation and sound financial management. Entry to the collections is free. Tate Trustees are not remunerated, and devote approximately two days per month to the role.

Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. However, in accordance with the original Nolan recommendations, there is a requirement for political activity in the United Kingdom in the past five years (if any declared) to be made public. Ms Murdoch has declared no such political activity.