

# HONG KONG PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

## 音樂小知識 ABOUT THE MUSIC

### 聖誕報佳音傳統從哪裡來？

聖誕頌歌的音樂傳統可追溯至十二世紀。現代的「頌歌」形式多是跟從十二及十三世紀中教會的彌撒頌歌：首先由副歌開始，然後是一段一段重複而整齊的主歌段落。

但前往不同地方去送上祝福則是另一個完全不同的民間傳統。在以前的英國，「wassail」（由古老文字 *ves heill* 而來，意指「祝你平安健康」）是一個祝福你身邊的人及鄰居的習慣。沒有人知道這個傳統由何時開始，但每逢聖誕每家每戶便去祝福鄰居，而鄰居亦會因此回禮。而「wassail」一字慢慢地就開始用在著名的頌歌中，例如《Here We Come-A-Wassailing》及《We Wish You a Merry Christmas》等。

在維多利亞年代的英格蘭，教會的頌歌開始與基督教的民謠融合，但當時「報佳音」的傳統並不只限於聖誕節。到了十九世紀，聖誕節慢慢變成商業化，樂譜出版商開始出版一些容易朗朗上口的聖誕頌歌，而當中不少亦留傳至今，成為膾炙人口的聖誕歌！

### Where does Christmas Caroling come from?

Modern carols take their form from medieval liturgical carols in the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> centuries. They start with a refrain and are followed by verses of uniform structure. In that sense, modern carols have a root in church on its music form.

However, the act of traveling to different homes comes from an entirely different tradition. In England, the word *wassail* — derived from the Old Norse *ves heill* meaning "be well, and in good health" — came to mean the wishing of good fortune on your neighbors. No one is quite sure when the custom began, but it did give us the two famous carols, "Here We Come-A-Wassailing" and the lyrics in the popular "We Wish You a Merry Christmas" — sung as carolers wished good cheer to their neighbors in hopes of getting a gift in return.

The two traditions of singing and visiting first merged in Victorian England, as church carols began to merge with Christian folk music, but caroling was also a tradition in other festivals. Later in the 19<sup>th</sup> Century, as Christmas became more commercialised and popular, publishers began churning out anthologies of carols, and many of today's most popular carols date from this period!

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香港管弦樂團合唱團早於1980年成立，並於2013年重組。歷年，合唱團不斷以各種組合形式與樂團合作，包括在馬捷爾、麥克基根、韋邁克、梵志登等的指揮棒下，演出各類型的古典合唱作品。

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus was established in 1980, and was reformed in 2013. The Chorus has performed with the HK Phil in major works under renowned conductors including Lorin Maazel, Nicholas McGegan, Brett Weymark and Jaap van Zweden.

朱俊熹，合唱團團長  
Philip Chu, Chorus Master



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香港管弦樂團由香港特別行政區政府資助，亦為香港文化中心場地伙伴。

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and is a Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.

港樂  
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dear

首席贊助 Principal Patron



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Jaap van Zweden Music Director

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i wish you.....



謝拉特·莎朗嘉  
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Gerard Salonga  
Conductor



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