

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: 26 May 2021

Explore the Life of the Mysterious Red Violin with Oscar-winning Music Played Live by the HK Phil and Second Associate Concertmaster Wang Liang

The Red Violin: Movie in Concert (29 & 30 May)

[26 May 2021, Hong Kong] The long-awaited movie-in-concert programme is back! The **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** and French conductor [Sylvain Gasaçon](#) present the orchestra's last programme in this year's French May Arts Festival, telling the story of the mysterious Red Violin in two concerts on **29 & 30 May** at the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. The orchestra will perform live while the movie, *The Red Violin*, is screened. The Oscar-winning score features prominent violin solos played by the orchestra's **Second Associate Concertmaster [Wang Liang](#)**.

The Red Violin is about the adventure of a red violin. It travelled across four centuries and five countries, while being passed among many owners, and was inspired by Antonio Stradivari's red violin – the 1721 “Red Mendelssohn”. In the film, this violin was made by the character Bussotti and had its subsequent fate predicted by a tarot reading by his servant, Cesca. Although the movie is fictional, the true story of many authentic Stradivari violins is equally fascinating.

The score by the American composer **John Corigliano** features solo violin playing throughout. The virtuosic music spans the extremes of the violin's range, often ascending ethereally to the very highest notes.

Come and enjoy this unique concert-going experience with the HK Phil!

Silver Screen: The Red Violin: Movie in Concert will be presented on **29 May 2021 (Sat)** at **8PM** and **30 May 2021 (Sun)** at **3PM** in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Tickets are HK\$480, \$380, \$280 and \$180 and are available at [URBTIX](#). For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org

A free pre-concert talk for concert ticket-holders given by conductor Sylvain Gasaçon (in English) will be held on 30 May 2021 at 2:00pm at the 4/F Foyer, Auditoria Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Pre-registration is needed. For details, please click [HERE](#).

Artists

Sylvain Gasançon, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Sylvain Gasançon won first prize in the International Eduardo Mata Conducting Competition in Mexico in 2005. The following year he was awarded second prize at the International Jorma Panula Conducting Competition in Vaasa, Finland. He has since quickly become an established conductor on the international scene, acclaimed for his powerful interpretations of music ranging range from Brahms to Berio, Messiaen, Korngold and Schoenberg.

Wang Liang, violin [\[full description\]](#)

Currently Second Associate Concertmaster of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Wang Liang was born in Shenyang, China. He started playing the piano at the age of four and a year later started on the violin under the guidance of his mother, Concertmaster of Liaoning Symphony Orchestra. Wang has won various awards in competitions, including First Prize of the 1st and 2nd Shenyang Music Conservatory Violin Competition. Active as a soloist, Wang has made a number of concerto appearances, including performances with the HK Phil, Shenyang Symphony Orchestra, Central Conservatory of Music Orchestra and Shaanxi Symphony Orchestra.

THE RED VIOLIN: MOVIE IN CONCERT

29 & 30 | 5 | 2021

SAT 8PM & SUN 3PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK \$480 \$380 \$280 \$180

Tickets now available at [URBTIX](#)

For ages 6 and above

Artists

[Sylvain Gasançon](#)

conductor

[Wang Liang](#)

violin

Click the thumbnails to download press images [Or hold Ctrl then click to open the file]



Sylvain Gasançon



Wang Liang



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo Credit: Eric Hong/HK Phil

Programme

John CORIGLIANO

The Red Violin (Hong Kong Premiere)

The concert runs approximately 2.5 hours including one interval.

This film is classified as Category IIB, which contains elements which may not be suitable for young persons and children. Parental guidance is recommended.

The Red Violin film, © by Rhombus Media Inc. used by permission of Rhombus Media Inc.

The Red Violin score by John Corigliano, © by G. Schirmer, Inc., used by permission of Schirmer Theatrical, LLC

A free pre-concert talk for concert ticket-holders given by conductor Sylvain Gasançon (in English) will be held on 30 May 2021 at 2:00pm at the 4/F Foyer, Auditoria Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Pre-registration is needed. For details, please click [HERE](#).

Cultural Partner



--- END ---

For further press information please contact:

Meggy Cheng, Director of Marketing

Tel: +852 2721 9035 Email: meggy.cheng@hkphil.org

Flora Fung, Media Relations and Communications Manager

Tel: +852 2721 1585 Email: flora.fung@hkphil.org

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden

Principal Guest Conductor: Yu Long

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is recognised as Asia's foremost classical orchestra. Presenting more than 150 concerts over a 44-week season, the HK Phil attracts more than 200,000 music lovers annually. In 2019 the HK Phil received the prestigious *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award – the first orchestra in Asia to receive this distinction.

Jaap van Zweden, one of today's most sought-after conductors, has been the orchestra's Music Director since the 2012/13 concert season, a position he will continue to hold through to the end of the 2023/24 season. Following his tenure as Music Director, he will hold the title of Conductor Laureate. Maestro van Zweden has also been Music Director of the New York Philharmonic since the 2018/19 season.

Yu Long has been Principal Guest Conductor since the 2015/16 season.

Lio Kuokman has been appointed as Resident Conductor, effective 1 December 2020 and covering the 2020/21 and 2021/22 seasons.

Under the dynamic leadership of Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil has attained new heights of artistic excellence, garnering international critical acclaim. The orchestra successfully completed a four-year journey through Wagner's Ring Cycle, performing and recording one opera from the cycle annually from 2015 to 2018. The concert performances and live Naxos recordings were enthusiastically received by audiences, praised by critics at home and abroad, and garnered *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award 2019.

The HK Phil tours extensively across Mainland China and, with the support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, undertook a major tour in 2017 to Seoul, Osaka, Singapore, Melbourne and Sydney in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Thanks to a significant subsidy from the HKSAR Government, as well as long-term funding from Principal Patron Swire, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust and other supporters, the HK Phil presents an annual schedule of core classical repertoire and innovative popular programming, extensive education and community programmes, and collaborations with, among others, Opera Hong Kong, Hong Kong Arts Festival, and Hong Kong Ballet.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Joshua Bell, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Renée Fleming, Matthias Goerne, Stephen Hough, Evgeny Kissin, Katia and Marielle Labèque (the Labèque sisters), Lang Lang, Yo-Yo Ma, Ning Feng, Leonard Slatkin, and Yuja Wang.

The HK Phil promotes the work of Hong Kong and Chinese composers through an active commissioning programme, and has released recordings on the Naxos label featuring Tan Dun and Bright Sheng conducting their own compositions. Its acclaimed education and community engagement programmes in schools, hospitals, and outdoor spaces, bring music into the hearts of tens of thousands of children and families every year. The recently founded "The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong", funded by "TrustTomorrow" of The Swire Group Charitable Trust and co-directed with The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, aims at enhancing professional training for graduates from HKAPA's School of Music and facilitating their career development in the orchestral field.

The Swire Group has been the Principal Patron of the HK Phil since 2006. Through this sponsorship, which is the largest in the orchestra's history, Swire endeavours to promote artistic excellence, foster access to classical music, stimulate cultural participation in Hong Kong, and enhance Hong Kong's reputation as one of the great cities in the world.

Originally called the Sino-British Orchestra, it was renamed the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra in 1957 and became fully professional in 1974. The HK Phil is a charitable organisation.

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.

SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra.