

**PRESS RELEASE**  
**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**Date: 24 June 2021**

## **Lio Kuokman conducts world premiere by Chan Kai-young, Schumann's *Rhenish* Symphony, and Mozart's *Coronation* Piano Concerto with Colleen Lee**

**Mozart & Schumann (26 June, ONE performance only)**

[24 June 2021, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) and its Resident Conductor [Lio Kuokman](#) will present a world premiere by [Chan Kai-young](#), a Mozart piano concerto with [Colleen Lee](#), and a Schumann symphony on **26 June 2021 (Sat)** in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall.

The concert opens with the world premiere of *Glimmering Lights, Cascading Heights* by the talented Hong Kong composer **Chan Kai-young**. Inspired by this treacherous journey, Chan's new work features fall-rise musical figures that permeates the piece, suggestive of the undulating journeys one must go through when overcoming the seemingly all-encompassing darkness. Chan is the winner of the HK Phil's Hong Kong Composers Showcase in 2017. Other works of his have previously been performed by the HK Phil, conducted by Music Director Jaap van Zweden and Principal Guest Conductor Yu Long.

Acclaimed Hong Kong pianist **Colleen Lee** will be featured in **Mozart's Piano Concerto no. 26, *Coronation***, one of the most performed Mozart concertos, which owes its nickname to a performance given at the coronation of Austrian emperor Leopold II in October 1790.

Lio Kuokman and the HK Phil conclude the concert with **Schumann's *Rhenish* Symphony**, which brings us on a journey along the majestic Rhine River.

**Mozart and Schumann** will be presented on **26 June 2021 (Sat)** at **8PM** in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets are HK\$580, \$480, \$380 and \$280 and are available at [URBTIX](#). For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit [hkphil.org](http://hkphil.org).

## Artists

### **Lio Kuokman, conductor** [\[full description\]](#)

Praised by the Philadelphia Inquirer as “a startling conducting talent”, Lio Kuokman was the laureate at the 2014 Svetlanov International Conducting Competition. Lio Kuokman is Resident Conductor with the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and has previously served as assistant conductor to music director Yannick Nézet-Séguin with the Philadelphia Orchestra, the first Chinese conductor to be appointed in this position in the history of the orchestra. He is currently Programme Director of the Macao International Music Festival.

### **Colleen Lee, piano** [\[full description\]](#)

Hong Kong pianist Colleen Lee achieved international recognition after winning 6th Prize at the 15th International Fryderyk Chopin Piano Competition. She has performed extensively around the world in solo recitals, and with Orchestras such as the Warsaw Philharmonic Orchestra, the China Philharmonic Orchestra, the Israel Philharmonic Orchestra and the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra. She was the Artist Associate of Hong Kong Sinfonietta 2010 - 2011. Colleen has appeared in major festivals including the Duszynski Festival Poland, Musicus Fest in Espoo, Finland and Shanghai New Music Week. She made her début with London Symphony Orchestra under Simon Rattle in September 2019.

### **Chan Kai-young, composer** [\[full description\]](#)

Through orchestral, chamber and mixed media, Chan Kai-young integrates nuance, relevance and resonance in music that converses with societies and cultures. He is particularly drawn to the implied musicality of Chinese texts expressed through the tonal Cantonese language. His music has been performed by the Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra, Albany Symphony, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, Hong Kong Sinfonietta, PRISM Quartet, Daedalus Quartet and Mivos Quartet, among others.

## MOZART & SCHUMANN

26 | 6 | 2021

SAT 8PM

ONE performance only

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK \$580 \$480 \$380 \$280

Tickets now available at URBIX

For ages 6 and above

### Artists

[Lio Kuokman](#)

conductor

[Colleen Lee](#)

piano

[Chan Kai-young](#)

composer

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



Lio Kuokman



Colleen Lee

Photo Credit: Lam He-man



Chan Kai-young



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo Credit: Ka Lam/HK Phil

### Programme

**CHAN Kai-young**

**MOZART**

**SCHUMANN**

*Glimmering Lights, Cascading Heights* (World Premiere)

Piano Concerto no. 26, *Coronation*

Symphony no. 3, *Rhenish*

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## 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.