

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: 12 October 2022

**Join us at Swire Symphony Under The Stars –
HK Phil’s Annual Outdoor Extravaganza on 12 November 2022**

[12 October 2022, Hong Kong] Swire *Symphony Under The Stars*, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra’s (HK Phil) free annual outdoor mega-concert will take place on **12 November 2022 (Sat) at the Central Harbourfront**. HK Phil Principal Guest Conductor Yu Long will lead the audience on an extraordinary journey through some spectacular Italian orchestral works. This year’s concert will go hybrid again – with the live performance simultaneously live streamed on the [HK Phil website](#), [Facebook page](#) and [YouTube](#) channel, as well as the [Swire Trust Tomorrow Facebook page](#). It will also be broadcast live on RTHK TV 31 and [rthk.tv](#). Don’t miss this annual outdoor extravaganza under the stars!

Under the baton of Yu Long, this year’s concert will present an Italian-themed programme with works by Berlioz, Rossini, Vivaldi, Wilson and Respighi, along with *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini* by Rachmaninov, featuring Serena Wang on the piano. Five HK Phil musicians will perform as soloists – Concertmaster Jing Wang (Vivaldi’s *The Four Seasons: Summer*), and the four members of Trombone section – Jarod Vermette, Christian Goldsmith, Kevin Thompson and Aaron Albert (Wilson’s *Seventy-Six Trombones*). They will be joined by presenter Phoebus Chan. The concert will conclude with Respighi’s *Pines of Rome*, accompanied by a stunning fireworks display at the climax.

This free outdoor extravaganza is made possible through the generous support of the Swire Group. As the principal patron of the HK Phil since 2006, Swire is deeply committed to its long-term vision of promoting artistic excellence and fostering cultural appreciation. Together with the HK Phil, Swire aims to bring the world of classical music to the widest possible audience.

Tickets for Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* are free of charge. Registration starts from 25 October 2022 (Tue) at 10AM. In view of official guidelines and social distancing measures due to the pandemic, this concert will have assigned zones with a maximum of eight persons per unit. No eating or drinking is allowed, and the audience members should wear masks throughout the event.

TICKETING PROCEDURES

Tickets for Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* can be obtained by online registration only, on a first-come, first-served basis. Tickets will be available to the public for registration from **25 October 2022 (Tue) at 10AM** through suts.hkphil.org/2022-reg.

Register online in four simple steps:

1. **Open an account.** Starting from 12 October 2022 (Wed), you can open an account on the Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* webpage suts.hkphil.org/2022-signup. You are strongly recommended to complete this step before the public registration period as it helps shorten the registration time. The sooner you complete the form, the better your chances will be.
2. On 25 October 2022 (Tue), 10AM, **directly log into the account** to register for your ticket(s).
3. Each account is entitled to register for up to four tickets. Each ticket should be registered under a unique email address.
4. All registered tickets will be sent in one go to the email address of the main account. Please save the e-tickets on a smartphone or print them out. Show the QR code with your smartphone or present the printed tickets for admission.

ABOUT SWIRE SYMPHONY UNDER THE STARS

Date: 12 November 2022 (Sat), 7:30PM (with an intermission)
Venue: Central Harbourfront
Admission: Free

Ticket information:

- Available on suts.hkphil.org (online registration only)
- **Registration begins on 25 October 2022 (Tue) at 10AM.**
- In order to improve your chances of getting the tickets, you are strongly recommended to open an account on the Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* webpage (suts.hkphil.org/2022-signup) starting from 12 October 2022 (Wed) as it helps shorten the registration time.
- Tickets are limited, available on a first-come, first-served basis.
- For each registrant, a maximum of four tickets can be registered.

Live streaming platforms:

- [HK Phil's website](#), [Facebook page](#), [YouTube channel](#)
- [Swire's TrustTomorrow Facebook page](#)

Media partner and TV live broadcast:

- RTHK TV31, [rthk.tv](https://www.rthk.com.hk)

Principal Patron: Swire

Official Anti-Pandemic Partner: Germagic

Official Video Technology Partner: TFI

Programme:

BERLIOZ	<i>Roman Carnival Overture</i>
RACHMANINOV	<i>Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini</i>
ROSSINI	<i>William Tell Overture: Finale</i>
VIVALDI	<i>The Four Seasons: Summer</i>
WILSON (arr. G. SALONGA)	<i>Seventy-Six Trombones</i>
RESPIGHI	<i>Pines of Rome</i>

Artists:

Yu Long, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Yu Long, the distinguished Chinese conductor with an extensive international reputation, is the Music Director of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Artistic Director & Chief Conductor of the China Philharmonic Orchestra and Music Director of the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra. He is also the Principal Guest Conductor of the HK Phil. Maestro Yu is the Founder of the Beijing Music Festival and was its Artistic Director from 1998 to 2018. He is the Co-Director of the MISA Summer Festival in Shanghai.

Serena Wang, piano [\[full description\]](#)

Serena Wang has been described by the *San Francisco Chronicle* as “undeniably promising” and already possesses extensive concerting experience at her tender age. Since then, she has appeared with several orchestras, including the China Philharmonic, National Center for Performing Arts (Beijing), Shenzhen Symphony, Shanghai Symphony, Vancouver Symphony, Orquesta Juvenil Universitaria Eduardo Mata, Israel Philharmonic, the HK Phil and Guangzhou Symphony Orchestras.

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

Critically acclaimed Canadian violinist Jing Wang is one of the most versatile and dynamic violinists of his generation. Since his solo recital debut in Marseilles, France at the age of six, Jing has garnered prizes in top international competitions, including the first prize at the 2007 Irving M. Klein International Strings Competition. In 2003, Wang was awarded the "Young Soloist of the Year" by Les Radios Francophones Publiques, a broadcast network of four countries including France, Canada, Switzerland and Belgium. As a part of the award, Wang's first CD album including works by Beethoven, Ravel and Gershwin was released in Europe. He has been Concertmaster of the HK Phil since 2013.

Jarod Vermette, trombone [\[full description\]](#)

Jarod Vermette joined the HK Phil as Principal Trombone in 1996 at the age of 20. He has performed Frank Martin's Ballade during the 1997 subscription series and Derek Bourgeois' Concerto in 2002. In 2012 Jarod performed John Mackey's Harvest Concerto with the Hong Kong Wind Philharmonia and Roland Szentpali's Trombone Scenes with the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Brass and Percussion Ensemble.

Christian Goldsmith, trombone [\[full description\]](#)

American trombonist Christian Goldsmith is a player of versatility and range. His diverse background includes orchestral playing, chamber music, big band, marching band, concert band, jazz and pop music. He is the winner of the USC and Young Musicians Foundation Concerto Competitions and the Pasadena Young Musician's Competition. He was also awarded the Robert Marsteller Memorial Scholarship. He joined the trombone section of the HK Phil in 2018.

Kevin Thompson, trombone [\[full description\]](#)

Kevin Thompson was appointed to the trombone section of the HK Phil in 2016 as Utility Trombone. His duties in the orchestra include playing Second and Principal Trombone, as well as bass trumpet and euphonium. In addition to the HK Phil, Kevin has performed with major orchestras in Norway, Sweden, the UK, Canada, Malaysia, Singapore, Korea, Macau and Mainland China. With these orchestras he has toured and recorded in North America, Asia, Australia and Europe, and played in many of the great concert halls of the world.

Aaron Albert, trombone [\[full description\]](#)

Aaron Albert was appointed as bass trombonist for the HK Phil in 2020. He has also held the bass trombone position in the Hartford Symphony Orchestra, and has played with orchestras such as the Cleveland Orchestra and the Philadelphia Orchestra. He has performed under the baton of Jaap van Zweden, Franz Welser-Möst, Fabio Luisi, Alan Gilbert, Gianandrea Noseda, Herbert Blomstedt and others. Aaron studied at The Juilliard School in Manhattan for his Bachelor's Degree in Music Performance.

Phoebus Chan, presenter [\[full description\]](#)

Phoebus Chan, Founder and Executive Director of PA House Asia Ltd.; Vice-Chairman of Hong Kong Innovision; Chairman of Mainland Hong Kong Macau Arts and Culture Youth Alliance; Vice-Chairman of Hong Kong QingDao Association; Chairman of Worldwide Chinese Foundation; Board member of Faith in Love Foundation; Chairman of Haoxue Action; Chairman of Alumni Association of Music Department of the Chinese University of Hong Kong; Columnist of Sing Tao Daily and Kung Kao Po.

[Download](#) press images



Yu Long



Serena Wang



Jing Wang
Photo: Keith Hiro



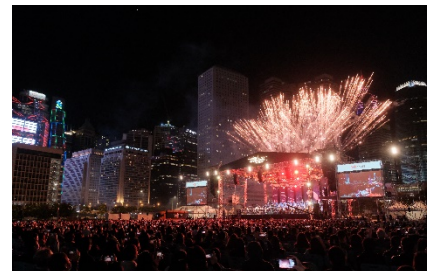
From left:
Jarod Vermette, Kevin Thompson,
Christian Goldsmith, Aaron Albert
Photo: Eric Hong



Phoebus Chan



Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* 2021
at the Central Harbourfront
Photo: HK Phil



Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* 2021
at the Central Harbourfront
Photo: Ka Lam/HK Phil

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Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden, SBS

Principal Guest Conductor: Yu Long

Resident Conductor: Lio Kuokman, JP

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. Recently the HK Phil won the prestigious UK classical music magazine *Gramophone's* 2019 Orchestra of the Year Award – the first orchestra in Asia to receive this accolade.

Jaap van Zweden, SBS, one of today's most sought-after conductors, has been the orchestra's Music Director since the 2012/13 Season, a position he will hold until the end of the 2023/24 Season. 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, JP has been appointed Resident Conductor since December 2020.

Under the dynamic leadership of Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil has attained new heights of artistic excellence, receiving 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 were enthusiastically received by audiences, and the live Naxos recordings were praised by critics and garnered the *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award 2019.

The HK Phil has toured extensively across Mainland China and, with the support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, it 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 of the People's Republic of China.

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

The HK Phil promotes the work of Hong Kong and Chinese composers through an active commissioning programme, and it 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. Founded in 2021, "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 The HKAPA's School of Music to facilitate 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.

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

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 registered 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.