

**Renowned Tenor Jonas Kaufmann to Make His Hong Kong Debut
with HK Phil This February**



[7 February 2025, Hong Kong] Hailed as “the world’s greatest tenor” by *The Telegraph*, Jonas Kaufmann is set to make his highly anticipated Hong Kong debut this February alongside the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil). This concert features most beloved arias from some of his signature roles, including Cavaradossi in *Tosca*, Radamès in *Aida*, Don José in *Carmen*, and Calaf in *Turandot*.

Celebrated as one of the most significant and versatile tenors of his generation, the German-Austrian Jonas Kaufmann has performed over 70 roles at the world’s leading opera houses, leaving an indelible mark on a richly varied repertoire of German, Italian and French opera through his uniquely expressive voice and musical intelligence. *The New York Times* has lauded his “clarion top notes, the blend of virility and tenderness in his singing,” as well as his “refined musicianship.” His performances and recordings have garnered numerous accolades, including eleven ECHO/OPUS Klassik awards, and “Singer of the Year” titles from top classical music magazines like *Opernwelt*, *Diapason*, and *Musical America*.

For this gala programme, Kaufmann will showcase his deep connection to Italian and French repertoire with some of his most renowned roles. With frequent collaborator Jochen Rieder on the podium, the HK Phil intersperses the programme with instrumental selections to enrich the setting for several operatic masterpieces. Kaufmann has chosen selections spanning just under a century. Featured selections include Bellini’s *Norma*, Bizet’s *Carmen*, Giordano’s *Andrea Chénier*, Mascagni’s *Cavalleria*, Massenet’s *La Vierge* and *Le Cid*, Puccini’s *Suor Angelica*, *Tosca* and *Turandot*, as well as Verdi’s *Aida* and *La Forza Del Destino*.

“Rolex Proudly Presents: Jonas Kaufmann Opera Gala” will be held on 19 February 2025 (Wed) and 22 February 2025 (Sat) at 8PM in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at HK\$1980, \$1480, \$980 and \$580 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Exclusive Title Sponsor: Rolex

Artists

Jochen Rieder, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Teatro alla Scala, Carnegie Hall and Frankfurt's Alte Oper - Jochen Rieder is a regular guest in many of the world's leading opera houses and concert halls, collaborating with some of today's most admired soloists and orchestra. An enthusiastic artist widely recognised especially for his work with German and Italian repertoire, Rieder has led critically acclaimed performances and CD productions across the world.

Jonas Kaufmann, tenor [\[full description\]](#)

Hailed as "the world's greatest tenor" by *The Telegraph*, Jonas Kaufmann has performed over 70 roles in the world's leading opera houses. *The New York Times* has described him as having "clarion top notes, the blend of virility and tenderness in his singing," and praised his "refined musicianship." One of today's greatest interpreters of Lieder repertoire, Kaufmann is in very high demand in concert. His performances and recording have earned him multiple honours and awards including eleven ECHO/OPUS Klassik awards, "Singer of the Year" from multiple classical music magazines including *Opernwelt*, *Diapason* and *Musical America*. He has been knighted as a Chevalier de l'Ordre de l'Art et des Lettres, and has been named a member of the Bayerischer Maximiliansorden. In 2022 he was appointed Austrian Kammersänger, in 2024 he received the Ordre de la Légion d'honneur. Jonas Kaufmann has been a Rolex Testimonee since 2009.

ROLEX PROUDLY PRESENTS: JONAS KAUFMANN OPERA GALA

19 & 22 | 2 | 2025

WED & SAT 8PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$1980 \$1480 \$980 \$580

Tickets now available at [URBTIX](#)

For ages 6 and above

Artists

[Jochen Rieder](#) conductor
[Jonas Kaufmann](#) tenor

Programme

BELLINI	<i>Norma</i> : Overture
PUCCINI	<i>Tosca</i> : Recondita armonia
VERDI	<i>Aida</i> : Prelude
VERDI	<i>Aida</i> : Se quel guerrier io fossi! Celeste Aida
BIZET	<i>Carmen</i> : Suite no. 1: <i>Les Toreadors</i> Intermezzo
BIZET	<i>Carmen</i> : Suite no. 2: Danse Bohème
BIZET	<i>Carmen</i> : La fleur que tu m'avais jetée
MASCAGNI	<i>Cavalleria Rusticana</i> : Intermezzo
MASCAGNI	<i>Cavalleria Rusticana</i> : Mamma, quel vino è Generoso
VERDI	<i>La Forza Del Destino</i> : Overture
MASSNET	<i>Le Cid</i> : Ah! Tout est bien fini! ...Ô Souverain, ô juge, ô père
MASSNET	<i>La Vierge</i> : Le dernier sommeil de la vierge
GIORDANO	<i>Andrea Chénier</i> : Improvviso
PUCCINI	<i>Suor Angelica</i> : Intermezzo
PUCCINI	<i>Turandot</i> : Nessun dorma

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Jochen Rieder



Jonas Kaufmann
Photo: Gregor Hohenberg



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
Photo: Desmond Chan/HK Phil

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About Rolex and Music

Rolex celebrates human achievement, recognizing the journey marked by milestones and emotions that culminates in defining moments – determined by a path followed, not just an award.

For more than half a century, Rolex has partnered some of the world's most talented artists and leading cultural institutions to celebrate excellence and contribute to perpetuating artistic heritage, creating a link between the past, present and future.

Through the Perpetual Arts Initiative, a broad portfolio of arts that extends through architecture, cinema, dance, literature, music, theatre and visual arts, the brand confirms its long-term commitment to global culture.

In the domain of music, Rolex is distinguished by its relationships. Over the years, the company has developed long-standing partnerships with Testimonees across the musical spectrum, from opera and classical, to jazz and world music, including singers, conductors and instrumentalists. The first music Testimonee, in 1976, was New Zealand soprano Dame Kiri Te Kanawa. She has been joined by Cecilia Bartoli, Yuja Wang, Jonas Kaufmann, Sir Bryn Terfel, Benjamin Bernheim, Sonya Yoncheva, Anoushka Shankar, Michael Bubl  and Yannick N zet-Seguin, among others.

Rolex also supports music through long-term associations with the world's most prestigious events, institutions and orchestras. They include the Metropolitan Opera in New York, Op ra national de Paris, Teatro alla Scala in Milan, the Royal Ballet and Opera in London, the Vienna Philharmonic and the Salzburg Festival.

Rolex recognizes the importance of passing on knowledge from one generation to the next. As such, the company has helped emerging musicians through associations with diverse eminent artists, such as Jessye Norman, Zakir Hussain, Gilberto Gil, Youssou N'Dour, Pinchas Zukerman, Brian Eno, Philip Glass and Dianne Reeves.

Rolex also promotes musical excellence worldwide by supporting high-quality online access to today's classical concerts, festivals, operas and performances through its partnership with medici.tv.

By championing excellence in music across geographic borders, Rolex celebrates the universal connections it creates through time.



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director Designate: Tarmo Peltokoski

Principal Guest Conductor: Long Yu

Resident Conductor: Lio Kuokman, JP

Artistic Partner: Daniele Gatti

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is regarded as one of the leading orchestras in Asia. Presenting more than 150 concerts over a 44-week season, the HK Phil attracts more than 200,000 music lovers annually. 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.

Tarmo Peltokoski will become the HK Phil's Music Director beginning in the 2026/27 season, after serving as Music Director Designate in 2025/26. Currently, Long Yu serves as Principal Guest Conductor, Lio Kuokman is Resident Conductor, and Daniele Gatti is Artistic Partner.

The HK Phil has flourished in the last two decades under Jaap van Zweden (Music Director, 2012–2024) and Edo de Waart (Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, 2004–2012). 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 well received, and the live Naxos recordings were praised by critics, and garnered the *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award 2019. Other recent recording projects include Mahler's Symphony no. 10, Shostakovich's Symphony no. 10, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 6 and Piano Concerto no. 1.

The HK Phil has toured extensively across Mainland China. The orchestra 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. The HK Phil celebrated its 50th anniversary in the 2023/24 season, touring Europe, Asia, and Mainland China, performing in 22 cities across ten countries.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Anja Bihlmaier, Stéphane Denève, Christoph Eschenbach, Paavo Järvi, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Vasily Petrenko, Krzysztof Urbanski, Joshua Bell, Ning Feng, Boris Giltburg, Lang Lang, Leonidas Kavakos, Olivier Latry, Yo-Yo Ma and Akiko Suwanai. 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, each conducting their own compositions.

The HK Phil runs diverse education and community programmes in schools and outdoor spaces, bringing music into the hearts of tens of thousands of children and families every year.

The Swire Group has been the Principal Patron of the HK Phil since 2006. Through this current sponsorship donation, the largest in the orchestra's history, Swire endeavours to foster access to classical music and stimulate cultural participation in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland. A critical aspect of this is engaging with the community, especially young people. The sponsorship will also help promote local artistic excellence 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.

The history of the HK Phil dates back to the establishment of the Sino-British Orchestra in 1947. In 1957, the orchestra was officially registered as the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra 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.