

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Piano Superstar Yundi Returns to Open the Hong Kong Philharmonic's 2012/13 Season – JAAP! with Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No.1 on 7&8 September**

Tickets Available at URBTIX from 16 July

[12 July 2012, Hong Kong] Pianist [Yundi](#) enjoys a brilliant international career. Partnered with conductor [Vassily Sinaisky](#), Yundi will ignite the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra's** new 2012/13 Season – JAAP! with Tchaikovsky's sparkling Piano Concert No.1. The rest of the programme includes Shostakovich's *Festive Overture* and Symphony No.9.

**Bank of Communications brings to you: 12/13 Season Opening Concerts – Yundi's Tchaikovsky** will be held on **7&8 September 2012 (Fri & Sat), 8pm** in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**.

Tickets, priced at **\$680, \$480, \$320, \$220**, will be available at URBTIX from **16 July 2012**. Free pre-concert talks will be given both nights at 7:15pm, also at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. For enquiry, please contact us at 2721 2030 or visit [www.hkpo.com](http://www.hkpo.com)

**Yundi, piano** [\[full biography\]](#)

**“prodigious technique, wondrous colorings, delicate passagework and steely power”**

**--- New York Times**

Critically acclaimed for his technical precision and boundless enthusiasm, Yundi enjoys the title “prince of the piano” in China. He has been praised by the *New York Times* for his “prodigious technique, wondrous colorings, delicate passagework and steely power,” as well as his “romantic

ardor, myriad colorings and bursts of hand-blurring virtuosity”, in addition to being “stunningly talented”.

Yundi has performed in the most prestigious music halls around the world, including sold-out concerts at the Carnegie Hall (New York), Royal Festival Hall (London), Wiener Musikverein (Vienna), the Berlin Philharmonie (Berlin), National Centre for the Performing Arts (Beijing) and Suntory Hall (Tokyo).

Renowned conductors with whom he has collaborated include James Levine, Seiji Ozawa, Gustavo Dudamel, Valery Gergiev, Daniel Harding, Lorin Maazel, Riccardo Chailly, and Yuri Temirkanov. Yundi has also collaborated with such prestigious orchestras as the Berlin Philharmonic, London Symphony Orchestra, Moscow Symphony Orchestra, NHK Symphony in Japan and Vienna Philharmonic.

Yundi has released 11 CDs and DVDs worldwide on the Deutsche Grammophon and EMI labels to enthusiastic acclaims by critics and music lovers alike, and he has received numerous awards.

**Vassily Sinaisky, conductor** [\[full biography\]](#)

Vassily Sinaisky’s international career was launched in 1973 when he won the Gold Medal at the prestigious Karajan Competition. Soon afterwards, he was appointed Chief Conductor of the Latvian National Symphony Orchestra, a post he held from 1976 to 1987. He then became Music Director and Principal Conductor of the Moscow Philharmonic, leading numerous high-profile projects with the Orchestra both in Russia and on tour. In 2010, Sinaisky was announced as the new Chief Conductor and Music Director of the Bolshoi Theatre, Moscow. Highlights in this new role have included tours to Athens and London, and the Bolshoi’s first ever production of Strauss’ *Der Rosenkavalier*.

As a guest conductor Sinaisky has worked with such prestigious orchestras as the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Gewandhausorchester Leipzig, NDR Sinfonieorchester Hamburg, Los Angeles Philharmonic and the Philadelphia Orchestra. Highlights of the upcoming seasons include a return to the London Philharmonic and on tour in the Netherlands.

His recordings include works by Shostakovich, Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov, Shchedrin, Glinka, Liadov, Schreker and Szymanowski, many of which was recorded with the BBC Philharmonic.

**Programme**

Piano superstar Yundi launches our season in style, playing Tchaikovsky's immortal First Concerto. Blessed with peerless artistic gifts and musical integrity, Yundi has become a byword for thrilling performances all around the world. His recent return to the famous recording label, Deutsche Grammophon, and his planned 2012/13 international tour set the seal on a career which has seen him rise to the very top of the virtuoso league. Vassily Sinaisky, Music Director of the Bolshoi Theatre, will also conduct Shostakovich at his most jovial: the Ninth Symphony, a boisterous celebration piece which sparkles like champagne, and the exhilarating *Festive Overture* which Shostakovich composed in just days for a gala celebration at the Bolshoi itself.

## **Masterworks: Bank of Communications brings to you 12/13 Season Opening Concerts – Yundi's Tchaikovsky**

7&8 | 9 | 2012

FRI & SAT 8PM

HK Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$680 \$480 \$320 \$220

Available at URBIX from 16 July

Title Sponsor: Bank of Communications

### **Artists**

[Vassily Sinaisky](#) conductor

[Yundi](#) piano

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### **Programme**

**SHOSTAKOVICH** *Festive Overture*

**SHOSTAKOVICH** *Symphony No.9*

**TCHAIKOVSKY** *Piano Concerto No.1*

## Ticketing Information

Credit Card Booking

**(852) 2111 5999**

Online Booking

[www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)

For programme enquiry, please call HKPO at

**(852) 2721 2030**

Or go on our website:

[www.hkpo.com](http://www.hkpo.com)

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## Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HKPO) is one of Asia's leading orchestras. Enriching Hong Kong's cultural life for over a century, the Orchestra has grown into a formidable ensemble of Chinese and international talents, attracting world-class artists to collaborate on its stage. The HKPO annually touches the lives of over 200,000 music lovers through more than 150 performances. Under the leadership of Artistic Director and Chief Conductor Edo de Waart, the HKPO has scaled new heights of musical excellence, and will continue to do so under the artistic leadership of Jaap van Zweden, the Orchestra's Music Director from the 2012/13 season.

The HKPO stays in tune with our city by presenting the Orchestra in unexpected venues and bringing the excitement of the concert experience to every home through radio and television broadcasts including the largest symphonic event of the year, Swire Symphony under the Stars, at Happy Valley. The Orchestra runs a comprehensive schools education programme, HSBC Insurance Creative Notes, bringing the joy of classical music to primary, secondary and special school kids. The Orchestra also collaborates regularly with other performing arts organisations such as Opera Hong Kong in addition to its crossover series with Western and Chinese pop artists.

The Orchestra also builds its reputation and raises its artistic standards by touring. In September 2010, de Waart and the HKPO returned to China, performing at the Expo 2010 Shanghai, Xi'an and Beijing to critical acclaim.

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is a Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre



**JAAP!**