

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 14 SEPTEMBER 2012

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus Returns!

Be the Voice to Sing Handel's *Messiah*

Application Deadline: 28 September, Auditions: 13-16 October

[14 September 2012, Hong Kong] Each world-renowned orchestra has its own chorus. The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus will be making its much anticipated return this year and the very first concert will be Handel's heavenly *Messiah* at Easter 2013. Australian choral luminary **Brett Weymark** will put the new choir through its paces, all the way to the 'Hallelujah' chorus and beyond.

The chorus master for this project will be **Mr Philip Chu**, an accomplished conductor and singer who has worked with choirs around the world. Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HKPO) is looking for experienced and dedicated choral singers to join the chorus. Don't miss this magical opportunity to add your voice to the heavenly music-making team!

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Chorus

Chorus Master: **Philip Chu**

Application Deadline: **28 September 2012 (Fri)**

Auditions: **13 – 16 October 2012 (Sat – Tue)**

Interested parties please send email to chorus@hkpo.com

For Enquiries, please contact **Ms Christy Law (Department of Artistic Planning)** at 2721 1484

Holiday, Pops & More: *Messiah*

Concert Date & Time: **29&30 March 2013 (Fri & Sat), 8pm**

Venue: **Hong Kong Cultural Centre**

Conductor: **Brett Weymark** [\[full biography\]](#)

Programme: **HANDEL: *Messiah***

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Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden

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. From the 2012/13 season, Jaap van Zweden has become Music Director of the HKPO. Under his leadership, the HKPO will continue to develop its reputation for artistic excellence.

From April 2006, The Swire Group Charitable Trust became the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra's Principal Patron. Swire's sponsorship of the HKPO, the largest in the ensemble's history, supports artistic growth and development as the Orchestra takes its place on the world stage, and brings performances of musical excellence to the widest possible public.

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, 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, 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