

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 2 NOVEMBER 2012

Harry's Christmas Sing-along!

Join Harry Wong and HK Phil for a Spectacular Christmas Concert

Filled with Joy and Laughter

Great Eagle Festive Series: Harry's Christmas (23 & 24 December)

[2 November 2012, Hong Kong] Hong Kong's favourite entertainer and magician Harry Wong, who has just performed three successful Halloween Concerts with the Hong Kong Philharmonic (HK Phil), will make his way to the stage of the Cultural Centre Concert Hall in Great Eagle Festive Series: "Harry's Christmas.", under the baton of conductor Jimmy Chiang.

As one of the most popular concerts of the season, this year's Christmas Concert will feature the HK Phil in a mix of magical Christmas favourites, including *Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas, Santa Claus is Coming to Town, Sleigh Ride* and *Winter Wonderland* with the audience adding their lovely voices to the concert as they sing carols old and new, creating a truly festive atmosphere. Be prepared for some surprises as Harry will conjure up some snow for Hong Kong in these special evenings, and Santa Claus will be coming to town.

Great Eagle Festive Series: Harry's Christmas will be held on 23 December 2012 (Sun, 4PM & 7:45PM) and 24 December 2012 (Mon, 7:45PM), in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall.

Tickets priced: HK\$380 \$280 \$200 \$140 are now available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please visit www.hkphil.org or contact 2721 2030.

The concerts are title-sponsored by Great Eagle Holdings Limited.

Jimmy Chiang, conductor [full biography]

Since winning First Prize at the renowned Lovro von Matačić International Competition for Young Conductors in 2007, Jimmy Chiang's conducting career has brought him tremendous international



attention, both on the concert stage and the opera house. His wide-ranging repertoire covers Viennese Classic masters to living composers.

Jimmy Chiang was Assistant Music Director of the Wagner's Ring cycle at Theater Lübeck, as well as numerous opera productions at the historic Eutin Opera Festival. In 2009 he was appointed Kapellmeister at Theater Freiburg in Germany. Moreover, he has appeared as guest conductor at the Komischen Oper Berlin, Theater Heidelberg and Scholßtheater Schönbrunn in Vienna.

Born into a musical family in Hong Kong, trained as a concert pianist since he was four, Jimmy Chiang also studied harpsichord, organ, cello and composition. He received his musical training in England (FTCL), the USA (Bachelor of Music) and Vienna (Magister Artium), where he was a protégé of Seiji Ozawa (Vienna State Opera) and Leopold Hager (Vienna National Opera).

Harry Wong, presenter [full biography]

Harry Wong (A.K.A. Harry Goh Goh) is a well-known musician, author, TV presenter, prolific M.C. and entertainer for corporate events and the CEO of a mega children's club. After completing his music education and commercial music at Mable Thatcher Technical College of Liverpool in England, he started off his career as a musician and teacher. His music text books have given significant contribution to all music students and teachers. His talent in music has granted him opportunities to be a performing guest for the Hong Kong Philharmonic, Hong Kong Dance Company, as well as the Hong Kong Chinese Orchestra.

Harry Wong has been interested in magic since the age of six. Apart from being one of the founding members of the Magicians' Association of Hong Kong, he is also a member of the International Brotherhood of Magicians, Society of American Magicians and the member of Magic Circle in United Kingdom. Moreover, in 1994, he completed in the International Federation of Magic Societies, which took place in Japan. He uses his amazing magic tricks to bring joys to the public on TV. In 1986, Harry's first Children TV Programme in Hong Kong with RTHK has left many then-children great laughable memories. Harry succeeded in establishing an image of a Children TV program presenter in 1986 when he first. In 1991, Harry joined the Metro-Broadcast radio channels as a bilingual D.J. He then became the channel director for FM Select in 1996 and continues to be a Children TV Program Host for TVB,



ATV, and i-Cable. He is the founder of programme "Healing-Magic" (2001) which he shares his magic with occupational-therapist and apply the art of magic and hypnosis for therapeutic uses. He has also produced many children theatre shows such as "The 5 Elements", "Mad House Party", "My dad is a Magician 1&2", "The Trick Brain", "Kids' Rock", etc.



Great Eagle Festive Series: Harry's Christmas

23 | 12 | 2012

SUN 4PM & 7:45PM

24 | 12 | 2012

MON 7:45PM

HK Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$380 \$280 \$200 \$140

Available at URBTIX from now

* For ages 1 and above

Title Sponsor: Great Eagle Holdings Limited

Artists

<u>Jimmy Chiang</u> conductor Harry Wong presenter

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







Programme

HUMPERDINCK Hansel and Gretel – Prelude

MARTIN/BLANE Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas

COOTS/GILLESPIE Santa Claus is Coming to Town

ANDERSON Sleigh Ride

ANDERSON Sandpaper Ballet

BERNARD/SMITH Winter Wonderland

& a selection of traditional Christmas carols





Ticketing Information

Credit Card Booking

(852) 2111 5999

Online Booking

www.urbtix.hk

For programme enquiry, please call HK Phil at

(852) 2721 2030

Or go on our website:

www.hkphil.org

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Hong Kong Philharmonic

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden

The Hong Kong Philharmonic is a vital part of Hong Kong's cultural life, as the city's largest and busiest musical organisation. In 2013/14 the HK Phil will celebrate its 40th professional season, but its roots are well over a century old. The HK Phil has now evolved to become an orchestral powerhouse in the region, and an acclaimed cultural centrepiece of Asia's World City.

The HK Phil is formed on the belief that a great city deserves a great orchestra. Annually it presents over 150 concerts for 200,000 music lovers. Featuring an enviable roster of international and local artists, with many concerts presented free, among them the annual *Swire Symphony Under The Stars*. Through its acclaimed education programme, over 40,000 young people learned about orchestral music last year.

The HK Phil's members come from every corner of the globe, joining its strong core of Hong Kong musicians. In September 2012, Jaap van Zweden became the orchestra's Music Director. Future years will see an ambitious series of new projects, with major international tours, renewed local partnerships, and large-scale concert events. The HK Phil has recently commenced a multi-CD recording project for Naxos, featuring works by Chinese composers.

The Hong Kong Philharmonic is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic

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