



PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: 28 June 2013

Hong Kong Philharmonic's 2012/13 Season Finale – a First-Ever Collaboration with Hong Kong Space Museum in a Multi-media Journey through the Space – "The Planets" (5&6 July)

[28 June 2013, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic (HK Phil) and the Hong Kong Space Museum are next-door neighbours in Tsimshastsui, but they have never joined forces before. To end the season with a stellar spectacular, the HK Phil, guided by conductor David Robertson, takes a musical journey through the solar system accompanied by stunning visuals from the Hong Kong Space Museum. The Planets Suite, a fantastic musical evocation of the planets, includes appearances from The Hong Kong Children's Choir. The audience will also visit the sun, courtesy of Danish composer Carl Nielsen, and look at the constellation *Orion* with the extraordinary music of the visionary Canadian composer Claude Vivier.

Holiday, Pops & More: "The Planets" will be held on 5&6 July (Fri & Sat), 8PM in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced: \$380, \$280, \$200, \$140 are available at URBTIX. Free pre-concert talks will be given by Ms Synthia Ko, Music Director and Chief Conductor, Guangxi Symphony Orchestra on both nights (5 July, English & 6 July, Cantonese) at 7:15pm, at AC2, 4/F, Administration Building, Hong Kong Cultural Centre. For enquiries, please call 2721 2030 or visit www.hkphil.org

David Robertson, conductor [full biography]

A consummate musician, masterful programmer and dynamic presence on the podium, David Robertson has established himself as one of today's most sought-after American conductors. A passionate and compelling communicator with an extensive orchestral and operatic repertoire, he has forged close relationships with major orchestras around the world through his exhilarating music-making and stimulating ideas. He has just completed his eighth season as Music Director of the 133-year-old St. Louis Symphony, and in January 2014 will assume the post of Chief Conductor and Artistic Director of the Sydney Symphony in Australia.

Mr. Robertson is a frequent guest conductor with major orchestras and opera houses around the world. During this season he has appeared with prestigious U.S. orchestras as well as internationally-renowned ones including the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, Symphonieorchester des Bayerischen Rundfunks, Vienna Radio Symphony, Israel Philharmonic and Ensemble Intercontemporain. In past seasons he has appeared with the Berlin Philharmonic, Staatskapelle Dresden, Royal Scottish National Orchestra and Sydney and Melbourne Symphony orchestras.

Hong Kong Children's Choir, chorus [full biography]

The Hong Kong Children's Choir (HKCC) was founded in 1969 as a private non-profit-making charitable organization. Established with only 39 members, HKCC is now the biggest choir in the world with over 5,000 boys and girls receiving choral, dancing, arts and craft training from the Choir. Each year, touring groups are invited to give performances overseas, spreading the message of love and peace to other parts of the world. The Choir has been well received and applauded in over 24 countries, gaining an international reputation as "one of the best children's choirs in the world" and "the Little Goodwill Singing Ambassadors from Hong Kong". In 2003, HKCC was awarded the "China's Top Ten Children Chorus".





Holiday, Pops & More: The Planets

5&6 | 7 | 2013 FRI & SAT 8PM HK Cultural Centre Concert Hall HK\$380 \$280 \$200 \$140 Available at URBTIX now For ages 6 and above

Co-organized by Hong Kong Space Museum

Artists

<u>David Robertson</u> conductor <u>The Hong Kong Children's Choir</u> chorus

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







Programme

NIELSEN Helios Overture VIVIER Orion HOLST The Planets Suite *Performance with images

Other Activities Free Pre-concert Talks

Time: 5/7 Fri 7:15pm - 7:45pm (English)

6/7 Sat 7:15pm - 7:45pm (Cantonese)

Venue: AC2, 4/F, Administration Building, HK Cultural Centre Speaker: Ms Synthia Ko, Music Director and Chief Conductor,

Guangxi Symphony Orchestra

Star-gazing Activity

Gaze at Saturn through telescopes at the Area B of Hong Kong Cultural Centre Piazza before and after the concert on 5 July - a special appetizer and dessert to complete your concert-going experience!











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

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

The HK Phil is founded 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