

PRESS RELEASE

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Enjoy the World of French Fairy Tales with Famous Radio Presenter Chu Fun E and Conductor Aldert Vermeulen (14 September)

Escape into a fantastic world of fairy tales with the Hong Kong Philharmonic (HK Phil) in a relaxing summer weekend. Dutch conductor <u>Aldert Vermeulen</u> guides the audience through the kiss that awoke Sleeping Beauty, the adventures of Babar the Elephant and the Faun's dream of pursuing nymphs. Famous radio presenter Chu Fun E will be the story-teller as he leads everyone into this colourful musical kingdom.

"Sleeping Beauty & Elephant Babar" will be held on 14 September (Sat), 3pm & 7:30pm, at Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium. <u>Tickets priced: HK\$150, HK\$120, HK\$90 are now available at URBTIX.</u>
For enquiries, please call 2721 2332 or visit <u>www.hkphil.org</u>

Artists

Aldert Vermeulen, conductor [full biography]

In January 1998 Aldert Vermeulen made his début in Wagner's *Parsifal* standing in at the last minute to direct the National Opera, Holland. He received unanimous praise from the musicians and management and was immediately offered a position as Head of Music with the company. He also served as an Assistant Conductor for the Bayreuth Wagner Festival between 2000 and 2005, working with Christian Thielemann, Pierre Boulez and Giuseppe Sinopoli. In June 2006 he was invited to conduct *Cavelleria Rusticana* and *Il Pagliacci* with the Netherlands Opera, where he was also offered a position as Head of Music.

From 2011 to 2013 Vermeulen served as Director of Artistic Planning for the Dallas Symphony Orchestra, utilizing his performing and conducting experience, his vast knowledge of classical music repertoire and his wide network with the most accomplished conductors and musicians around the world.

Chu Fun E, presenter [full biography]

Chu Fun E (Josephine Ng) is one of Hong Kong's most renowned DJs. She hosts a number of popular radio programmes including "On a Clear Day", with Jan Lamb and Ken Yuen, and "Kiss Kiss Kids", with Leo Chim. Chu Fun E is also in demand in Hong Kong as an emcee for many major corporate events such as press conferences, concerts and movie premières.



Sleeping Beauty & Elephant Babar

14 | 9 | 2013 SAT 3PM & 7:30PM Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium HK\$150 \$120 \$90 Available at URBTIX now For ages 3 and above

Artists

Aldert Vermeulen conductor Chu Fun E presenter

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







Chu Fun E



Hong Kong Philharmonic Photo credit: Keith Hiro / HK Phil

Programme

POULENC Babar the Elephant
DEBUSSY Prelude to The Afternoon of a Faun
TCHAIKOVSKY Sleeping Beauty Suite





Ticketing Information Credit Card Booking

Credit Card Booking (852) 2111 5999 Online Booking www.urbtix.hk

For programme enquiry, please call HK Phil at **(852) 2721 2332**Or go on our website:
www.hkphil.org

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For further press information please contact:

Doris Chan, Director of Marketing

Tel: +852 2721 9035 Cell: +852 9776 8445 Email: doris.chan@hkphil.org

Alice Luk, Assistant Corporate Communications Manager

Tel: +852 2721 1585 Cell: +852 6280 0156 Email: <u>alice.luk@hkphil.org</u>





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 celebrates 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 conductors and soloists, the HK Phil performs a broad variety of music, 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 Swire Group Charitable Trust has been the Principal Patron of the HK Phil since 2006. Swire's enlightened support, the most generous in the orchestra's history, continues to enable the orchestra to reach towards high artistic goals.

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 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