

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 16 December 2013

**Hong Kong Philharmonic -
Great Eagle 50th Anniversary proudly sponsors:
Christmas Around the World (Dec 23 & 24)**

[16 December 2013, Hong Kong] The **Hong Kong Philharmonic (HK Phil)** and Dutch conductor [Peter Biloen](#), invite you to take a musical sleigh ride to explore Christmas music from around the world, in “**Great Eagle 50th Anniversary proudly sponsors: *Christmas Around the World***”. (Dec 23 & 24)

Santa Claus, the Christmas father bringing gifts to children from chimney, was derived from the Dutch figure, ‘Sinterklaas’. In this Christmas celebration, the HK Phil, together with two Dutch musicians – conductor **Peter Biloen** and vocalist [Tania Kross](#), take you to explore wonderful Christmas music from around the world. Joining this musical sleigh ride are **The Hong Kong Children’s Choir**, and Santa Claus’s reindeer Rudolph, the elf and friends. There will be timeless music from Tchaikovsky’s *Nutcracker*, excerpts from Humperdinck’s *Hansel and Gretel*, yuletide hits and a sing-along of some of the best loved Christmas carols, like Berlin’s *White Christmas*.

“**Great Eagle 50th Anniversary proudly sponsors: *Christmas Around the World***” will be held on **23 & 24 December 2013 (Mon & Tue), 8PM** in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Tickets priced: \$400, \$300, \$220, \$140, are now available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call 2721 2332 or visit www.hkphil.org.

Artists

Peter Biloen, conductor [\[full biography\]](#)

Peter Biloen was the first Dutch conductor to reach the finals of London's International Donatella Flick Conducting Competition, directing the London Symphony Orchestra in concert. He was awarded the Anton Kersjes Foundation's national Dutch conducting prize and the prestigious Academy Conductor Fellowship at the Aspen Music Festival. An expert interpreter of both classic and modern repertoire, Biloen has been hailed by the press for his adventurous and groundbreaking programming. Between 2006 and 2008, Biloen assisted Music Director Jaap van Zweden at the Radio Philharmonic Orchestra in The Netherlands. In 2007 he made his *début* at the Amsterdam Concertgebouw, conducting Fauré's Requiem as a last minute replacement for van Zweden.

Tania Kross, vocalist [\[full biography\]](#)

Mezzo-soprano Tania Kross won several competitions, including first prize of the Stichting Jong Muziektalent Nederland, the Rosa Ponselle International Competition for Vocal Arts in New York and the Cristina Deutekom Concours. At the Saturday Matinee series in the Concertgebouw, she made her debut in *Daphne* by Richard Strauss, conducted by Edo de Waart. Her first CD, "Corazon", was awarded the Edison Music Prize. Recently, she made a CD for children, commissioned by the Concertgebouw, for the educational programme, "Zing met ons mee" ("Sing Along With Us").

**Great Eagle 50th Anniversary proudly sponsors:
*Christmas Around the World***

23 & 24 | 12 | 2013

MON & TUE 8PM

HK Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$400 \$300 \$220 \$140

Available at URBTIX now

Title Sponsor: Great Eagle Holdings Limited

Artists

表演者 Artists

[Peter Biloen](#)

conductor

[Tania Kross](#)

vocalist

Hong Kong Children's Choir

chorus

[Ho Yuen Tung](#)

elf

Yau Ka Hei, Katie

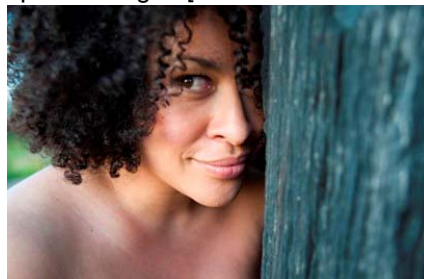
reindeer, Rudolph

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Peter Biloen
Photo credit: NSO



Tania Kross
Photo credit: Pawlak



The Hong Kong Children's Choir



Ho Yuen Tung



Yau Ka Hei, Katie



Hong Kong Philharmonic
Photo credit:
HK Phil / Cheung Chi-wai

Programme

DAVIS	<i>The Little Drummer Boy</i>
BERLIN	<i>White Christmas</i>
PIERPONT	<i>Jingle Bells</i>
ANDERSON	<i>Sleigh Ride</i>
WHEELER/JAMES	<i>Out on the Plains the Brolgas are Dancing</i>
SCHUBERT	<i>Ave Maria</i>
HUMPERDINCK	<i>Hansel and Gretel Excerpts</i>
RUTTER	<i>The Angel's Carol</i>
VAUGHAN WILLIAMS	<i>Fantasia on Greensleeves</i>
and many more!	

Ticketing Information

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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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 celebrates 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