

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE: 24 December 2013

**Hong Kong Philharmonic -
The Macallan Bravo Series:
*New Year's Eve – A Viennese Concert (Dec 30 & 31)***

[24 December 2013, Hong Kong] Celebrating the arrival of the new year, the **Hong Kong Philharmonic (HK Phil)** and Austrian conductor [Johannes Wildner](#), invite you to bid farewell to 2013 and welcome 2014 in true Viennese style with a glittering programme, “**The Macallan Bravo Series: *New Year's Eve – A Viennese Concert***” (Dec 30 & 31)

This annual New Year celebration will see the stage of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall transformed into a festive centrepiece, decorated with flowers and ornaments. Conductor Johannes Wildner and the HK Phil bring you the century-old musical tradition from Vienna, with a series of elegant waltzes, delightful polkas and exciting overtures, written by the Strauss family and Suppé.

Born in Austria, **Johannes Wildner** studied conducting, violin and musicology. At the beginning of his career, he spent 10 years as a violinist in the Vienna Philharmonic. After being Chief Conductor of Prague State Opera and First Permanent Conductor of Leipzig Opera, Johannes Wildner was General Music Director of the New Philharmonic Orchestra of Westphalia (Germany) for 10 years from 1997. He is now Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra in London.

“**The Macallan Bravo Series: *New Year's Eve – A Viennese Concert***” will be held on **30 & 31 December 2013 (Mon & Tue), 8PM** in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Tickets priced: \$420, \$320, \$220, \$160, are now available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call 2721 2332 or visit www.hkphil.org.

*** Owing to traffic control in Tsim Sha Tsui on 31 Dec, audience members are advised to allow extra time to get to the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.**

Artists

Johannes Wildner, conductor [\[full biography\]](#)

Born in Austria, Johannes Wildner studied conducting, violin and musicology. He has established himself as one of the foremost Austrian conductors.

His years of experience as a member of the Vienna Philharmonic and the Vienna State Opera Orchestra have given his conducting a distinctive stamp. After positions as Chief Conductor of Prague State Opera (1994-95) and First Permanent Conductor of Leipzig Opera (1996-98), Johannes Wildner was the General Music Director of the New Philharmonic Orchestra of Westphalia (Germany) for ten years from 1997. He has been Principal Guest Conductor of the BBC Concert Orchestra in London, since September 2010.

He regularly appears as a guest conductor in major opera houses such as the Tokyo New National Theatre, Arena di Verona, Volksoper Vienna, Graz, Salzburg, Prague and Zagreb State Opera, and with orchestras such as the Bavarian Radio Symphony, London Philharmonic and Royal Philharmonic London, St. Petersburg Philharmonic, Tokyo Philharmonic, MDR Symphony, Dresden Philharmonic, Vienna Symphony and China Philharmonic.

Johannes Wildner has recorded over 60 CDs, DVDs and videos, including Johann Strauss' *Die Fledermaus* and Mozart's *Così fan tutte*.

The Macallan Bravo Series: *New Year's Eve – A Viennese Concert*

30 & 31 | 12 | 2013

MON & TUE 8PM

HK Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$420 \$320 \$220 \$160

Available at URBTIX now

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Title Sponsor: The Macallan

Artists

[Johannes Wildner](#) conductor

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Programme

J. STRAUSS II	<i>The Gypsy Baron: Overture</i>
JOSEF STRAUSS	<i>Forwards! Polka</i>
JOSEF STRAUSS	<i>Dynamiden (Secret Attractions) Waltz</i>
J. STRAUSS II	<i>Peasants' Polka</i>
J. STRAUSS II	<i>At Our Home Waltz</i>
SUPPÉ	<i>Light Cavalry: Overture</i>
J. STRAUSS II	<i>Masked Ball Quadrille</i>
J. STRAUSS II	<i>Where the Lemon Trees Blossom Waltz</i>
J. STRAUSS II	<i>Champagne Polka</i>
EDUARD STRAUSS	<i>Fast Track (Bahn Frei) Polka</i>
J. STRAUSS II	<i>The Blue Danube</i>

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