

**PRESS RELEASE**  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE: 17 October 2014

## **HK Phil's Brahms The Four Symphonies In Tribute to Maestro Lorin Maazel (12 & 15 Nov)**

[17 October 2014, Hong Kong] In tribute to the legendary Maestro Lorin Maazel, **David Atherton**, the former Music Director of the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** for eleven years, will return and conduct the orchestra in two concerts of all Brahms programmes, including a complete symphonic cycle: **Brahms 4 & 1 on 12 November 2014** and **Brahms 3 & 2 on 15 November 2014**.

Standing at the apex of German Romanticism, Brahms is one of the titans. His popularity and influence were significant – he was called one of the ‘Three Bs’ along with Bach and Beethoven by the 19th century conductor Hans von Bülow. The diligent construction and meticulous nature of Brahms’s works later became a starting point and a source of inspiration to many of his contemporaries.

It took Brahms 14 years to compose his first symphony, yet the long gestation paid off, for he broke new ground for the genre’s future, and contributed four ever-popular masterpieces. In two special performances sponsored by QBE Insurance, David Atherton returns to the stage of the HK Phil and gives us the chance to explore every note of his four symphonies under the baton of a master interpreter who is known and loved by Hong Kong audiences.

David Atherton is one of the most distinguished conductors of our era. He was the Music Director for the HK Phil for eleven years and was made the orchestra’s Conductor Laureate and awarded the OBE by Her Majesty The Queen, in recognition of his services to music in Hong Kong.

“We are proud to sponsor the two concerts conducted by David Atherton in tribute to Lorin Maazel,” said **David Fried, Chief Executive Officer, Emerging Markets, QBE Insurance Group**. “As a leading insurer in Hong Kong, our success is built on our deep understanding of the city. In return, we are committed to supporting the city’s arts and cultural development. It is our honour to be involved in the continued growth of one of Asia’s leading orchestras. We hope our support can help bring more beautiful music to Hong Kong. In so doing, we hope to raise Hong Kong’s cultural profile on the international stage.

*Concerts are sponsored by QBE Insurance*

**Brahms 4 & 1** will be held on **12 November 2014 (Wed), 8PM**, in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Tickets priced: HK\$680, \$480, \$320, \$200 are now available at [URBTIX](http://URBTIX). For enquiries, please call 2721 2332 or visit [www.hkphil.org](http://www.hkphil.org).

**Brahms 3 & 2** will be held on **15 November 2014 (Sat), 8PM**, in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Tickets priced: HK\$680, \$480, \$320, \$200 are now available at [URBTIX](http://URBTIX). For enquiries, please call 2721 2332 or visit [www.hkphil.org](http://www.hkphil.org).

Audiences who buy tickets of two concerts can enjoy 10% discount.

### **Artists**

**David Atherton, conductor** [[full biography](#)]

David Atherton is one of the most distinguished conductors of our era. His friend and mentor, Sir Georg Solti, appointed him Resident Conductor of the Royal Opera House in London where he was the youngest conductor in history to debut. As a regular guest with the Metropolitan Opera in New York, he has worked with some of the world’s greatest superstars such as Renée Fleming, Plácido Domingo and Luciano Pavarotti. He has held titled positions with the BBC Symphony and Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestras and the BBC National Orchestra of Wales. After eleven years as Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, he was made the orchestra’s Conductor Laureate and awarded the OBE by Her Majesty The Queen, in recognition of his services to music in Hong Kong.

## Brahms 4 & 1

12 | 11 | 2014

WED 8PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$680 \$480 \$320 \$200

Tickets are now available at URBTIX

For ages 6 and above

### Artists

[David Atherton](#)

conductor

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



David Atherton



The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

### Programme

**BRAHMS**

*Academic Festival Overture*

**BRAHMS**

Symphony no. 4

**BRAHMS**

Symphony no. 1

## Brahms 3 & 2

15 | 11 | 2014

SAT 8PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$680 \$480 \$320 \$200

Tickets are now available at URBTIX

For ages 6 and above

### Artists

[David Atherton](#)

conductor

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David Atherton



The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

### Programme

<b>BRAHMS</b>	<i>Tragic Overture</i>
<b>BRAHMS</b>	Symphony no. 3
<b>BRAHMS</b>	Symphony no. 2

## **Ticketing Information**

Credit Card Booking

**+852 2111 5999**

Online Booking

[www.urbtix.hk](http://www.urbtix.hk)

For programme enquiry, please call HK Phil at

**+852 2721 2332**

Or go on our website:

[www.hkphil.org](http://www.hkphil.org)

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## Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is the city's largest and busiest musical organisation and is a vital part of Hong Kong's cultural life. With its roots stretching back well over a century, the HK Phil made its professional début in 1974. It has now evolved into 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 attracting 200,000 music lovers. Through its acclaimed education programme, over 40,000 young people have learned about orchestral music last year. 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*.

The Swire Group has been the Principal Patron of the HK Phil since 2006. Through this sponsorship, which is the largest in the orchestra's history, Swire also endeavours to promote artistic excellence, provide access and stimulate cultural participation in Hong Kong, and to enhance Hong Kong's reputation as one of the great cities of the world.

The HK Phil's members come from every corner of the globe, with a 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 Orchestra is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra  
The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is a Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre