

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HK Phil Swire Sunday Family: Classics For Family Enjoy a Fun-filled Afternoon with Greatest Music for Orchestra (28 Jun)

[23 June 2015, Hong Kong] **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** Swire Sunday Family: Classics for Family is a Sunday afternoon concert tailor-made for families with fun activities before and after the performance. Come join us on **28 June** at **3PM** in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall** for best-loved classics, featuring 12-year-old Hong Kong piano prodigy **Johnson Li** and **Lio Kuokman** conducting. Give your child a crash course in the greatest orchestral music from across the centuries.

Praised by the American press as ‘a startling conducting talent’ and for his ‘grace and assurance’ and ‘beautiful sense of control’, conductor Lio Kuokman will present the top hits of the classical canon. From Pachelbel’s Canon in D – a wedding favourite – to Tchaikovsky’s elegant *Polonaise*, this concert is the perfect introduction to the orchestra’s greatest hits – a wonderful Classics 101 for your child!

Swire Sunday Family: Classics for Family will be held on **28 June 2015 (Sun), 3PM**, in the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Tickets priced: \$220, \$150, \$120, \$90 are now available at URBIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit www.hkphil.org.

Artists

Lio Kuokman, conductor [\[full biography\]](#)

Praised by the American press as ‘a startling conducting talent’ for his ‘grace and assurance’ and ‘beautiful sense of control’, Lio Kuokman is equally sought after as a conductor, piano soloist and chamber musician. He is currently the assistant conductor of the Philadelphia Orchestra, the first Chinese conductor in this position in the history of the Philadelphia Orchestra. Lio is the winner of the Theodore Presser Foundation Award for Young Conductors and the Marilyn Horne Foundation Award. He was the finalist in the First Chicago Symphony Sir Georg Solti Conducting Competition and has conducted the Philadelphia Orchestra, Seoul Philharmonic, Danish National Symphony Orchestra and more.

Johnson Li, piano [\[full biography\]](#)

Johnson Li won the top prize in YiTian Cup Lang Lang Music World Youth Piano Competition (2011) and is the recipient of Langham Lang Lang Music Scholarship. Johnson performed with Lang Lang for many times and participated in his master classes. His orchestral debut with Shenzhen Symphony in 2012 received rave reviews.

Swire Sunday Family: Classics for Family

28 | 6 | 2015

SUN 3PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$220 \$150 \$120 \$90

Tickets are now available at URBTIX

For ages 3 and above

Artists

[Lio Kuokman](#)

conductor

[Johnson Li](#)

piano

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



Lio Kuokman



Johnson Li



The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo Credit: Cheung Chi Wai/HK Phil

Programme

COPLAND

Fanfare for the Common Man

MOZART

Rondo in A Major, K386

PACHELBEL

Canon in D

BARBER

Adagio for Strings

TCHAIKOVSKY

Eugene Onegin: Polonaise

MASCAGNI

Cavalleria Rusticana: Intermezzo

GLAZUNOV

The Seasons: Autumn

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Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) has recently returned from an extremely successful five-country, seven-city tour of Europe, with concerts in London, Vienna, Zurich, Eindhoven, Birmingham, Berlin and Amsterdam. Most concerts were sold out, there were standing ovations, and the reviews were universally positive. The concert in Vienna's Musikverein was filmed for future broadcast on TV. With a history stretching back to 1895, when it was formed as the Sino-British Orchestra, the HK Phil was re-named in 1957 and became fully professional in 1974.

Thanks to significant subsidy from the Hong Kong Government and long-term funding from Principal Patron Swire, the Hong Kong Jockey Club and other supporters, the HK Phil now boasts a full-time annual schedule of classical music concerts, pops concerts, an extensive education programme, and collaborations for staged opera with Opera Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Arts Festival.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Ning Feng, Matthias Goerne, Lang Lang, Yu Long, Yundi Li, the late Lorin Maazel, Anne-Sophie Mutter, Yuja Wang and Edo de Waart, the HK Phil's previous Music Director.

The HK Phil promotes the work of Hong Kong and Chinese composers through an active commissioning programme, and has released recordings featuring Tan Dun and Bright Sheng, each conducting their own compositions, on the Naxos label. Its acclaimed community engagement programme brings music to tens of thousands of children annually.

This season is Jaap van Zweden's third as Music Director of the HK Phil. With him, the orchestra is undertaking major expansion and new projects, including the first-ever performances by a Hong Kong or mainland Chinese orchestra of Wagner's *The Ring of the Nibelung*. The four operas are being performed, one a year, in concert and recorded live for the Naxos label.

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, foster access to classical music and stimulate cultural participation in Hong Kong, and to enhance Hong Kong's reputation as one of the great cities of the world.

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