

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: 24 March 2016

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Fundraising Concert – Music in Action (28 March)

Hong Kong’s business & social elites join hands to support the HK Phil and the development of the local music scene

[24 March 2016, Hong Kong] Following the success of previous Fundraising Concerts, the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** is organising the annual Fundraising Concert at Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall on Monday 28 March. Through this concert, bringing together a wide range of musical genres, the orchestra hopes to raise funds in support of its education and outreach efforts.

This year’s theme “Music in Action” reflects our belief that the younger generation has the potential to ‘take action’ and make a huge impact on the development of music in our society. At the same time it also helps to strengthen values, mentality, morality and cultural appreciation.

Led by renowned conductor **Gerard Salonga**, we are honoured to announce our participants. This year these include Ms Rosina Lam, a well-acclaimed actress who won the StarHub TVB Awards and the Metro Radio Mandarin Hits Music Awards Presentation with her single “I Really Want to Hate You”; Mr Otto Chan, Adrian Chau and Sheldon Lo, notable actors who will sing alongside Mrs Amanda Ho Lee, the Chair of the Fundraising Concert Organising Committee, and members of the Hong Kong New Youth Energy Think Tank.

Other talented guest performers include Mr Anson Tang Cheuk Him, the Green Leaf Artist of The Arts with the Disabled Association, who has worked with various musicians and arts groups including the celebrated violinist Midori Gotô, the Hong Kong Youth Strings and the Asian Chamber Orchestra; a choir of more than 100 people from The Chinese General Chamber of Commerce; and students from Belilios Public School, Po Leung Kuk Lam Man Chan English Primary School and Rightmind International Nursery & Kindergarten.

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Fundraising Concert – Music in Action will be held on **28 March 2016 (Mon), 3pm** at the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall**. Contribution of \$500 or above will entitle a complimentary admission ticket. Supporting Form can now be downloaded from HK Phil website <http://download.hkphil.org/files/fundraising/infoform2016.pdf>. For enquiries, please contact the Development Department at development@hkphil.org

Artists

Gerard Salonga, conductor [\[full biography\]](#)

Gerard Salonga has worked with some of the Asia’s brightest artists including Lea Salonga, Regine Velazquez, Wang Leehom and Hins Cheung. He has been the Music Director of FILHarmoniKA (Manila) for six years.

Other Guest Performers please refer to <http://bit.ly/1pwAWI9>

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Fundraising Concert – Music in Action

28 | 3 | 2016

MON 3PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

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Artist

[Gerard Salonga](#) conductor

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



Gerard Salonga

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Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden

Principal Guest Conductor: Yu Long

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is recognised as Asia's foremost classical orchestra. The Orchestra presents more than 150 concerts over a 44-week season and attracts more than 200,000 music lovers annually.

Jaap van Zweden, one of today's most sought-after conductors, is the Orchestra's Music Director, a position he has held since the 2012/13 concert season. Maestro van Zweden was recently announced as the next Music Director of the New York Philharmonic. This appointment will not affect his tenure with the HK Phil; his commitment to the HK Phil extends at least to the summer of 2019.

Yu Long was appointed for an initial three-year term in the 2015/16 season as Principal Guest Conductor.

Under Maestro van Zweden, the HK Phil is undertaking a variety of initiatives including a four-year project to perform and record the complete *Ring of the Nibelung* (Richard Wagner). The Orchestra is in the second of this four-year journey, performing one opera annually in concert. The performances are being recorded live for the Naxos label and mark the first performances by a Hong Kong or mainland Chinese orchestra of the entire *Ring* cycle.

Also under van Zweden, the orchestra undertook a highly successful five-country, seven-city tour of Europe in the 2014/15 season, with concerts in London, Vienna, Zurich, Eindhoven, Birmingham, Berlin and Amsterdam. Performances were met with enthusiasm and universally positive reviews. The concert in Vienna's Musikverein was filmed for broadcast on TV.

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 and Yuja Wang.

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. A recording was issued free to schoolchildren throughout Hong Kong of Britten's *The Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra*, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf* and Leopold Mozart's *Toy Symphony*.

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.

Thanks to a 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.

The Orchestra's history stretches back to 1895, when it was formed as the Sino-British Orchestra. It was re-named in 1957 and became fully professional in 1974.

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.