

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
14 February 2018

Joe Hisaishi in Concert extra performance added

[14 February 2018, Hong Kong] All tickets for the three concerts by the world-renowned Japanese composer-conductor Joe Hisaishi with the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** at the **Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall** have been sold out. Maestro Hisaishi has happily agreed to perform **an additional concert** with the HK Phil, to be held on **5 May 2018 (Sat, 3PM)**. Aligning with the other three performances, 80% of the tickets will be made available for public purchase. The remaining tickets will be allocated to the HK Phil's sponsors and partners.

With the support of URBTIX and the Hong Kong Cultural Centre, the HK Phil is actively exploring various mechanisms to further prevent the unofficial resale of tickets, including the possibility of selling tickets for this extra performance through **the real-name booking method** (meaning all tickets shall bear the full-name of the ticket-holder, and photo ID will be checked at the concert admission). Details of the ticketing procedure will be released on the HK Phil's website in mid-March.

All four concerts will feature three orchestral pieces composed by Maestro Hisaishi. The highlight of the first half will be the Hong Kong premiere of *The East Land Symphony*, a composition of Maestro Hisaishi in 2016. The grand orchestral piece consists of five movements, in which the Hong Kong soprano Louise Kwong, active on local and international stages, will be featured as the soloist. *mládí* for piano and strings gathers three pieces which the Maestro composed for the great Japanese director Kitano Takeshi's films, namely *Kikujiro's Summer* (or simply *Summer*), *Kids Return* and *Hana-bi*. The core piece of the second half will be the Hong Kong debut of the newly arranged Symphonic Suite *Castle in the Sky* (2017), drawing together the Maestro's compositions in the famous motion picture *Laputa* with orchestral instrumentation, including the beautiful piano part to be played by the Maestro himself, creating an exceptional musical journey through the castle in the sky.

Tickets priced: HK\$1,080 \$880 \$680 \$480. Details of the ticketing procedures will be announced on the HK Phil's website in mid-March.

Joe Hisaishi in Concert

4, 5, 6 May 2018

Fri & Sat 8pm, Sun 3pm

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

All Sold Out

Additional concert on 5 May 2018

Sat 3pm

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

Details of the ticketing procedures will be announced on the HK Phil's website in mid-March

4 May Performance is co-sponsored by

MUFG

Shun Hing Group

Artists

[Joe Hisaishi](#), composer, conductor & piano

[Louise Kwong](#), soprano

Click the thumbnail to download photos



Joe Hisaishi

Photo Credit: Wonder City Inc.



Louise Kwong



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo Credit: Cheung Chi Wai/HK Phil

Programme (subject to change)

The East Land Symphony (featuring Louise Kwong, soprano)

mládí for piano and strings

Summer

HANA-BI

Kids Return

Symphonic Suite *Castle in the Sky*

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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. Presenting more than 150 concerts over a 44-week season, the HK Phil attracts more than 200,000 music lovers annually.

Jaap van Zweden, one of today's most sought-after conductors, has been the orchestra's Music Director since the 2012/13 concert season, a position he will continue to hold until 2022. Maestro van Zweden will be the next Music Director of the New York Philharmonic from the 2018/19 season.

Yu Long was appointed Principal Guest Conductor with the HK Phil for a three-year period commencing with the 2015/16 season.

Under the dynamic leadership of Music Director Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil has attained new heights of artistic excellence, garnering international critical acclaim.

Following on from the success of the European tour which included a filmed concert from Vienna's Musikverein, the HK Phil has toured extensively within the mainland China. In celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the HKSAR, and with support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, the orchestra recently performed in Seoul, Osaka, Singapore, Melbourne and at the Sydney Opera House.

Jaap, the HK Phil, and a superb casts of soloists, have presented concert performances and recordings of the four operas from Richard Wagner's epic *Ring* cycle. These have been enthusiastically endorsed by both audiences and critics at home and abroad, and in recognition of their quality, the orchestra and Jaap have been invited to perform Wagner's *Die Walküre* in staged performances at the Beijing Music Festival last October in a co-production with the Salzburg Easter Festival.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Matthias Goerne, Stephen Hough, Lang Lang, Yo-Yo Ma, Ning Feng and Yuja Wang.

The HK Phil promotes the work of Hong Kong and Chinese composers through an active commissioning programme, and has released recordings on the Naxos label featuring Tan Dun and Bright Sheng, each conducting their own compositions. Its acclaimed education and community engagement programmes in schools, hospital and outdoor space, bring music into the hearts of tens of thousands of children and families every year.

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 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 Charities Trust and other supporters, the HK Phil now boasts a full-time annual schedule of core classical repertoire and innovative popular programming, extensive education and community programmes, and collaborations with, among others, Opera Hong Kong and the Hong Kong Arts Festival.

Originally called the Sino-British Orchestra, it was renamed the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra in 1957 and became fully professional in 1974. The HK Phil is a charitable organisation.

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra is financially supported by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and is Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre.
SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra.