

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
DATE: 27 November 2020

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and Premiere Performances collaborate to bring Miloš Karadaglić (guitar) and Akiko Suwanai (violin) to Hong Kong amidst the pandemic

[27 November 2020, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) and Premiere Performances of Hong Kong (Premiere Performances) announce today an unprecedented collaboration to bring international artists **Miloš Karadaglić** (guitar) and **Akiko Suwanai** (violin) to Hong Kong amidst the pandemic. Miloš and Akiko will both be arriving in Hong Kong in December 2020 and will go through the 14-day quarantine procedure. They will each be playing a concerto with the HK Phil in January 2021, as well as participating in Premiere Performances' Beare's Premiere Music Festival in the same month. Such arrangement is unique, as it is unusual for an artist to perform with different presenters in the same city within the same period of time. The HK Phil and Premiere Performances join hands to lift such restraints to encourage internationally renowned artists to come to Hong Kong despite the quarantine arrangements.

"Concert presenters are supporting one another through this difficult time for the industry," said Andrea Fessler, Founder and Executive Director of Premiere Performances "Although performance venues have now reopened in Hong Kong, the 14-day quarantine makes it extremely difficult for overseas artists to travel to Hong Kong for only one performance. We hope by scheduling a concerto performance and a chamber music / recital performance in the same week, international artists could be encouraged to perform in Hong Kong. Of course, we sincerely invite audience members to attend both presenters' performances, to enjoy completely different live music experiences."

"I have always been fond of meaningful collaborations between arts and cultural organisations," said Benedikt Fohr, Chief Executive of the HK Phil, "We, the HK Phil and Premiere Performances, have put in a lot of enthusiasm to bring the best artists to our audiences. And for the first time, through this joint-presentation of Miloš and Akiko, we are very pleased to be able to offer even more excellent music in Hong Kong. We want to encourage our audiences to try different perspectives – chamber music lovers can listen to their favorite soloists in the big symphonic repertoire, while fans of orchestral music can experience the same artists in outstanding chamber music performances. This is certainly an exclusive cross-genre experience for the Hong Kong community."

Miloš Karadaglić will be performing **Rodrigo's *Concierto de Aranjuez*** and **Piazzolla's *Libertango*** with the **HK Phil on 8 & 9 January 2021**, and opening the **Beare's Premiere Music Festival on 13 January 2021** with a recital programme entitled "**Beyond the Rainbow**". **Akiko Suwanai** will be playing **chamber music** at the **Beare's Premiere Music Festival on 18 & 21 January 2021** (including the famous **Dvořák Quintet**), and will then perform **Prokofiev's First Violin Concerto** with the **HK Phil on 22 & 23 January 2021**.

Miloš Karadaglić was originally scheduled to perform "**The Voice of the Guitar**" recital for **Premiere Performances** on 17 May 2020. This recital has now been rescheduled to **29 November 2021** due to the pandemic. Together with the performance with the HK Phil on 8 & 9 January 2021 and the additional Beare's Premiere Music Festival Opening recital on 13 January 2021, Miloš will be playing three programmes in total for the Hong Kong community in 2021.

The abovementioned concerts will strictly observe anti-epidemic advices from the authorities. Concert hall capacity will be adjusted with reference to the latest advice by the venues. Masks are mandatory for audience and staff members. All overseas artists will be tested and quarantined according to Hong Kong government guidelines. COVID-19 testing will also be arranged for all involved HK Phil musicians and backstage staff. Appropriate social distancing for all musicians onstage as well as plastic shields set for wind players will be organised as in each and every HK Phil's performances.

Ticket sales for all concerts of the HK Phil and Premiere Performances will open on 4 December 2020, Friday. A discount will be offered to patrons who purchase tickets through URBIX to concerts of the HK Phil and Premiere Performances at the same time.

The HK Phil's 2020/21 season presents close to 30 fantastic programmes featuring international and local guest artists. Commissioned works by Hong Kong composers will be premiered. Interesting crossover programmes showcase collaborations with different music genre and arts forms such as jazz, film music, ballet and live illustration. In the season, Jaap van Zweden will lead the orchestra to tour to 10 cities in Europe in May 2021, with debuts in Spain, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the German cities of Cologne and Dresden. The HK Phil will also be making its debut at the prestigious Royal Concertgebouw's Mahler Festival 2021, the first Asian orchestra to perform at this monumental event which is held every 25 years in Amsterdam. Full details can be found on hkphil.org.

The annual Beare's Premiere Music Festival (formerly the Hong Kong Chamber International Chamber Music Festival) presented by Premiere Performances will be held on 13-21 January 2021, and will include four chamber music performances at Hong Kong City Hall, one family concert at Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre and numerous free education and outreach activities. The 2021 Festival will include eight overseas artists including Artist Director Jimmy Cho-Liang Lin (Taiwan), baritone Benjamin Appl (Germany), violist Masumi Per Rostad (US), pianist Shai Wosner (US), cellist Li-Wei Qin (China / Singapore), violinist Stephanie Joeng (US) along with guitarist Miloš Karadaglić (Montenegro) and violinist Akiko Suwanai (Japan). Full details can be found on www.pphk.org.

Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra concerts

MASTERWORKS SERIES: MILOŠ: MASTER OF THE GUITAR*

8 & 9 | 1 | 2021

FRI & SAT 8PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$580 \$480 \$380 \$280

For ages 6 and above

Artists

[Paolo Bortolameolli](#)

conductor

[MILOŠ](#)

guitar

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



Paolo Bortolameolli



MILOŠ

Photo Credit: Lars Borges/Mercury Classics



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo Credit: Cheung Wai-lok/HK Phil

Programme

ROSSINI

Barber of Seville Overture

PIAZZOLLA

Libertango

ARRIAGA

Los esclavos felices Overture

RODRIGO

Concierto de Aranjuez

FALLA

The Three-Cornered Hat

GINASTERA

Estancia: Four Dances

*Change of Conductor and Programme

AKIKO SUWANAI PLAYS PROKOFIEV*

22 & 23 | 1 | 2021

FRI & SAT 8PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK \$580 \$480 \$380 \$280

For ages 6 and above

Artists

[Lio Kuokman](#)

conductor

[Akiko Suwanai](#)

violin

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



Lio Kuokman

Photo Credit: Tey Tat Keng



Akiko Suwanai

Photo Credit: Takaki Kumada



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo Credit: Eric Hong/HK Phil

Programme

PROKOFIEV

Violin Concerto no. 1

PROKOFIEV

Selections from *Romeo & Juliet*

and more

**Change of Conductor and Programme*

Premiere Performances of Hong Kong's Beare's Premiere Music Festival

FESTIVAL OPENING: MILOŠ IN RECITAL: BEYOND THE RAINBOW

13 | 1 | 2021

WED 7:30PM

Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall

Artist

MILOŠ

guitar

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



MILOŠ

Programme

GRANADOS	<i>Andaluza, Orientale from 12 Danzas españolas Op. 37</i>
DE FALLA	<i>Danza del molinero</i>
PIAZZOLLA	<i>Café 1930</i>
Arr. TAKEMITSU	<i>Somewhere Over the Rainbow</i>
C. DOMENICONI	<i>Koyunbaba for Solo Guitar Op. 19</i>

AKIKO SUWANAI & FRIENDS: DVOŘÁK PIANO QUINTET

18 | 1 | 2021

MON 7:30PM

Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall

Artist

Akiko Suwanai violin

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



Akiko Suwanai

Photo Credit: Takaki Kumada

Programme

RÓZSA

Sonata for two violins
(Cho-Liang Lin, violin; Akiko Suwanai, violin)

MOSZKOWSKI

Suite in G minor for two violins and piano
(Cho-Liang Lin, violin; Akiko Suwanai, violin; Evelyn Chang, piano)

DVOŘÁK

Piano Quintet
(Akiko Suwanai, violin; Cho-Liang Lin, violin; Masumi Rostad, viola;
Li-Wei Qin, cello; Shai Wosner, piano)

CHAMBER MUSIC GALA WITH CHO-LIANG LIN

21 | 1 | 2021

THU 7:30PM

Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall

Artist

Cho-Liang Lin violin

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



Cho-Liang Lin

Programme

BARBER

Dover Beach, Op. 3

(Benjamin Appl, baritone; Stephanie Jeong, violin; Kitty Cheung, violin; Masumi Per Rostad, viola; Li-Wei Qin, cello)

BEETHOVEN

Selection of Irish and Welsh Folk Song Arrangements

(Benjamin Appl, baritone; Stephanie Jeong, violin; Li-Wei Qin, cello; Shai Wosner, piano)

R. STRAUSS

Morgen! Op. 27, No.4

(Benjamin Appl, baritone; Stephanie Jeong, violin; Shai Wosner, piano)

JOPLIN / arr. MILONE

The Entertainer, Ragtime Dance

DELIBES / arr. MILONE

Flower Duet from *Lakmé*

PIAZZOLLA / arr. MILONE

Oblivion, *Libertango*

(For three pieces: Akiko Suwanai, violin; Cho-Liang Lin, violin; Stephanie Jeong, violin; Kitty Cheung, violin; Masami Nagai, bass)

BRAHMS

String Quintet in G major, Op. 111

(Cho-Liang Lin, violin; Stephanie Jeong, violin; Masumi Per Rostad, viola; Andrew Ling, viola; Li-Wei Qin, cello)

About Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is recognised as Asia's foremost classical orchestra, attracting more than 200,000 music lovers every year by presenting more than 150 concerts. In 2019, the HK Phil received the prestigious Gramophone Orchestra of the Year Award – the first orchestra in Asia to receive this distinction. Maestro Jaap van Zweden has been the orchestra's Music Director since the 2012/13 concert season and will continue to hold the position through to the end of the 2023/24 season; he is also Music Director of the New York Philharmonic. Maestro Yu Long is the HK Phil's Principal Guest Conductor. The HK Phil tours extensively across Mainland China and also worldwide. The orchestra will undertake tours to 10 cities in Europe in May 2021, with debuts in Spain, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the German cities of Cologne and Dresden. The HK Phil will also be making its debut at the prestigious Royal Concertgebouw's Mahler Festival 2021, the first Asian orchestra to perform at this monumental event which is held every 25 years in Amsterdam. For more information, please visit hkphil.org

About Premiere Performances

Premiere Performances brings internationally celebrated musicians and the world's brightest rising stars to Hong Kong for solo recitals, chamber music and community outreach, building a vibrant local arts scene and inspiring audience members of all ages with performances that are accessible to all.

For more information, please visit www.pphk.org

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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. In 2019 the HK Phil received the prestigious *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award – the first orchestra in Asia to receive this distinction.

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 through to the end of the 2023/24 season. Following his tenure as Music Director, he will hold the title of Conductor Laureate. Maestro van Zweden has also been Music Director of the New York Philharmonic since the 2018/19 season.

Yu Long has been Principal Guest Conductor since the 2015/16 season.

Under the dynamic leadership of Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil has attained new heights of artistic excellence, garnering international critical acclaim. The orchestra successfully completed a four-year journey through Wagner's Ring Cycle, performing and recording one opera from the cycle annually from 2015 to 2018. The concert performances and live Naxos recordings were enthusiastically received by audiences, praised by critics at home and abroad, and garnered Gramophone Orchestra of the Year Award 2019..

The HK Phil tours extensively across Mainland China and, with the support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, undertook a major tour in 2017 to Seoul, Osaka, Singapore, Melbourne and Sydney in celebration of the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The orchestra will undertake tours to 10 cities in Europe in May 2021, with debuts in Spain, Luxembourg, Belgium, and the German cities of Cologne and Dresden. The HK Phil will also be making its debut at the prestigious Royal Concertgebouw's Mahler Festival 2021, the first Asian orchestra to perform at this monumental event which is held every 25 years in Amsterdam.

Thanks to a significant subsidy from the HKSAR Government, as well as long-term funding from Principal Patron Swire, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust and other supporters, the HK Phil presents an annual schedule of core classical repertoire and innovative popular programming, extensive education and community programmes, and collaborations with, among others, Opera Hong Kong, Hong Kong Arts Festival, and Hong Kong Ballet.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Joshua Bell, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Renée Fleming, Matthias Goerne, Stephen Hough, Evgeny Kissin, Katia and Marielle Labèque (the Labèque sisters), Lang Lang, Yo-Yo Ma, Ning Feng, Leonard Slatkin, 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 conducting their own compositions. Its acclaimed education and community engagement programmes in schools, hospitals, and outdoor spaces, 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, stimulate cultural participation in Hong Kong, and enhance Hong Kong's reputation as one of the great cities in the world.

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 a Venue Partner of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. SWIRE is the Principal Patron of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra.