

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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“An Enchanting Evening with Lang Lang” Fundraising Dinner in Support of the HK Phil’s Long Term Development

[22 January 2020, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) held “An Enchanting Evening with Lang Lang Fundraising Dinner” on 17 January 2020 (Friday) at the Salisbury Room of The Peninsula Hong Kong. It is with great honour to have the star of the night, world renowned pianist Lang Lang, together with his wife (Ms Gina Alice Redlinger), joining as our distinguished guests at the Dinner, with the presence of Maestro Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil’s Music Director and Conductor of the concerts with Lang Lang. A total of HK\$3.4 million was raised at the Dinner in supporting the future development of the HK Phil.

Distinguished guests (in alphabetical order of family name) who joined the Dinner included Dinner Organising Committee Members: Honorary Advisor Mrs Janice Choi, BBS, MH, JP, Committee Chair Ms Jin Ling, Committee Co-Chairs Ms Shirley Jin (Title Sponsor, President of Maggie & Rose The Family Members' Club, Greater China) and Ms Monica Cheung and PR Advisor Ms Cherry Cheung; and socialites: Mr Bobby Chan, Ms Shirley Chan, Ms Sonia Cheng, Ms Kathy Chiu, Lady Athena Hung, Mrs Sophia Kao-Lo, Mrs Regina Leung, Ms Emma Sherrard Matthew, Ms Gina Alice Redlinger (Lang Lang’s wife), Ms Jenny Tam, Mr and Mrs Deputy Commissioner Yang Yirui and Music Director Maestro Jaap van Zweden.

The HK Phil endeavours to present the finest music to audiences in Hong Kong and around the world. Under the leadership of Music Director Maestro Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil was named Orchestra of the Year at the 2019 *Gramophone* Classical Music Awards ceremony for the remarkable live recordings of the complete *Ring Cycle* by Richard Wagner on the Naxos Label. This year is the 250th anniversary of Beethoven’s birth, the HK Phil proudly presents two concerts with pianist Lang Lang, conducted by Maestro van Zweden, to kick off the HK Phil’s celebratory “Beethoven 250th” series.

The theme of the Dinner was “the Power of Music”. Chaired by also a fundraising committee member of the HK Phil, Ms. Jin Ling, famous auctioneer and entrepreneur in town, invited her good friends Ms Shirley Jin and Ms Monica Cheung as co-chairs of the dinner. The HK Phil gratefully acknowledges the title sponsorship from Maggie & Rose The Family Members' Club, the many individuals and also companies that attended the Dinner, financially supported it, and donated items for auction to make the event a great success.

During the dinner, the HK Phil supporter Mr Malcolm Mok presented guests with a wonderful yet touching performance of Chopin’s Revolutionary Étude. Diagnosed as autistic when he was a toddler, Malcolm overcame all difficulties and found confidence and happiness in music. His heartfelt performance demonstrated the life-changing power that music has worked on him, moving many audiences to tears.

The HK Phil was also grateful for the precious presence of superstar pianist Lang Lang who came with his wife Gina Alice Redlinger and his mother. Lang Lang had not stopped surprising the guests by first joining the sign language movement on-stage with Maestro van Zweden and the Organising Committee Members, expressing the slogan of the evening “Music Changes Life, Music Changes the World”. He even donated a surprise auction item in order to help raising more funds which is an opportunity to have an exclusive lunch with him with a personal tutorial. The precious opportunity stirred up the atmosphere of the ballroom inviting a pleasantly vigorous competition among parents. To render appreciation to the support of the dinner guests, Lang Lang offered an additional “four-hand” performance with his pianist wife Gina. The newly-wed played a traditional Chinese melodic piano duet “Colourful Clouds” to conclude the evening.

Board and Committee members who joined the Dinner included Vice-Chair of Board of Governors Mrs Janice Choi, BBS, MH, JP, Board member Mr Edward Ng and Fundraising Committee members Ms Jin Ling and Ms Cherry Cheung.

The title sponsor of “An Enchanting Evening with Lang Lang Dinner” was Maggie & Rose The Family Members' Club.

The HK Phil would like to give its heartfelt thanks to the following Dinner Organising Committee Members:

Honorary Adviser:

Mrs Janice Choi, BBS, MH, JP

Committee Chair:

Ms Jin Ling

Committee Co-Chairs:

Ms Shirley Jin and Ms Monica Cheung

PR Advisor:

Ms Cherry Cheung

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(From left to right): Ms Gina Alice Redlinger and Lang Lang.



Mrs Janice Choi, Vice-chair of Board of Governors of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Society, gave a warm welcoming speech.



Ms Jin Ling, Dinner Organising Committee Chair and Hong Kong Philharmonic Society Fundraising Committee.



Ms Jin Ling, Dinner Organising Committee Chair was joined by Co-chairs Ms Shirley Jin (right) and Ms Monica Cheung (left) to share their love to music and the support to the HK Phil.



Ms Emma Sherrard Matthew, Chairman of the Board, Maggie & Rose The Family Members' Club, also the Title Sponsor of the Dinner, delivered a speech.



Group Photo: (from left to right) Ms Jin Ling, Mrs and Mr Deputy Commissioner Yang Yirui, Lang Lang, Mrs Regina Leung, Mrs Janice Choi and Ms Shirley Jin



Group Photo: (from left to right) Ms Monica Cheung, Ms Emma Sherrard Matthew, Mr Edward Ng, Ms Jin Ling, Mrs and Mr Deputy Commissioner Yang Yirui, Maestro Jaap van Zweden, Ms Gina Alice Redlinger, Lang Lang, Mrs Regina Leung, Ms Zhou Xiulan, Mrs Janice Choi, Ms Shirley Jin, Mrs Vennie Ho (Senior Director of Admin and Finance, Hong Kong Philharmonic Society), Mr Benedikt Fohr (Chief Executive, Hong Kong Philharmonic Society), Ms Cherry Cheung and Ms Souad Walter



Mr Malcolm Mok performed Chopin's Étude, op. 10, no. 12 in C minor, Revolutionary Étude.



(From left to right) Lang Lang, The HK Phil's Chief Executive Mr Benedikt Fohr and Music Director Maestro Jaap Zweden talked about how music could change life.



(From left to right) Lang Lang and his wife Gina Alice Relinger indulged the guests with a melodic piano duet.



(From left to right): Ms Jin Ling, Mrs Janice Choi and Mr Benedikt Fohr.



(From left to right): Ms Cherry Cheung, Ms Jin Ling, Mrs Janice Choi, Ms Shirley Jin and Ms Monica Cheung.



(From left to right): Ms Jin Ling, Mrs Deputy Commissioner Yang Yirui, Ms Gina Alice Redlinger, Lang Lang, Mr Deputy Commissioner Yang Yirui, Mrs Janice Choi, Ms Shirley Jin and Ms Monica Cheung.



(From left to right): Ms Shirley Chan, Lang Lang and Mr Bobby Chan.



(From left to right): Ms Jin Ling, Ms Gina Alice Redlinger, Ms Sonia Cheng and Lang Lang.



(From left to right): Mrs Regina Leung, Ms Jin Ling and Ms Zhou Xiulan (Mother of Lang Lang).



Ms Marie Zhuge.



(From left to right): Lady Athena Hung, Ms Kathy Li, Ms Jin Ling, Ms Shirley Chan, Ms Jenny Tam, Ms Zhou Xiulan and Ms Bonnie Lai.



(From left to right): Ms Jin Ling, Mr Ernie Suek, Ms Marie Zhuge and Ms Shirley Jin



Maestro Jaap van Zweden



Ms Monica Cheung (right) taking picture merrily with Lang Lang (left) and his son, Malcolm (middle)



Dinner organising committees taking photo with dinner guests.

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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 until at least 2022. Maestro van Zweden is also 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 each year 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 perform in Japan and Korea in 2020.

Thanks to a significant subsidy from the Hong Kong SAR Government and 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, the Hong Kong Arts Festival and the Hong Kong Ballet.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Joshua Bell, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Matthias Goerne, Stephen Hough, Evgeny Kissin, 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.