

HK Phil Presents a Diverse Range of Programmes Fusing Ballet, Photography and Choral Work Respectively

An Alpine Symphony in Images (21 & 22 October)

Romeo & Juliet (28 & 29 October)

HK Phil x HKU Muse: Yu Long | Fauré Requiem (4 & 5 November)

[23 September 2022, Hong Kong] In the coming October and November, the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** performs you a wide range of programmes fusing ballet, photography and choral elements with orchestral music. Accompanied by stunning photography and live projection, **HK Phil Resident Conductor Lio Kuokman** presents **An Alpine Symphony in Images** on 21 & 22 October 2022 (Fri & Sat). Lio Kuokman also conducts **Romeo & Juliet** on 28 & 29 October 2022 (Fri & Sat), with Hong Kong Ballet (HKB) gracing the stage in a special appearance. Lastly, HK Phil **Principal Guest Conductor Yu Long** conducts **HK Phil x HKU Muse: Yu Long | Fauré Requiem** on 4 & 5 November 2022 (Fri & Sat), presenting Fauré's peaceful and transcendent choral work, as part of a poetic encounter of Eastern and Western music.

An Alpine Symphony in Images (21 & 22 October)

HK Phil Resident Conductor Lio Kuokman takes a supersized orchestra on an audio-visual mountain journey: waterfalls, glaciers and breathtaking views, along with stunning images of the Alps by photographer Tobias Melle in Richard Strauss' *An Alpine Symphony*. Sharing the evening is versatile violinist Alena Baeva playing the luscious Violin Concerto by Korngold – the Viennese genius who made it big in Hollywood. The concert opens with Richard Strauss' *Festliches Präludium*.

An Alpine Symphony in Images will be held on 21 & 22 October 2022 (Fri & Sat) at 8PM in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at HK\$520, \$420, \$320 and \$220 are available at URBTIX and POPTICKET. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Romeo & Juliet (28 October)

Swire Saturday Family Series: Romeo & Juliet (29 October)

The HK Phil and Resident Conductor Lio Kuokman celebrate the 425th anniversary of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* with three most popular musical settings of this timeless story. Penned by Tchaikovsky, who was deeply inspired by Shakespeare, the love theme from *Romeo & Juliet*, Fantasy-Overture has become one of his most memorable melodies. Following is *Symphonic Dances* from Bernstein's *West Side Story*, in which the warring Montagues and Capulets became New York street gangs – the Sharks and the Jets. The revolutionary musical was recently remade into a new film by Steven Spielberg. To conclude the concert, dancers from HKB join the HK Phil in scenes from Prokofiev's brilliant ballet, with spectacular choreography by HKB Artistic Director Septime Webre.

Romeo & Juliet will be held on 28 & 29 October 2022 (Fri & Sat) at 7:30PM in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Grand Theatre. The performance on 29 October 2022 is a Swire Saturday Family Series concert. Tickets priced at HK\$420, \$320 and \$220 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

HK Phil x HKU Muse: Yu Long | Fauré Requiem (4 & 5 November)

HK Phil Principal Guest Conductor Yu Long brings together East-meets-West elements together in a programme featuring erhu soloist Yiwen Lu, soprano Anna Zhang Jingdan, baritone Caleb Woo, HK Phil Chorus Fellows and HKU Chamber Singers.

Gabriel Fauré's Requiem, a large-scale choral work filled with a sense of warmth and serenity, makes a perfect contrast to Berlioz's colourful and vivid *Roman Carnival Overture* which opens the concert. Chen Qigang's modern masterpiece *Un Temps Disparu* for Erhu and Orchestra boasts a profoundly poetic meeting of Eastern and Western musical traditions.

HK Phil x HKU Muse: Yu Long | Fauré Requiem will be held on 4 November 2022 (Fri) at 8PM in the Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium and 5 November 2022 (Sat) at 8PM in the Grand Hall of The University of Hong Kong. Tickets priced at HK\$420, \$320 and \$220 are available at URBTIX and POPTICKET. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

AN ALPINE SYMPHONY IN IMAGES

Artists

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

Currently serving as Resident Conductor of the HK Phil and Programme Director of the Macao International Music Festival, Lio is praised by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* as "a startling conducting talent". He was the second prize winner of the third Svetlanov International Conducting Competition in Paris with Audience Prize and Orchestra Prize, and he has also served as the first Chinese Assistant Conductor with the Philadelphia Orchestra. In 2021, Lio was the recipient of the Hong Kong Ten Outstanding Young Persons award. In 2022, he was awarded Artist of the Year (Music) of the 16th Hong Kong Arts Development Awards and appointed a Justice of the Peace by the HKSAR Government.

Alena Baeva, violin [\[full description\]](#)

Described as "a magnetic presence" and "a constantly fascinating sound technician" by the *New York Classical Review*, Russian violinist Alena Baeva is considered one of the most exciting, versatile and alluring soloists active on the world stage today. Baeva's career as an international soloist of the highest renown has grown at an extraordinary pace over recent years. Major debuts of the 2021/2022 Season include Alte Oper Frankfurt, Estonian Festival Orchestra, Gürzenich-Orchester Köln and Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich and the Tonkünstler Orchester.

Tobias Melle, photography & live projection [\[full description\]](#)

Tobias Melle has been working in the dynamic sphere between musical and visual worlds for over 25 years. As a musician, he has played the cello since his youth, has participated in various orchestras over many years, and has also been on stage for most of the works he has worked on photographically. As a photographer, he prefers to seek the connection of photography with music. For his *Symphonies in Images* he often travels for months with camera and score in his luggage to find the right images.

AN ALPINE SYMPHONY IN IMAGES

21 & 22 | 10 | 2022

FRI & SAT 8PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$520 \$420 \$320 \$220

Tickets now available at URBTIX and POPTICKET

For ages 6 and above

Artists

[Lio Kuokman](#)

conductor

[Alena Baeva](#)

violin

[Tobias Melle](#)

photography & live projection

[Download](#) press images



Lio Kuokman
Photo: Jane Chiang
Curation: Cerine Lee



Alena Baeva
Photo: Andrej Grlic



Tobias Melle
Photo: Manuela Ostadal



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
Photo Credit: Ka Lam/HK Phil

Programme

R. STRAUSS *Festliches Präludium*
KORNGOLD Violin Concerto
R. STRAUSS An Alpine Symphony (with images by Tobias Melle)

Supported by
Goethe Institut

ROMEO & JULIET

Artists

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

Currently serving as Resident Conductor of the HK Phil and Programme Director of the Macao International Music Festival, Lio is praised by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* as “a startling conducting talent”. He was the second prize winner of the third Svetlanov International Conducting Competition in Paris with Audience Prize and Orchestra Prize, and he has also served as the first Chinese Assistant Conductor with the Philadelphia Orchestra. In 2021, Lio was the recipient of the Hong Kong Ten Outstanding Young Persons award. In 2022, he was awarded Artist of the Year (Music) of the 16th Hong Kong Arts Development Awards and appointed a Justice of the Peace by the HKSAR Government.

Septime Webre, choreography [\[full description\]](#)

An internationally recognised ballet director, choreographer, educator and advocate, Septime Webre joined Hong Kong Ballet as its Artistic Director in July 2017 after 17 years as Artistic Director of The Washington Ballet from 1999-2016, and six years as Artistic Director for the American Repertory Ballet in Princeton from 1993-1999. Much sought-after as a choreographer, Webre’s works appear in the repertoires of ballet companies globally. He has also worked frequently in theatre as well as opera. His work has received numerous honours, grants and awards.

ROMEO & JULIET

28 | 10 | 2022

FRI 7:30PM

SWIRE SATURDAY FAMILY SERIES: ROMEO & JULIET

29 | 10 | 2022

SAT 7:30PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Grand Theatre

HK\$420 \$320 \$220

Tickets now available at URB TIX

For ages 3 and above

Artists

[Lio Kuokman](#)
[Septime Webre](#)
Hong Kong Ballet dancers

conductor
choreography
dancers

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Lio Kuokman
Photo: Jane Chiang
Curation: Cerine Lee



Septime Webre
Photo: Hong Kong Ballet



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
Photo: Ka Lam/HK Phil

Programme

TCHAIKOVSKY *Romeo & Juliet*, Fantasy-Overture
BERNSTEIN *West Side Story*: Symphonic Dances
PROKOFIEV Scenes from *Romeo & Juliet* (HKB Special Appearance)

HK PHIL X HKU MUSE: YU LONG | FAURÉ REQUIEM

Artists

Yu Long, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Yu Long, the distinguished Chinese conductor with an extensive international reputation, is the Music Director of the Shanghai Symphony Orchestra, Artistic Director & Chief Conductor of the China Philharmonic Orchestra and Music Director of the Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra. He is also the Principal Guest Conductor of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra. Maestro Yu is the Founder of the Beijing Music Festival and was its Artistic Director from 1998 to 2018. He is the Co-Director of the MISA Summer Festival in Shanghai.

Yiwen Lu, erhu [\[full description\]](#)

Yiwen Lu is one of the most well-known erhu players in China. She is the director of the Erhu Committee of the China Nationalities Orchestra Society and is currently teaching Erhu in Shanghai Conservatory of Music. During her studies in Shanghai Conservatory of Music, she was under the guidance of Liu Jie, Professor Chen Chunyuan and Erhu virtuoso Min Huifen. In recent years, she has been active in major music scenes all over the world.

Anna Zhang Jingdan, soprano [\[full description\]](#)

Anna Zhang Jingdan received her Bachelor of Music (Honours) Degree in 2021 and is currently studying for Master of Music at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) under the tutelage of well-known soprano Professor Nancy Yuen. Zhang has received generous support from Duchess of Kent International Scholarship and Academy Development Fund Scholarships. She has been selected to attend masterclasses with various famous singers, including Darryl Edwards, Nelly Miricioiu and Warren Mok. She has also studied with world-acclaimed soprano Sumi Jo and Barbara Bonney.

Caleb Woo, baritone [\[full description\]](#)

Caleb Woo was granted chances to perform many Bach vocal works. He is now serving as the Music Director of Tuen Mun Alliance Church; Voice Instructor at Music Department, the Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Qin Music School; Assistant Professor at Wong Bing Lai Music and Performing Arts Unit, Lingnan University; Resident Artist at the Education University of Hong Kong; Co-ordinator of Ensemble Music Ministries at the Hong Kong Baptist University; and conductor of HKU Chamber Singers. Elected as a Member of National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS) and President of the Hong Kong Chapter, he is devoted to promoting healthy vocalism and the ability to appreciate the beauty of voice as creation.

Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus Fellows, chorus [\[full description\]](#)

Established in 1980, the Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus collaborates with the HK Phil to perform a range of different works. In 2013, the Chorus undertook a new recruitment drive, and over 450 singers were attracted to attend the auditions. The first performance by the reformed Chorus was Handel's Messiah. Since then, the Chorus has performed with the HK Phil in major works by composers including Britten, Mendelssohn, Beethoven, Haydn and Mahler under renowned conductors Lorin Maazel, Nicholas McGegan and Jaap van Zweden. The Fellows programme was launched in the 2020/21 Season.

HKU Chamber Singers, chorus [\[full description\]](#)

The HKU Chamber Singers, conducted by Caleb Woo, performs high quality repertoires from the Renaissance to the modern era and from sacred music to jazz. A wide range of topics is covered, including choral techniques, ensembleship, performance practice and score analysis. Under the hybrid teaching modes during the pandemic, the Chamber Singers started to release online music performances in the form of online concert, music video production as well as virtual choir presentation.

HK PHIL X HKU MUSE: YU LONG | FAURÉ REQUIEM

4 | 11 | 2022

FRI 8PM

Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium

5 | 11 | 2022

SAT 8PM

Grand Hall, HKU

HK\$420 \$320 \$220

Tickets now available at URBTIX and POPTICKET

For ages 6 and above

Artists

Yu Long	conductor
Yiwen Lu	erhu
Anna Zhang Jingdan	soprano
Caleb Woo	baritone
Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus Fellows	chorus
HKU Chamber Singers	chorus

[Download](#) press images



Yu Long



Yiwen Lu



Anna Zhang Jingdan



Caleb Woo



Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus Fellow
Photo: HK Phil



HKU Chamber Singers



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
Photo: Eric Hong / HK Phil

Programme

BERLIOZ *Roman Carnival Overture*
CHEN Qigang *Un Temps Disparu* for Erhu and Orchestra
FAURÉ *Requiem*

Co-presenter

HKU MUSE

Supported by

Department of Music, The University of Hong Kong
Endowment Funds for Music & Fine Arts

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Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director: Jaap van Zweden, SBS
Principal Guest Conductor: Yu Long
Resident Conductor: Lio Kuokman, JP

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. Recently the HK Phil won the prestigious UK classical music magazine *Gramophone's* 2019 Orchestra of the Year Award – the first orchestra in Asia to receive this accolade.

Jaap van Zweden, SBS, one of today's most sought-after conductors, has been the orchestra's Music Director since the 2012/13 Season, a position he will hold until the end of the 2023/24 Season. 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.

Lio Kuokman, JP has been appointed Resident Conductor since December 2020.

Under the dynamic leadership of Jaap van Zweden, the HK Phil has attained new heights of artistic excellence, receiving 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 were enthusiastically received by audiences, and the live Naxos recordings were praised by critics and garnered the *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award 2019.

The HK Phil has toured extensively across Mainland China and, with the support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Offices, it 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 of the People's Republic of China.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Vladimir Ashkenazy, Joshua Bell, Charles Dutoit, Christoph Eschenbach, Renée Fleming, Ning Feng, Stephen Hough, Evgeny Kissin, Katia and Marielle Labèque, Lang Lang, Yo-Yo Ma, Leonard Slatkin and Yuja Wang.

The HK Phil promotes the work of Hong Kong and Chinese composers through an active commissioning programme, and it 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 recently founded "The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong", funded by "TrustTomorrow" of The Swire Group Charitable Trust and co-directed with The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, aims at enhancing professional training for graduates from The HKAPA's School of Music to facilitate their career development in the orchestral field.

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.

Thanks to a significant subsidy from the Government of the HKSAR 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, amongst others, Hong Kong Ballet, 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 registered 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.

香港管弦協會有限公司 The Hong Kong Philharmonic Society Ltd

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