

**HK Phil Invites Everyone to Join  
“Swire Community Concert: Rhapsody in Spring” –  
A Free-of-Charge, Inclusive Concert**



**[1 April 2025, Hong Kong]** The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is committed to bringing the joy of classical music to everyone. Each year, it offers free concerts to non-profit organisations and their communities, with a focus on creating enjoyable and inclusive experiences for audiences of all abilities and needs. The Swire Community Concert returns with the theme of “Rhapsody in Spring”, featuring two delightful performances on 19 April 2025 (Sat) in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall.

Under the baton of Jing Huan, Permanent Conductor of China National Symphony Orchestra, the performances feature Claire Huangci, the acclaimed pianist and winner of the first prize and Mozart prize at the 2018 Geza Anda Competition. Together with the guest artists, the HK Phil will present an exciting collection of rhapsodies, including Liszt’s lively Hungarian Rhapsody no. 3, Gershwin’s jazzy *Rhapsody in Blue*, Queen’s unforgettable *Bohemian Rhapsody*, and Enescu’s joyful Romanian Rhapsody no. 1. HK Phil horn player Homer Lee will guide the audiences as the presenter.

“Swire Community Concert: Rhapsody in Spring” will be held on 19 April 2025 (Sat) at 3PM and 5PM in the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. The concert is free and welcomes audiences of all ages and people with special needs. Public registration starts from 8 April (Tue) at 10AM on POPTICKET website. Tickets are limited, and are available on a first come, first-served basis. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit [hkphil.org](http://hkphil.org).

Let’s celebrate the joy of music together!

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## Artists

### Jing Huan, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Jing Huan currently serves as the Permanent Conductor of China National Symphony Orchestra, the Music Director of Guangzhou Symphony Youth Orchestra, and Board member of the China Musicians Association. Jing was previously the Permanent Conductor of Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra and the board member of Jeunesses Musicales International. In August 2022, she joined with other 9 talented conductors in the National Prime Young Conductors Concert, an important event co-organised by the Publicity Department of the Communist Party of China, China Federation of Literary and Art Circles and China Musicians Association, and Jing was also selected as one of the "Top Ten Young Conductors in China".

### Claire Huangci, pianist [\[full description\]](#)

The American pianist Claire Huangci gained international acclaim by winning first prize as well as the Mozart Prize at the 2018 *Concours Géza Anda*, as well as receiving accolades in other prestigious competitions, including both Chopin competitions in Europe and the USA, the *ARD International Music Competition*, and the Grand Prix of the *Orchestre Chambre de Paris Play-Direct Academy*. As a solo recitalist and partner to international orchestras, she has performed in prestigious concert halls such as Carnegie Hall in New York, Suntory Hall in Tokyo, the Philharmonie de Paris, Alte Oper Frankfurt, Konzerthaus Dortmund, Prinzregententheater Munich, Elbphilharmonie Hamburg, Philharmonie Berlin, Wiener Konzerthaus, and Festspielhaus Salzburg.

### Homer Lee, presenter [\[full description\]](#)

Homer Lee joined the HK Phil in 1987 and has been on the faculty of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) since 1988. In addition to his teaching duties there, he also conducts the HKAPA's Junior Symphony Orchestra. He has studied with many internationally renowned hornists including Cheryl Hoard (former Principal Horn, HK Phil), Roland Pandolfi (former Principal Horn, St Louis Symphony Orchestra), Alan Civil (solo artist), Dale Clevenger (former Principal Horn, Chicago Symphony Orchestra), David Krehbiel (former Principal Horn, San Francisco Symphony Orchestra) and Derek Taylor (former Principal Horn, BBC Symphony Orchestra).

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## SWIRE COMMUNITY CONCERT: RHAPSODY IN SPRING

19 | 4 | 2025

SAT 3PM & 5PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

Free admission

Registration from 8 April (Tue) at 10AM on POPTICKET website

Suitable for all ages

### Artists

|                                |           |
|--------------------------------|-----------|
| <a href="#">Jing Huan</a>      | conductor |
| <a href="#">Claire Huangci</a> | piano     |
| <a href="#">Homer Lee</a>      | presenter |

### Programme

|                    |                          |
|--------------------|--------------------------|
| LISZT              | Hungarian Rhapsody no. 3 |
| GERSHWIN           | <i>Rhapsody in Blue</i>  |
| QUEEN (arr. Hersh) | <i>Bohemian Rhapsody</i> |
| ENESCU             | Romanian Rhapsody no. 1  |

[Download](#) press images



**Jing Huan**



**Claire Huangci**

Photo: Jean-Baptiste Millot



**Homer Lee**

Photo: Michael Li Yam/HK Phil



**Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra**

Photo: Desmond Chan/HK Phil

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## Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Music Director Designate: Tarmo Peltokoski

Principal Guest Conductor: Long Yu

Resident Conductor: Lio Kuokman, JP

Artistic Partner: Daniele Gatti

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is regarded as one of the leading orchestras in Asia. Presenting more than 150 concerts over a 44-week season, the HK Phil attracts more than 200,000 music lovers annually. 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.

Tarmo Peltokoski will become the HK Phil's Music Director beginning in the 2026/27 season, after serving as Music Director Designate in 2025/26. Currently, Long Yu serves as Principal Guest Conductor, Lio Kuokman is Resident Conductor, and Daniele Gatti is Artistic Partner.

The HK Phil has flourished in the last two decades under Jaap van Zweden (Music Director, 2012–2024) and Edo de Waart (Artistic Director and Chief Conductor, 2004–2012). 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 well received, and the live Naxos recordings were praised by critics, and garnered the *Gramophone* Orchestra of the Year Award 2019. Other recent recording projects include Mahler's Symphony no. 10, Shostakovich's Symphony no. 10, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony no. 6 and Piano Concerto no. 1.

The HK Phil has toured extensively across Mainland China. The orchestra undertook a major tour in 2017 to Seoul, Osaka, Singapore, Melbourne and Sydney in celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The HK Phil celebrated its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary in the 2023/24 season, touring Europe, Asia, and Mainland China, performing in 22 cities across ten countries.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Anja Bihlmaier, Stéphane Denève, Christoph Eschenbach, Paavo Järvi, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Vasily Petrenko, Krzysztof Urbanski, Joshua Bell, Ning Feng, Boris Giltburg, Lang Lang, Leonidas Kavakos, Olivier Latry, Yo-Yo Ma and Akiko Suwanai. 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, each conducting their own compositions.

The HK Phil runs diverse education and community programmes in schools and outdoor spaces, bringing 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 current sponsorship donation, the largest in the orchestra's history, Swire endeavours to foster access to classical music and stimulate cultural participation in Hong Kong and the Chinese Mainland. A critical aspect of this is engaging with the community, especially young people. The sponsorship will also help promote local artistic excellence 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.

The history of the HK Phil dates back to the establishment of the Sino-British Orchestra in 1947. In 1957, the orchestra was officially registered as the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra 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.