

PRESS RELEASE
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HK Phil Presents Russian Masterpieces and Award-Winning Film Music of Alexandre Desplat

[30 May 2025, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) will present two highly anticipated concerts this June, celebrating Russian masterpieces and award-winning film music of Alexandre Desplat. Tickets are now available on URBTIX.

Swire Denim Series: Chen Lin & Chen Xi | Russian Masterpieces (6 & 7 June)



Experience an evening of Russian classics filled with passion and artistry. The programme features Tchaikovsky's fiery and virtuosic Violin Concerto, one of the most important and beloved concertos written for the instrument, performed by the young virtuoso Chen Xi, a top-prize winner at the International Tchaikovsky Competition. The second half highlights Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*, originally composed for piano as a tribute to his architect friend Viktor Hartmann, and later orchestrated by Ravel. The programme will be conducted by Chen Lin, Head of the Conducting Department at the Central Conservatory of Music.

"Swire Denim Series: Chen Lin & Chen Xi | Russian Masterpieces" will be held on 6 June 2025 (Fri) at 8PM and 7 June 2025 (Sat) at 4PM at the Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium. Tickets priced at HK\$320, \$240 and \$160 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

The Film Music of Alexandre Desplat (20 & 21 June)



This concert highlights the award-winning compositions of globally acclaimed French composer Alexandre Desplat, whose music has dazzled cinephiles around the world. From *Godzilla*, *The Grand Budapest Hotel*, *The French Dispatch*, *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* to *The Shape of Water*, Alexandre Desplat's scores add a touch of magic to every film he graces. Among a staggering 11 Academy Award nominations, the composer has claimed the prestigious Oscar twice. He also boasts two Golden Globes and two Grammys. Conducted by Solrey, a prolific musician and artistic director of Desplat's music, the programme offers a showcase of cinematic storytelling through music.

"The Film Music of Alexandre Desplat" will be held on 20 June 2025 (Fri) at 8pm and 21 June 2025 (Sat) at 5PM at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at HK\$880, \$700, \$520, \$380 and \$50 are available at URB.TIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Artists

Chen Lin, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Chen Lin is one of the most promising and talented female conductors that China has introduced to the world. She is currently the Head of the Conducting Department at the Central Conservatory of Music, Vice Chair of the Chinese Institute of Conducting and Music Director of the Chengdu Symphony Orchestra. As a leading conductor, Chen Lin actively performs on international stages and maintains strong collaborations with renowned orchestras and opera houses, including the China National Symphony Orchestra, China National Centre for the Performing Arts (NCPA) Orchestra, China National Opera House, Hangzhou Philharmonic Orchestra, Guangzhou Symphony Orchestra and Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra.

Chen Xi, violin [\[full description\]](#)

Praised as "a very bright musician with strong individuality" (*The Strad*, October 2002), Chen Xi won the top prize at the 12th International Tchaikovsky Violin Competition in June 2002 when he was 17. As a gifted violinist and child prodigy, Chen Xi has achieved numerous accolades in international competitions from a young age, including the Eighth Lipinski-Wieniawski International Violin Competition in Poland in 2000 and the Ninth National Youth Violin Competition of China in 2001.

Solrey, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Music was her first language, and the violin, which she discovered at the age of 6, her first love. After studying in Paris, she went on to perfect her skills in the United States, Switzerland and Italy with masters such as Pierre Doukan, Henri Temianka or Jaap Schröder. During the first stage of her career, Solrey joined chamber music groups and prestigious symphonic ensembles (Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Ensemble Instrumental de Lausanne, Ensemble Mosaïque, California Chamber Orchestra etc.) but had always alternatively developed a desire for "other" experiences, related to Cinema, Theatre or tango.

Alexandre Desplat, composer [\[full description\]](#)

Alexandre Desplat, a true cinephile, has developed his own style through a unique approach which creates a special tone and identity for each movie score. Revered for his extraordinary career as a composer of film music, he has created original scores for over 130 films and received numerous awards, including two Academy Awards, three BAFTAs, three Cesar Awards, two Golden Globes, two Grammy awards and numerous other nominations and distinctions.

Swire Denim Series: Chen Lin & Chen Xi | Russian Masterpieces

6 & 7 | 6 | 2025

FRI 8PM & SAT 4PM

Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium

HK\$320 \$240 \$160

Tickets now available at URBIX

For ages 6 and above

Artists

[Chen Lin](#)

conductor

[Chen Xi](#)

violin

Programme

TCHAIKOVSKY

Violin Concerto

MUSSORGSKY (orch. RAVEL)

Pictures at an Exhibition

[Download](#) press images



Chen Lin



Chen Xi



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo: Keith Hiro/HK Phil

The Film Music of Alexandre Desplat

20 & 21 | 6 | 2025

FRI 8PM & SAT 5PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$880 \$700 \$520 \$380 \$50

Tickets now available at URBTIX

For ages 6 and above

Artist

[Solrey](#)

conductor

Programme

Film music composed by Alexandre Desplat, including:

Godzilla

The Ghost Writer

Girl with a Pearl Earring

The King's Speech

The Curious Case of Benjamin Button

Wes Anderson Suite: Fantastic Mr. Fox, The Grand Budapest Hotel, The French Dispatch

Un héros très discret

The Imitation Game

Birth

Lust, Caution

The Shape of Water

Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows Suite

[Download](#) press images



Solrey



Alexandre Desplat

Photo: Brigitte Lacombe



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo: Keith Hiro/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

Composer-in-Residence: Esa-Pekka Salonen

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 is the HK Phil's Music Director Designate in 2025/26 and will become Music Director in the 2026/27 season. Currently, Long Yu serves as Principal Guest Conductor and Lio Kuokman is Resident Conductor. Esa-Pekka Salonen is Composer-in-Residence in the 2025/26 season.

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 collaborates with Deutsche Grammophon and is set to release Wagner's *The Ring: An Orchestral Adventure* arranged by Henk de Vlieger and conducted by Tarmo Peltokoski.

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 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The HK Phil toured Europe, Asia, and Mainland China, performing in 22 cities across ten countries in its 50th anniversary. In the 2025/26 season, the orchestra will perform in Europe, Japan, Korea and Mainland China again.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Anja Bihlmaier, Stéphane Denève, Christoph Eschenbach, Daniel Gatti, Daniel Harding, Pietari Inkinen, Paavo Järvi, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Vasily Petrenko, Joshua Bell, Ning Feng, Stephen Hough, Jonas Kaufmann, 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.

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

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