

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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HK Phil's All-Rachmaninov Weekend in Shenzhen with Zhang Haochen and Huang Yi

[6 June 2025, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is set to return to Shenzhen under the baton of Huang Yi for an unforgettable musical experience featuring an all-Rachmaninov programme with acclaimed pianist Zhang Haochen in the spotlight. The performances will take place on 14 June 2025 (Sat) at 8PM and 15 June 2025 (Sun) at 3PM at the Shenzhen Concert Hall Symphony Hall.

Zhang Haochen, who won Van Cliburn Gold Medal winner and Avery Fisher Prize recipient, will showcase his extraordinary talent by performing Rachmaninov's complete piano concertos no. 1 to 4, alongside the enchanting *Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini*. Zhang's recent recording of Beethoven's complete piano concertos with the Philadelphia Orchestra was recognised as Editor's Choice by *Gramophone*, which praised it as "hugely impressive". Huang Yi, hailed as one of the brightest young conductors in China, currently serves as Music Director of the Guangzhou Symphony. Led by Huang, the HK Phil and Zhang will shed new light on Rachmaninov's masterpieces.

The concerts are made possible with the support of the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Tickets for the performances are priced at RMB ¥880, ¥680, ¥480, ¥380, ¥280 and ¥180. For ticketing information, please visit www.szzyt.com.

Artists

Huang Yi, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Born in Beijing, Huang Yi has established himself as one of the brightest young conductors in China. In 2016, Huang was appointed Artistic Director and Chief Conductor of the Kunming Nie'er Symphony Orchestra and in 2019 took up the positions as both Chief Conductor of the Symphony Orchestra of the National Ballet of China and Principal Conductor of the China Philharmonic Orchestra. Huang Yi studied at China's Central Conservatory of Music and at the Hochschule für Musik Hanns Eisler, Berlin, and is now a conducting faculty member of both institutions.

Zhang Haochen, piano [\[full description\]](#)

Since his gold medal win at the Thirteenth Van Cliburn International Piano Competition in 2009, Zhang Haochen has captivated audiences with a unique combination of deep musical sensitivity, fearless imagination, and spectacular virtuosity. In 2022, Haochen's collection of essays on classical music entitled *On the Other Side of Performing* was published in Mainland China. In 2023, Haochen released his latest album on BIS, performing Liszt's *Transcendental Études* which was awarded *Gramophone's* "Recording of the Month", and graced the cover of *International Piano*.

Huang Yi, Zhang Haochen and HK Phil Shenzhen Concert

14 & 15 | 6 | 2025

SAT 8PM & SUN 3PM

Shenzhen Concert Hall Symphony Hall

RMB ¥880 ¥680 ¥480 ¥380 ¥280 ¥180

Artists

[Huang Yi](#)

conductor

[Zhang Haochen](#)

piano

Programme

14 | 6 | 2025

RACHMANINOV

Piano Concerto no. 1

RACHMANINOV

Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini

RACHMANINOV

Piano Concerto no. 2

15 | 6 | 2025

RACHMANINOV

Vocalise

RACHMANINOV

Piano Concerto no. 4

RACHMANINOV

Piano Concerto no. 3

[Download](#) press images



Huang Yi

Photo: Lewei Li



Zhang Haochen

Photo: Benjamin Ealovega



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.

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