

余隆 首席客席指揮 Long Yu Principal Guest Conductor

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: 3 October 2025

HK Phil's October Highlights: Featuring Legendary Soprano Renée Fleming and Video Game Symphony

[3 October 2025, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is excited to announce two strikingly different yet equally exciting October programmes, featuring acclaimed soprano Renée Fleming and an exhilarating celebration of iconic video game music respectively. Both concerts will pair stunning visuals with spectacular music, creating an immersive feast of sights and sounds.

Renée Fleming: Voice of Nature (24 & 25 October)



As a five-time Grammy winner, legendary soprano Renée Fleming will bring her 2023 Grammy Award-winning album, *Voice of Nature: The Anthropocene*, to life with the HK Phil. This live, multi-media performance pairs music with a stunning National Geographic film showcasing breathtaking locations from the Amazon rainforest to Yosemite. "In blending these beautiful images with music, my hope is, in some small way, to rekindle your appreciation of nature, and encourage any efforts you can make to protect the planet we share," said Fleming.

To celebrate the majesty of nature, Fleming will perform an eclectic mix of nature-inspired songs spanning the Baroque elegance of Handel and the soaring, lyrical melodies of Canteloube. The concert culminates in Björk's ethereal *All Is Full of Love* and music from *The Lord of the Rings*. Under the direction of Robert Moody, the HK Phil Chorus will join this deeply moving journey of love, nature, and human connection.

"Renée Fleming: Voice of Nature" will be held on 24 October 2025 (Fri) at 7:30PM and 25 October 2025 (Sat) at 5PM at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at HK\$1,280, \$980, \$680 and \$380 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Swire Denim Series: Heroes: A Video Game Symphony (31 October & 1 November)





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The critically acclaimed concert "Heroes: A Video Game Symphony" will take place at the Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium. Under the baton of Kevin Zakresky, the HK Phil will guide the audience through a captivating adventure featuring unforgettable soundtracks of some crowd-pleasers. This performance showcases iconic scores that celebrate the hero's quest, from thrilling triumphs to transformative journeys, paired with breathtaking visuals from beloved blockbusters. The HK Phil Chorus will share the stage.

The programme includes game music from *The Elder Scrolls: Oblivion, Mass Effect, Diablo, Assassin's Creed, God of War: Ascension, Metal Gear Solid IV, World of Warcraft, Dragon Age, Castlevania, Shadow of the Colossus, Fallout, Halo, and more.*

"Swire Denim Series: Heroes: A Video Game Symphony" will be held on 31 October 2025 (Fri) at 7:30PM and 1 November 2025 (Sat) at 3PM at the Tsuen Wan Town Hall Auditorium. Tickets priced at HK\$420, \$320, \$220 and \$50 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Artists

Robert Moody, conductor [full description]

Conductor Robert Moody celebrates his ninth season as Music Director of the Memphis Symphony Orchestra and eighteenth season as Music Director of Arizona Musicfest. He was named Music Director of the Baltimore Chamber Orchestra in June 2024. Under his leadership, the Memphis Symphony has enjoyed exponential growth in programming, recording, new commissions, and endowment growth to well over \$25 Million dollars, while AZ Musicfest has become the premiere winter music festival orchestra in North America, boasting a roster of players from the world's greatest orchestras.

Renée Fleming, soprano [full description]

Renée Fleming is one of the most highly acclaimed singers of our time, performing on the stages of the world's great opera houses and concert halls. A 2023 Kennedy Center Honoree, winner of five Grammy awards and the US National Medal of Arts, she has sung for momentous occasions from the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony to the Diamond Jubilee for Queen Elizabeth II at Buckingham Palace. A groundbreaking distinction came in 2008 when she became the first woman in the 125-year history of the Metropolitan Opera to solo headline an opening night gala. In 2023, the World Health Organization appointed her as a Goodwill Ambassador for Arts and Health, and in 2025, she became an inaugural member of the World Economic Forum's Global Arts and Culture Council.

Kevin Zakresky, conductor [full description]

Kevin Zakresky serves as Music Director and Principal Conductor for Jason Michael Paul Entertainment. Kevin is based out of Vancouver, British Columbia. He has directed international touring productions of The National Geographic "Symphony for our World," the Legend of Zelda Symphony of the Goddesses, and the "Heroes" Video Game Symphony. In Vancouver he is the Director of the Vancouver Baroque Players and Maddalena's Descant, a new women's vocal ensemble.

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus [full description]

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus (HK Phil Chorus) has been delighting audiences since its inception in 1980. Over the years, it has showcased a diverse range of choral masterpieces in exclusive collaboration with the HK Phil. In 2013, the chorus launched an extensive recruitment campaign that attracted over 450 singers to audition. The newly formed ensemble debuted with a performance of Handel's *Messiah* and has gone on to sing major works by Bach, Beethoven, Brahms, Britten, Haydn and Mahler, under the direction of renowned conductors like Lorin Maazel, Jaap van Zweden and Nicholas McGegan. Notably, the Chorus' Fellowship programme was inaugurated during the 2020/21 season, setting the stage for aspiring professional singers to join this distinguished ensemble.



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Renée Fleming: Voice of Nature

24 & 25 | 10 | 2025 FRI 7:30PM SAT 5PM Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall HK\$1,280 \$980 \$680 \$380 Tickets now available at URBTIX For ages 6 and above

Artists

Robert Moody conductor Renée Fleming soprano Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus

Programme

HAZEL DICKENS (arr. Jeremy KITTEL) Prettv Bird Atalanta: Care selve **HANDEL Nico MUHLY** Endless Space **CANTELOUBE** Songs of the Auvergne: Baïlèro **Maria SCHNEIDER** Winter Morning Walks: Our Finch Feeder Björk (arr. Hans EK) All is Full of Love **VILLA-LOBOS (orch. Abel ROCHA)** Floresta do Amazonas: Finale **Howard SHORE** The Lord of The Rings: Twilight and Shadow **Kevin PUTS** Evening **Curtis GREEN** Red Mountains Sometimes Cry What the World Needs Now is Love **BURT BACHARACH & HAL DAVID HAYDN** Te Deum In C major, Hob.XXIIIc:2 **MOZART** Vesperae solennes de confessore, K.339: Laudate Dominum **VERDI** La Traviata: Brindisi **PUCCINI** Gianni Schicchi: O mio babbino caro **Mason BATES** Desert Transport The Sound of Music: The Sound of Music **RODGERS** Carousel: You'll Never Walk Alone

Download press images

RODGERS



Robert Moddy Photo: Jamie Harmon



Renée Fleming Photo: Andrew Eccles



Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus

Photo: Desmond Chan/HK Phil



Hong Kong Philharmonic **Orchestra**

Photo: Keith Hiro/HK Phil



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Download press images



Kevin Zakresky



Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus

Photo: Desmond Chan/HK Phil



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra

Photo: Keith Hiro/HK Phil

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Long Yu Principal Guest Conductor

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 fouryear 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.