

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Date: 9 October 2025

HK Phil's Annual Outdoor Event
Swire Symphony Under The Stars Returns This November
Ticket Ballot Starts from 30 October



[9 October 2025, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is excited to announce the return of its beloved free annual outdoor mega-concert, *Swire Symphony Under The Stars* on 26 November 2025 (Wed) at Central Harbourfront. Tickets will be available to the public for free through an online ballot system from 30 October (Thu).

This year, the HK Phil is thrilled to welcome Tan Dun – an internationally acclaimed composer-conductor and Hong Kong's Ambassador for Cultural Promotion – to lead a vibrant, nature-inspired programme full of colour, character, and imagination. HK Phil Principals Richard Bamping (cello) and George Lomdaridze (double bass) take on the roles of the Swan and the Wolf, while rising stars Angela Chan (violin) and Lin Zhe (percussion) bring to life the song of the lark and the cinematic drama of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*. The evening will end with a bang – Tchaikovsky's *1812 Overture*, complete with spectacular fireworks.

Online registration for the ticket ballot will be available at suts.hkphil.org/reg from 30 October (Thu) at 10AM to 4 November (Tue) at 7PM. The ballot result will be published on the same website on 7 November (Fri). Each winner will receive an email notification.

The performance will be hybrid, with the live concert simultaneously streamed on the [HK Phil website](https://www.hkphil.org), [Facebook page](https://www.facebook.com/hkphil) and [YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/hkphil), as well as the [SwireThrive](https://www.facebook.com/SwireThrive) and [Swire Pacific](https://www.facebook.com/SwirePacific) Facebook pages.

This free outdoor event is made possible through the generous support of the Swire Group. As the principal patron of the HK Phil since 2006, Swire is deeply committed to its long-term vision of promoting artistic excellence and fostering cultural appreciation. Together with the HK Phil, Swire aims to bring the world of classical music to the widest possible audience.

Bring your friends and family for a night of music and celebration presented by the HK Phil!

Online Registration for Ticket Ballot

Members of the public can register for the ticket ballot and apply for up to four tickets on the Swire *Symphony Under The Stars* webpage suts.hkphil.org/reg from 30 October (Thu) at 10AM to 4 November (Tue) at 7PM. Registrants must provide their name, a valid email address and mobile number.

Each person is allowed to enter only one ballot. If duplicate registrations are found, the system will only process the latest registration entry. All registrations submitted during the online registration period have an equal chance of being selected. Successful registrants will receive a confirmation email with a registration reference number.

Ballot Result Announcement

The ballot result listed with the registration reference number will be announced on suts.hkphil.org/reg from 7 November (Fri). Winners will receive email notifications and their e-tickets. For admission, they can either show the QR codes on the e-tickets using their smartphones or present the printed tickets.

ABOUT SWIRE SYMPHONY UNDER THE STARS

Date: 26 November 2025 (Wed), 7:30PM
(no intermission)
Gates open at 6PM
Venue: Central Harbourfront
Admission: Free
Ticket ballot registration from 30 October (Thu), 10AM to 4 November (Tue), 7PM
Seating Arrangement: Free seating
Reminder: Bring your own mat, food and drinks to enjoy over the course of evening.
Due to security reasons no glassware is allowed in the venue, including bottles, containers and glasses.

Live Streaming Platforms:

- [HK Phil's website](#), [Facebook page](#), [YouTube channel](#)
- [SwireThrive Facebook page](#)
- [Swire Pacific Facebook page](#)

Principal Patron: Swire

Programme:

SMETANA
DINICU (arr. TAN Dun & Felix VENTOURAS)
TAN Dun
SAINT-SAËNS (orch. TAN Dun)
TAN Dun
HARLINE (arr. Alex TAM)
TAN Dun
RAVEL
TCHAIKOVSKY

Má Vlast: The Moldau
The Lark
Wolf Totem: movement III
The Carnival of the Animals: The Swan
Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon Marimba Concerto excerpt
Pinocchio: When You Wish Upon a Star
Passacaglia: Secret of Wind and Birds
Boléro
1812 Overture: Finale

Trade Promotion Competition Licence No.: 60485

Artists

Tan Dun, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

The world-renowned artist and UNESCO Global Goodwill Ambassador Tan Dun has made an indelible mark on the world's music scene with a creative repertoire that spans the boundaries of classical music, multimedia performance and Eastern and Western traditions. He is the winner of today's most prestigious honours, including the Grammy, Oscar, Grawemeyer and Shostakovich Award, the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres of France, the Bach Prize, Italy's Golden Lion Award for Lifetime Achievement and the 50th Istanbul Music Festival Lifetime Achievement award. Tan Dun's music has been played throughout the world by leading orchestras, opera houses, international festivals, and on radio and television. He is currently the Dean of Bard College Conservatory of Music, and Hong Kong's ambassador for cultural promotion.

Angela Chan, violin [\[full description\]](#)

Praised for her sensitivity and remarkable tone, Hong Kong-born violinist Angela Chan has established herself as a compelling soloist and chamber musician. She is the winner of the 2024 Hannover Joseph Joachim Violin Competition, where she also received the prize for the best interpretation of the commissioned work. Additionally, she was awarded first prize and the best interpretation of concerto prize at the 2017 Louis Spohr Violin Competition and is a laureate of both the Singapore International Violin Competition and the Shanghai Isaac Stern International Violin Competition.

Richard Bamping, cello [\[full description\]](#)

Richard Bamping has been the Principal Cellist of the HK Phil since 1993. He has performed with many of the finest musicians of recent history—Lord Yehudi Menuhin, Leonidas Kavakos, Mstislav Rostropovich, Carlo Maria Giulini, Valery Gergiev, Leonard Bernstein, Lorin Maazel, Sir Colin Davis and Claudio Abbado, to name but a few.

George Lomdaridze, double bass [\[full description\]](#)

George Lomdaridze has been Principal Bass of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra since May 2011. George joined the HK Phil in 1999 and, after 2 years in the US where he played regularly with the Chicago Symphony and the Louisiana Philharmonic in New Orleans, he returned to the HK Phil in 2002.

Lin Zhe, percussion [\[full description\]](#)

Trained in Germany, Austria and England as one of the most prominent Chinese percussionists. She is an expert for contemporary concertos such as Tan Dun's Percussion Concerto (*Tears of Nature*), *Water* concerto, *Paper* concerto and *Earth* concerto. Her repertoires also include works of John Cage, Joseph Schwanter and Steve Reich.

[Download](#) press images



Tan Dun



Angela Chan



Richard Bamping
Photo: Michael Li Yam/
HK Phil



George Lomdaridze
Photo: Michael Li Yam/
HK Phil



Lin Zhe



Swire Symphony Under The Stars 2024
at the Central Harbourfront
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

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 the Chinese Mainland. 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 the Chinese Mainland, 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 the Chinese Mainland 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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