

PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Daniele Gatti Returns to Lead the HK Phil in Hong Kong and Guangzhou

[5 January 2026, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) welcomes the return of the esteemed Maestro Daniele Gatti in January 2026 for a programme featuring masterpieces by Mendelssohn, Beethoven and Mahler. Following the Hong Kong performances, the HK Phil will perform Mahler's Seventh Symphony in Guangzhou.

Swire Maestro Series: Gatti Conducts Mendelssohn and Beethoven (17 & 18 January)



Under Daniele Gatti's baton, the HK Phil presents a programme of classical elegance and delight. The concert opens with Beethoven's *Egmont* Overture, distilling Goethe's tragedy into a journey from oppression to triumph. Mendelssohn's *Italian* Symphony, composed during his Grand Tour and described by the composer as "the most joyful piece I have yet composed," radiates Mediterranean colour — sunlit skies, solemn processions, majestic monuments and a Neapolitan saltarello. Beethoven's Fourth Symphony, written between the heroic Third and the iconic Fifth, crowns the evening in uplifting B flat major.

"Swire Maestro Series: Gatti Conducts Mendelssohn and Beethoven" will be held on 17 January (Sat) at 5PM and 18 January 2026 (Sun) at 3PM at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at HK\$680, \$540, \$400 and \$260 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Daniele Gatti Conducts Mahler 7 (23 & 25 January, Hong Kong & Guangzhou)



Following his stunning success conducting Mahler's Third Symphony in March 2025, Maestro Daniele Gatti returns to lead the HK Phil in Mahler's majestic Seventh Symphony. Often referred to as Mahler's "Song of the Night," this symphony weaves an extravagant tapestry of orchestral colour, showcasing unconventional instruments such as the tenor horn, mandolin and guitar, along with distinctive writing that gives each section of the orchestra its moment to shine.

"Daniele Gatti Conducts Mahler 7" will be held on 23 January (Fri) at 7:30PM at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at HK\$ HK\$680, \$540, \$400 and \$260 have been sold out. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Following the Hong Kong performance, the HK Phil will present the same programme on 25 January (Sun) at 4PM at the Xinghai Concert Hall Symphony Hall in Guangzhou. Tickets are priced at RMB¥880, ¥680, ¥480, ¥280 and ¥180. For details, please visit www.concerthall.com.cn/events/neweventdetail.php?id=4973

Artist

Daniele Gatti, conductor [\[full description\]](#)

Daniele Gatti graduated as a composer and orchestra conductor at the Conservatorio "Giuseppe Verdi" in Milan. He is currently the Chief Conductor of the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden and has been appointed as the next Music Director of the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino, starting in 2026, where he served as Chief Conductor from 2022 to 2024. Previously, he was also Music Director of the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma and held other prestigious roles at important musical institutions.

Swire Maestro Series: Gatti Conducts Mendelssohn and Beethoven

17 & 18 | 1 | 2026

SAT 5PM

SUN 3PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$680 \$540 \$400 \$260

Tickets now available at URBTIX

For ages 6 and above

Artist

[Daniele Gatti](#) conductor

Programme

BEETHOVEN	<i>Egmont</i> Overture, op. 84
MENDELSSOHN	Symphony no. 4 in A major, op. 90, <i>Italian</i>
BEETHOVEN	Symphony no. 4 in B flat major, op. 60

Daniele Gatti Conducts Mahler 7

23 | 1 | 2026

FRI 7:30PM

Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall

HK\$680 \$540 \$400 \$260

Sold Out

25 | 1 | 2026

SUN 4PM

Xinghai Concert Hall Symphony Hall

RMB¥880 ¥680 ¥480 ¥280 ¥180

www.concerthall.com.cn/events/neweventdetail.php?id=4973

Artist

[Daniele Gatti](#) conductor

Programme

Mahler	Symphony no. 7 in E minor
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Daniele Gatti
Photo: Marco Borggreve



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

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 Mainland Chinese, 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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