

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: 6 March 2025

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From Hong Kong to Guangzhou and Beijing HK Phil Performs Concerts Led by Daniele Gatti and Paavo Järvi

[6 March 2025, Hong Kong] The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is excited to announce its upcoming return to Guangzhou and Beijing with two remarkable programmes in March and April 2025, led respectively by acclaimed Maestros Daniele Gatti and Paavo Järvi. Prior to the performances in Mainland China, the orchestra will present the same programmes in Hong Kong, captivating audiences with Mahler's Third Symphony and works by Prokofiev.

Daniele Gatti | Mahler 3 - Hong Kong and Guangzhou (13 & 15 March 2025)

Artistic Partner Daniele Gatti will lead the HK Phil in a performance of Mahler's monumental Third Symphony at the 53rd Hong Kong Arts Festival, followed by a concert in Guangzhou. This six-movement work embodies Mahler's vision of a symphony that "embraces everything," exploring a vast emotional landscape—from anguish to love and from earthly passion to transcendent spirituality. The performance will feature mezzo-soprano Michèle Losier, along with the Ladies of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus and The Hong Kong Children's Choir, uniting over 200 performers for this monumental masterpiece.

The Hong Kong concert will be held on 13 March 2025 (Thu) at 8PM at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at \$880, \$700, \$520 and \$380 have been sold out. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Supported by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Guangdong of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Guangzhou concert will be held on 15 March 2025 (Sat) at 4PM at the Xinghai Concert Hall Symphony Hall. Tickets priced at RMB ¥1,080, ¥880, ¥680, ¥480 and ¥280 have been sold out.

Paavo Järvi & Bomsori Kim - Hong Kong and Beijing (4 & 7 April 2025)

Grammy Award-winning conductor Paavo Järvi will lead the HK Phil in a programme celebrating musical simplicity. The evening begins with Swansong composed by Järvi's compatriot, Estonian minimalist composer Arvo Pärt. Violinist Bomsori Kim, a multiple prize-winner in prestigious international competitions (including ARD, Tchaikovsky, Sibelius, Wieniawski and Queen Elisabeth) will make her HK Phil debut with Prokofiev's Second Violin Concerto, which reflects the composer's desire for "clear and simple" music. This theme continues in the second half of the concert with Prokofiev's Fourth Symphony.

The Hong Kong concert will be held on 4 April 2025 (Fri) at 8PM at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall. Tickets priced at \$520, \$420, \$320 and \$220 are available at URBTIX. For enquiries, please call +852 2721 2332 or visit hkphil.org.

Supported by the Beijing Office of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the Beijing concert will be held on 7 April 2025 (Mon) at 7:30PM at the National Centre for the Performing Arts Concert Hall. Tickets are priced at RMB ¥680, ¥580, ¥500, ¥420, ¥320, ¥240 and ¥180. For ticketing information, please visit https://m.chncpa.org/product.html?id=10001399.

Additionally, a chamber concert will be held on 6 April 2025 (Sun) at the Beijing Performing Arts Centre Concert Hall, featuring HK Phil Concertmaster Jing Wang, Second Associate Concertmaster Wang Liang, Principal Viola Andrew Ling, Principal Cello Richard Bamping and renowned Hong Kong pianist Warren Lee. A series of cultural exchange activities will also be held to engage local music students and communities.



Artists

Daniele Gatti, conductor [full description]

Daniele Gatti graduated as a composer and orchestra conductor at the Conservatorio Giuseppe Verdi in Milan. From August 2024, He takes up the position of Chief Conductor of the Sächsische Staatskapelle Dresden. He is currently Chief Conductor of the Teatro del Maggio Musicale Fiorentino and Artistic Advisor of the Mahler Chamber Orchestra. He was Music Director of the Teatro dell'Opera di Roma and he previously held prestigious roles at important musical institutions like the Accademia Nazionale di Santa Cecilia, the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, the Orchestre National de France, the Royal Opera House of London, the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, Zurich's Opernhaus and the Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra in Amsterdam.

Michèle Losier, mezzo-soprano [full description]

Michèle Losier is celebrated worldwide as a concert singer. In 2024/25, she can be heard repeatedly with Mahler's 3rd Symphony, with the Brussels Philharmonic, Hong Kong Philharmonic, Staatskapelle Dresden and Orchestre national de Metz Grand Est. Recent highlights include Mendelssohn's *Lobgesang* with the RAI in Turin, *Elijah* with Santa Cecilia in Rome, *Rückert-Lieder* at the Maggio Musicale and Mahler's 2nd Symphony at the George Enescu Festival.

Ladies of 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.

The Hong Kong Children's Choir [full description]

The Hong Kong Children's Choir (HKCC) was founded in 1969 as the first children's choir in Hong Kong. HKCC is a registered non-profit-making charitable organisation and has made tremendous contributions to children's arts training in Hong Kong. It is now the biggest choir in the world with over 5,000 members and has grown into a diversified arts organisation for children.

Paavo Järvi, conductor [full description]

Estonian conductor Paavo Järvi is widely recognised as one of today's most eminent conductors, enjoying close partnerships with the finest orchestras around the world. He currently serves as Music Director of the Tonhalle-Orchester Zürich, Artistic Director of The Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, and is both the founder and Artistic Director of the Pärnu Music Festival and Estonian Festival Orchestra. In addition to his permanent positions, Paavo Järvi is much in demand as a guest conductor, regularly appearing with the Berlin Philharmonic, Royal Concertgebouw Orchestra, London Philharmonia and the New York Philharmonic.

Bomsori Kim, violin [full description]

Bomsori is an acclaimed violinist celebrated for her captivating performances and technical brilliance. She has appeared with top orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic, Los Angeles Philharmonic, and Vienna Symphony, collaborating with renowned conductors such as Fabio Luisi, Paavo Järvi, and Marin Alsop. Her 2024/25 season highlights include opening with the Philharmonia Orchestra under Santtu-Matias Rouvali, debuts with the Philadelphia Orchestra and Deutsche Kammerphilharmonie Bremen, and tours with the Bamberg Symphony and Jakub Hrůša. She also returns to the Concertgebouw and Hong Kong, and makes her Wigmore Hall debut.



DANIELE GATTI | MAHLER 3

13 | 3 | 2025 THU 8PM Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall HK\$880 \$700 \$520 \$380 Sold Out

15 | 3 | 2025 SAT 4PM Xinghai Concert Hall Symphony Hall RMB ¥1080 ¥880 ¥680 ¥480 ¥280 Sold Out

Artists

<u>Daniele Gatti</u>
<u>Michèle Losier</u>
<u>Ladies of The Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus</u>
The Hong Kong Children's Choir

conductor mezzo-soprano

Programme MAHLER

Symphony no. 3

Download press images



Daniele Gatti Photo: Marco Borggreve



Michèle Losier Photo: Isabele Françaix



Ladies of The Hong Kong Philharmonic Chorus Photo: Desmond Chan/HK Phil



The Hong Kong Children's Choir



Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Photo: Desmond Chan/HK Phil



PAAVO JÄRVI & BOMSORI KIM

4 | 4 | 2025 FRI 8PM Hong Kong Cultural Centre Concert Hall HK\$520 \$420 \$320 \$220 Tickets now available at URBTIX For ages 6 and above

7 | 4 | 2025 MON 7:30PM National Centre for the Performing Arts RMB ¥680 ¥580 ¥500 ¥420 ¥320 ¥240 ¥180 https://m.chncpa.org/product.html?id=10001399

Artists

Paavo Järvi conductor Bomsori Kim violin

Programme Arvo PÄRT Swansong Violin Concerto no. 2 **PROKOFIEV PROKOFIEV** Symphony no. 4

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Paavo Järvi Photo: Kaupo Kikkas



Bomsori Kim Photo: Kyutai Shim



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

Artistic Partner: Daniele Gatti

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 will become the HK Phil's Music Director beginning in the 2026/27 season, after serving as Music Director Designate in 2025/26. Currently, Long Yu serves as Principal Guest Conductor, Lio Kuokman is Resident Conductor, and Daniele Gatti is Artistic Partner.

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 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 celebrated its 50th anniversary in the 2023/24 season, touring Europe, Asia, and Mainland China, performing in 22 cities across ten countries.

Conductors and soloists who have recently performed with the orchestra include Anja Bihlmaier, Stéphane Denève, Christoph Eschenbach, Paavo Järvi, Andrés Orozco-Estrada, Vasily Petrenko, Krzysztof Urbański, Joshua Bell, Ning Feng, Boris Giltburg, 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.