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PRESS RELEASE
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HKAPA and HK Phil Announce Selected Musicians for The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong 2022/23 Season

[18 Aug 2022] Today, **The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA)** and the **Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil)** announce the musicians selected for The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong (TOA)'s two schemes in its second season. TOA welcomes the five new Fellows to the **Fellowship Programme*** and is pleased to continue the engagements of the 19 outstanding **Young Pro Platform (YPP)^** players in the 2022/23 Season (details of new Fellows and YPP players are listed on P.2).

Co-directed by the School of Music of the HKAPA and the HK Phil, TOA provides professional training for distinguished HKAPA Music graduates and facilitates their career development in the orchestral field through its two schemes - Fellowship Programme and YPP. Those who are admitted to TOA will also contribute their talents to serving the community through volunteering opportunities. TOA is funded by “**TrustTomorrow**” of **The Swire Group Charitable Trust (Swire Trust)** with a pledged sponsorship of approximately HK\$9 million over a 3-year period.

The 2021/22 Season saw the success of the first cohort of the Fellowship Programme. Six Fellows enjoyed a fruitful journey of learning and sharing despite the intermittent disturbance caused by COVID-19. They gained valuable orchestral experiences from playing amid professional musicians under the baton of world-class conductors in a variety of programmes. In addition, the mentorship scheme provided practical and career guidance to the Fellows based on their individual needs.

“We are proud of the TOA Fellows, who have not only made good progress in their professional development but also enjoyed opportunities to serve young people and underprivileged groups with their musical talent. They embody TrustTomorrow’s spirit of bringing hope and positive impact to the community, and we look forward to empowering more home-grown musicians to reach their full potential,” said Tina Chan, Group Head of Philanthropy at John Swire & Sons (H.K.) Limited.

“I am glad to witness the impressive growth of the Fellows over the season. Sharing the stage with the younger generation in regular rehearsals and performances, we assume the duty of passing on musical excellence for the future,” said Jaap van Zweden, Music Director of the HK Phil.

YPP also embarked on a thrilling adventure in the 2021/22 Season. The inaugural concert in June 2022, *Eroica Reimagined* making use of theatrical elements received critical acclaim from music critic Oliver Chou, “highly innovative, the interlacing performance of the classics of Adams and Beethoven displays the beauty of classical and modern.” To commence the 2022/23 Season, YPP players will return to The Box at Freespace in December 2022 to present a creative, cross-media exploration with renowned director Roy Szeto.

“Collaborating with artists from different disciplines has been an inspiring process, not only to find new ways to present classical music, but also to ignite musicians’ spirit and unleash their potential to the fullest,” said Sharon Andrea Choa, Artistic Director of YPP and Head of Conducting and Cultural Leadership (Music) of HKAPA.

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TOA members act as a prism reflecting the many facets of music. On the one hand, they absorb professional training. On the other, they spread music experiences to the community. Each member contributes at least 40 hours of volunteering every year, enhancing music accessibility and creating shared music experiences with the community through a variety of musical events.

Selected musicians for The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong (2022/23 Season)

Fellowship Programme:

About the Fellows, please click [here](#)

Instrument	Name
Viola	Winnie Yiu Wing-yue
Cello	Vincent Leung Cheuk-yan
Oboe	Holly Ao Ho-i
Clarinet	Ryan Wan
Trombone	Jimmy Chiu Hon-kuen

Young Pro Platform:

About the players, please click [here](#)

Instrument	Name
Violin	Calvin Cheng Ho-chung
Viola	Martin Kuo
Cello	Shawn Tam
Double Bass	Yvonne Chan Yui-woon
Flute	Angus Lee Yi-wei
	Alice Hui Ka-ching
Oboe	Kenneth Sze Yu-hey
	Cecilia Wan Lok-yu
Clarinet	Eric Fung Chi-hang
	Frederick Fung Chi-chuen
Bassoon	So Lo-ling
	Kaden Yim Ho-yan
Saxophone	Jacky Leung
	Herman Pong Tin-yau
Horn	Rainbow Sun Xijun
Trumpet	Oscar Lam Wai-hang
Trombone	Jimmy Chiu Hon-kuen
Percussion	Bryony Che Hiu-lam
	Sunny Ho Tze-fai

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The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong (2022/23 Season) Programme Overview

*Fellowship Programme

Objective: Fellows will receive an intensive orchestral training with the HK Phil. They will learn about the expectations and protocols of a professional orchestra while performing a wide range of symphonic repertoire. In the mentorship scheme, each Fellow pairs up with an assigned HK Phil musician to gain insights into the professional life of orchestral players.

- Up to 6 Fellows will undergo an intensive orchestral training over one season
- Around 70 % participation in orchestral services with the HK Phil. It includes observing and attending orchestra rehearsals and concerts, as well as performing alongside HK Phil musicians
- Around 30% engagement in chamber music, masterclasses, audition training and workshops
- Participation in mentorship scheme with an assigned HK Phil musician

^Young Pro Platform

Objective: Young Pro Platform offers a versatile season-long programme of two full ensemble concerts and a series of chamber music concerts. YPP encourages players to commit to high-calibre performances and to take an active role in curating specially designed concert programmes.

- 19 players selected for a versatile season programme, including 2 full ensemble concerts and a series of chamber music concerts
- Explore concerts with specially designed themes and innovative concert presentation
- Encourage players to commit to high-calibre performances and curate their creative concert ideas
- Selected players to participate in HK Phil educational and community concerts

Training (for both Fellows and Young Pro Platform players)

- Masterclasses and workshops on orchestral and audition subjects
- Lectures on the development of self-management, entrepreneurial and administrative topics

Volunteering services (for both Fellows and Young Pro Platform players)

- Contribute talents to society through volunteering opportunities

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Media Photos (Click the thumbnail to download photos)



Selected Fellows for Fellowship Programme (from left to right):
 Winnie Yiu Wing-yue (viola), Vincent Leung Cheuk-yan (cello), Holly Ao Ho-i (oboe), Ryan Wan (clarinet), Jimmy Chiu Hon-kuen (trombone)



Selected players for Young Pro Platform (from left to right):

Front row:

Yvonne Chan Yui-woon (double bass), Shawn Tam (cello), Kaden Yim Ho-yan (bassoon), Jimmy Chiu Hon-kuen (trombone), Kenneth Sze Yu-hei (oboe), So Lo-ling (bassoon), Angus Lee Yi-wei (flute), Herman Pong Tin-yau (saxophone), Cecilia Wan Lok-yu (oboe), Oscar Lam Wai-hang (trumpet), Rainbow Sun Xijun (horn),

Back row:

Martin Kuo (viola), Eric Fung Chi-hang (clarinet), Jacky Leung (saxophone), Alice Hui Ka-ching (flute), Calvin Cheng Ho-chung (violin), Bryony Che Hiu-lam (percussion), Sunny Ho Tze-fai (percussion), Frederick Fung Chi-chuen (clarinet)



Tina Chan, Group Head of Philanthropy,
 John Swire & Sons (H.K.) Limited



Sharon Andrea Choa
 Artistic Director of Young Pro Platform,
 Head of Conducting and Cultural Leadership (Music),
 The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts
 Photo Credit: HKAPA

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Benedikt Fohr
Director of The Orchestra Academy Hong Kong,
Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
 Photo Credit: Cheung Wai-lok / HK Phil



Jaap van Zweden
Music Director of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
 Photo Credit: Cheung Chi-wai / HK Phil



Music Director Jaap van Zweden and the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra
 Photo Credit: Cheung Wai-lok / HK Phil



Mentorship Scheme of Fellowship Programme
Right: Zhao Yingna (Principal Second Violin, HK Phil)
Left: Shen Ting-Chia (Fellow)
 Photo Credit: TOA



Community Concert in Bui O
 Photo Credit: TOA



Young Pro Platform inaugural concert "Eroica reimagined"
 Photo Credit: TOA



Jaap van Zweden and Academy Symphony Orchestra
 Photo Credit: David Ho / HKAPA

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About the Swire Group Charitable Trust

Established in 1983, the Swire Group Charitable Trust (Swire Trust) is a Hong Kong charity registered under section 88 of the Inland Revenue Ordinance. Its aim is to effect positive change in the areas of Education, Marine Conservation, and the Arts by supporting registered non-profit organisations, primarily in Hong Kong. Swire Trust is overseen by the Philanthropy Council, which is chaired by a member of Swire senior management. In March 2021, Swire Trust launched the HK\$150 million TrustTomorrow funding initiative. Since the launch of TrustTomorrow, Swire Trust has funded over 50 inspirational projects that aim to bring lasting benefits and positive change to the community, as well as supporting pandemic relief projects

About Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) (hkphil.org)

The Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra (HK Phil) is regarded as one of the leading orchestras in Asia. The orchestra's annual schedule focuses on symphonic repertoire, with conductors and soloists from all around the world. The HK Phil runs extensive education programmes, commissions new works and nurtures local talent. Recent recording projects with Jaap van Zweden include the complete *Ring* Cycle by Richard Wagner; Mahler's Symphony no. 10 (performing version by Willem Mengelberg) and Shostakovich's Symphony no. 10, both to be released in November 2022 (Naxos). With Music Director Jaap van Zweden since 2012, the HK Phil has toured Europe, Asia, Australia, and on numerous occasions to Mainland China. Yu Long has been Principal Guest Conductor since the 2015/16 Season. Lio Kuokman was appointed as Resident Conductor in December 2020. 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.

About The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) (hkapa.edu)

The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA), established by The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts Ordinance in 1984, is a leading tertiary institution in the performing arts in Asia. It provides professional undergraduate education and practice-based postgraduate studies. The study encompasses Chinese Opera, Dance, Drama, Film and Television, Music, and Theatre and Entertainment Arts. Its educational philosophy reflects the cultural diversity of Hong Kong with emphasis on Chinese and Western traditions, and interdisciplinary learning. Since 2008, the Academy has attained the Programme Area Accreditation (PAA) status awarded by the Hong Kong Council for Accreditation of Academic and Vocational Qualifications (HKCAAVQ) to self-monitor and accredit its own Undergraduate and Post-secondary programmes in the five programme areas of Dance, Drama, Film and Television, Music, and Theatre and Entertainment Arts. Since 2016, the PAA status has been extended to cover Master's Degree programmes and below. The programmes operated by the School of Chinese Opera are accredited by HKCAAVQ for recognition under the Hong Kong Qualifications Framework. Besides the main campus in Wanchai, Béthanie, the site of the Academy's Landmark Heritage Campus in Pokfulam, has housed training facilities for the School of Film and Television since 2006. In the QS World University Rankings announced in 2022, the Academy is ranked 1st in Asia and 10th in the world in the Performing Arts category.

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