

## PRESS RELEASE

Opera Hong Kong presents  
**K. Wah Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus Annual Concert 2019:**  
*The Pirates of Penzance*



[11 Oct 2019, HK] **Opera Hong Kong** pleasantly announces the forthcoming **K. Wah Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus Annual Concert 2019 – *The Pirates of Penzance***. Thanks to the support of the title sponsors, **K. Wah International Holding Ltd** and the **Hong Kong Arts Development Council**, the finale performance by the children from the Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus (OHKCC) will be held on **26 and 27 October at 3:30pm**, at the Shouson Theatre of Hong Kong Arts Centre.

Established in 2008, OHKCC has grown to become a leading children's chorus in Hong Kong. OHKCC members have the opportunities to perform with renowned international singers in grand scale productions by Opera Hong Kong. Recently, the chorus was well received in performances like *The Sound of Music* (Annual Concert 2018), *Carmen* (full scale production in 2018) and Christmas performances in various tourist spots last year.

The Annual Concert will raise the curtain with OHKCC student ensembles. **Mr. Joseph Wu, Music Director of Ensemble**, is leading a group of 100 choir students to delight audience with melodious singing. Joseph Wu graduated with a Graduate Certificate (Voice) from the Guildhall School of Music and Drama's (GSMD) Artist Masters Programme, under the tutelage of Marcus van den Akker. He was as well a member of the Opera Hong Kong Chorus, which helps him to better understand to the method of uplifting students' singing skills and talent.

In the second session, audience will have an opportunity to enjoy a two-act comic operetta, ***The Pirates of Penzance*** by Gilbert & Sullivan, accompanied by a chamber orchestra. ***The Pirates of Penzance*** is a swashbuckling comedy filled with sight gags, verbal buffoonery and deliriously catchy music. The operetta will be conducted by Music Director and Conductor **Chi-Chung Ho**, who has earned a good

reputation for “providing first-rate music with the orchestra” (The States News, Michigan State, U.S.A.). His latest orchestral composition was commissioned and premiered by the Kaohsiung Chinese Orchestra (Taiwan) in 2019 with tremendous success. Apart from the resonating music, the performance is directed by **Kwok Tsz Wan**, a multi award-winning actress and a tutor in The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts drama courses.

### **About Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus (OHKCC)**

Established in January 2008, Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus (OHKCC) made its debut in *Werther* and has grown to become one of the leading children choruses in Hong Kong. The mission of OHKCC is to educate, develop and inspire children to enjoy the joy and beauty of opera singing and develop a commitment to excellence through singing. In addition to staging its own concerts, OHKCC collaborates with renowned singers in grand scale productions by Opera Hong Kong, including *La Bohème*, *Carmen*, OHK 10th Anniversary Gala Concert, Performance at the 16th Anniversary Establishment of the HKSAR, *Ode to Joy Concert of Ten Thousand*, *Tosca*, Concert by Singapore Chinese Orchestra, *Roméo et Juliette*, *Turandot* and others.

Members of OHKCC have ample opportunities to learn vocal techniques through master classes and performing in different music genres, from opera to musical and choral works, in both solo and ensemble settings. They also learn to sing in standard opera foreign languages including German, Italian and French. Through these activities, they can discover and nurture their musical gift while expanding their intellectual capacity and cultural horizon.

### **About *The Pirates of Penzance***

*The Pirates of Penzance* by Gilbert & Sullivan is a two-act comic operetta. It is a swashbuckling comedy filled with sight gags and verbal buffoonery and deliriously catchy music and songs.

*The Pirates of Penzance* is a tale about Frederic, who, having completed his 21st year of apprenticeship, is released from a band of tenderhearted pirates. He meets Mabel, the daughter of Major-General Stanley, and the two young people fall instantly in love. Frederic finds out, however, that he was born on February 29, and so, technically, he only has a birthday each leap year. His apprenticeship indentures state that he remains apprenticed to the pirates until his 21st birthday, and so he must serve for another 63 years! Will Mabel and Frederic be able to reunited at the end? Come find out!

### **Programme Details**

26-27 Oct 2019 (Sat-Sun) 3:30pm

Shouson Theatre, Hong Kong Arts Centre

\$360 / \*\$180, \$280 / \*\$140 - Tickets are available at URBTIX

*\*Half-price tickets are available for full-time students, senior citizens aged 60 or above, people with disabilities and the minder and Comprehensive Social Security Assistance (CSSA) recipients.*

*\*\*20% discount for purchase of 4 and above standard tickets.*

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*The Sound of Music*, 2018



*The Pirates of Penzance*, 2010

### **Press information**

High-res photos can be downloaded from the following link

[https://www.dropbox.com/sh/04rjuxcrccy29fy/AABEzDjAcl\\_cIPnQKXRxyqwa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/04rjuxcrccy29fy/AABEzDjAcl_cIPnQKXRxyqwa?dl=0)

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### **About Opera Hong Kong**

Established in 2003, Opera Hong Kong (OHK) is a non-profit making organization committed to the mission of enhancing the appreciation of the art of opera and promoting local musical talents under the direction of Warren Mok, a world-renowned Chinese tenor from Hong Kong. In addition to staging operas and concerts, education and outreach programme are also held regularly to reach the young population. Opera Hong Kong Chorus and Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus (OHKCC) were established in 2004 and 2008 respectively and are becoming recognized forces in the local choral scene.

In 2019, OHK has been selected by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council as one of the three recipients of the coveted "Eminent Arts Group Scheme". The Scheme's consecutive 5-year funding has become the company's steady financial support for its development in future.

Riding on the success of the Jockey Club Opera Hong Kong Young Artist Development Programme (the Programme) which kicked off in 2015, the Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust has renewed the Programme with OHK for another 3 years. The Programme, accompanied by a series of outreach activities, provides intensive vocal training to 12 local young artists.

The establishment of new music centre in Wanchai has marked a milestone for the development of our Education and Outreach endeavour. A wide range of courses are being organized for early age children to adult apart from OHKCC classes. The recent national policy of developing the Greater Bay Area, with its anticipated economic and population boom, will create an even better environment for OHK to initiate more collaborations and bring opera to an even bigger audience.

Official website: [www.operahongkong.org](http://www.operahongkong.org)

Facebook Page: [www.facebook.com/OperaHongKongLimited](https://www.facebook.com/OperaHongKongLimited)

Instagram: [www.instagram.com/operahongkong](https://www.instagram.com/operahongkong)

**Title Sponsor: K. Wah International Holdings Ltd**

Opera Hong Kong is grateful to K. Wah International Holdings Limited (KWIH) for being the Honorary Patron since 2013. Through staging grand opera productions and organising educational and outreach programmes including opera tours to schools, opera concerts at tertiary institutions, vocal arts scholarships, summer school and the Opera Hong Kong Children's Chorus, KWIH helps promote the appreciation of opera to a diverse section of the Hong Kong community, especially younger generations.

As a longstanding advocate of art and culture in Hong Kong, KWIH actively sponsors various performing arts and educational projects to promote the popularity and diversity of Hong Kong's arts scene and create a favorable environment for budding talents.