

PRESS RELEASE (FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE)

(26 July 2023)

Opera Hong Kong Proudly Presents

Concert: *Opera Gala*

25 & 26 August 2023, 7:30pm

Concert Hall, Hong Kong City Hall

OPERA GALA

歌劇薈萃

25 - 26.8

FRI & SAT 7:30PM

Concert Hall, Hong Kong City Hall

香港大會堂音樂廳



Opera Gala is one of the highlighted programmes to celebrate Opera Hong Kong's 20th Anniversary, consisting of arias and ensembles from over 23 operatic repertoires of which OHK has presented over 20 years. The two concerts will be performed by 30 outstanding Mainland and Hong Kong artists, and also the Opera Hong Kong Chorus and Opera Hong Kong Children Chorus. Two different programmes are ready to serve the Hong Kong audiences, Puccini's *Turandot*, Verdi's *Aïda* and Mozart's *The Magic Flute* on the first evening, while the other evening features primely French repertoires such as Bizet's *Carmen*, Gounod's *Roméo et Juliette* and Massenet's *Manon* and many more.

Opera Gala will be conducted by Canadian conductor Charles-Olivieri Munroe accompanied by the Opera Hong Kong Orchestra. Dr Warren Mok, Artistic Director of Opera Hong Kong, will be performing with other starry opera singers on both evenings, including Bing Bing Wang (Soprano), Nancy Yuen (Soprano), Sun Li (Baritone), and other local opera talents.

Producer and Artistic Director

A world-renowned Chinese tenor from Hong Kong, **Warren Mok, BBS, MH** has made frequent guest appearances in many leading opera houses throughout the world. His operatic repertoire exceeds 60

roles including Cavaradossi in *Tosca*, Calaf in *Turandot*, Rodolfo in *La Bohème*, Radamès in *Aïda* and many others. In recent years, Mok has been very active in promoting opera and classical music in Hong Kong, Macao and the Mainland. He is currently the Artistic Director of Opera Hong Kong, Fujian Grand Theatre and Zhuhai Huafa Grand Theatre, and was also the Artistic Director of the Macao International Music Festival. Mok is currently a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference. He was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the Government of Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and conferred an Honorary Doctorate by The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in 2021, Honorary University Fellowship by Hong Kong Baptist University in 2019, Officer of the Order of the Star of Italy by the Government of Italy in 2018, Medal of Honour by the HKSAR Government in 2011, World Outstanding Chinese Award in 2010, and both Cavaliere dell'Ordine della Stella della Solidarietà Italiana (Knight of the Star of Solidarity of Italy) by the Government of Italy and Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Knight of the Order of Art and Letter) by the Government of France in 2008. In 2012, China's Three Tenors — Warren Mok, Dai Yuqiang and Wei Song toured the world to promote Chinese culture. In 2015, Mok was appointed as a member of Beijing Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, fostering the bridge and development between the two cities. He was also a former member of Zhuhai Committee of Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference.

Conductor

Charles Olivieri-Munroe is currently Artistic Director of the Cracow Philharmonic Orchestra, honorary conductor with the North Czech Philharmonic Teplice and principal guest conductor of the Thüringen Philharmonie in Germany. The Maltese / Canadian conductor's hold on public imagination stems from a 'combination of talent and charisma' (New York Times) and a 'passion for purity of orchestral sound' (Toronto Star) supported by a proven ability for connecting with a strikingly diverse audience. In the opera house, he has appeared in Berlin, Milan, Venice and Warsaw. He recently drew international acclaim for conducting the Czech premiere of Robert Schumann's opera *Genoveva* at the Czech National Theatre for which he has been commissioned to construct a suite from the opera. Charles Olivieri-Munroe is First Prize winner of the 2000 'Prague Spring International Music Festival' Conducting Competition.

Soprano

Residing in Italy, **Bing Bing Wang** is the first Chinese to have graduated with a Master's degree from the Giuseppe Verdi Conservatory of Music in Milan. She was awarded as one of the top ten sopranos in China by CCTV. Her roles include Nedda in *Pagliacci*, Micaëla in *Carmen*, Mimì in *La Bohème*, Violetta in *La Traviata*, Adina in *L'Elisir d'Amore* in opera houses of Italy, France, Australia, the United States, Israel, Slovenia, Romania and Latvia. Recently she was invited by Puccini Festival in Torre del

Lago and Taormina Opera Festival for the roles of Liù in *Turandot* and Musetta in *La Bohème*. She was also Cio-Cio-san in *Madama Butterfly* at Serbian National Opera. In 2019, Sony Classic Label signed her to produce her first Italian arias album, being the first Chinese soprano to have a CD released by Sony.

A top graduate from London's Royal Academy of Music, **Nancy Yuen** has made Cio-cio-san (*Madama Butterfly*) her signature role, winning great critical acclaim since her debut with the Welsh National Opera. Yuen has since repeated the role with English National Opera, West Australia Opera, Opera Queensland, Singapore Lyric Opera, New Zealand International Festival of Arts, and at the Royal Albert Hall in 1998, 2000 and 2003. Other operatic roles include Violetta, Gilda, Tosca Tosca, Aïda, Liù, Desdemona, Mimì and Soong Chingling. The operas she has directed include: *Così fan tutte*, *The Merry Widow*, *Prima la Musica*, *Carmen* and *The Marriage of Figaro*. Yuen has been the Head of Vocal Studies with The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts (HKAPA) since 2010 and Honorary Artistic Director of Singapore Lyric Opera since 2015. Yuen was elected Associate of the Royal Academy of Music in 2014 and was appointed as Professor by the HKAPA in 2018.

Baritone

A renowned baritone in China, **Sun Li** is the President of Fujian Opera Dance and Drama Theatre, Director of Fujian Folk Music and Symphony Exchange Centre, Deputy Secretary-General of the China Opera Research Society and member of the Chinese Musicians Association. He performed Ping in *Turandot* for cultural exchange in Egypt. In 2008, the opera *Farewell My Concubine* starring Sun toured six cities in the United States. He also won Wenhua Performance Award in 2010 by virtue of this play. In 2010, Nucci acclaimed his skill being 'so perfect that amazes him!' at Leo Nucci masterclass.

Opera Gala is staged with generous support from the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the Hong Kong Arts Development Council and the Gold Sponsor by the Muses Foundation for Culture & Education.

Programme Details

Date and time: 25-26 August 2023 (Fri to Sat) 7:30pm

Venue: Concert Hall, Hong Kong City Hall

Ticket price: \$480, \$380, \$280, \$150

Tickets are NOW available at Urbtix.

Performed in Italian, French and German.

High-resolution photos can be downloaded at:

<https://www.dropbox.com/scl/fo/x0rv1kjiuo39qrgqowrdz/h?rlkey=bp9n5mdcjsczky6dbhl10kerz&dl=0>

Please see the following appendix for the Programme.

Producer: Warren Mok

Conductor: Charles Olivieri-Munroe

Chorus Director: Alex Tam

Orchestra Executive: Anders Hui

Performers

Soprano	Mezzo-soprano	Tenor	Baritone	Bass-baritone
Yanna Chen	Dominique Chan	Warren Mok	Alexander Chen	Apollo Wong
Candice Chung	Ashley Chui	Chen Chen	Alex Kwok	
Etta Fung	Christy Li	Chen Yong	Lam Kwok Ho	
Rachel Kwok	Carol Lin	Samuel Huang	Sun Li	
Louise Kwong	Bobbie Zhang	Wesley Lam	Albert Lim	
Colette Lam		Henry Ngan		
Li Yang		Alex Tam		
Wang Bing Bing				
Nancy Yuen				
Yuki Ip				
Dani Zhang				
Valentina Tao				

Opera Hong Kong Orchestra

Opera Hong Kong Chorus

Opera Hong Kong Children Choru

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Media Enquiry

For media enquiry, please contact:

Dory Lui Tel: (852) 2234 0303 Email: dorylui@operahongkong.org

About Opera Hong Kong

Founded in 2003 Opera Hong Kong (OHK) is Hong Kong's first professional opera company. Over the years, the company has gone from strength to strength under the artistic direction of Warren Mok, the internationally acclaimed Hong Kong tenor. OHK has elevated opera in Asia's world city, with many world-class productions covering all major works in the operatic canon and has collaborated with opera houses and festivals including Teatro dell'Opera di Roma, Taormina Opera Festival, Theater Erfurt, Opéra de Nice, National Centre for the Performing Arts and Shanghai Opera House.

In 2019, OHK was 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 a boost to further the company's development.

OHK is committed to promoting the city's brightest, young opera singers. In 2015, OHK launched the Jockey Club Opera Hong Kong Young Artist Development and Education Programme (the Programme), a three-year opera training programme designed to nurture ten young local artists. The success of the Programme led to its renewal by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust for another three years from 2019 to 2022, providing intensive training to 12 local artists. The Programme has been completed successfully in March 2022.

OHK also places a strong emphasis on its education and community activities. Opera school tours, summer schools and master classes are held regularly to reach young audiences. The music centre in Wanchai provides a wide range of courses for early age children to adult in addition to Children Chorus classes. The OHK Chorus and the OHK Children Chorus were established in 2004 and 2008 respectively and are becoming recognised contributors on the local choral scene.

The recent development of the Greater Bay Area has created an environment for OHK to initiate more collaborations and bring the art of opera to a wider audience.

Official website: www.operahongkong.org

Facebook Page: www.facebook.com/OperaHongKongLimited

Instagram: www.instagram.com/operahongkong

YouTube: www.youtube.com/operahongkong



Appendix

Programme – 25 August 2023

1. **Overture** from *The Magic Flute* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《序曲》選自《魔笛》

2. **Dies Bildnis ist bezaubernd schön** from *The Magic Flute* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《這畫像如此迷人》選自《魔笛》

3. **Der Hölle Rache** from *The Magic Flute* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《我的心沸騰著地獄般的復仇》選自《魔笛》

4. **Der Vogelfänger bin ich ja** from *The Magic Flute* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《我是個快樂的捕鳥人》選自《魔笛》

5. **Voi che sapete** from *The Marriage of Figaro* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《你們可知道》選自《費加羅的婚禮》

6. **Porgi amor** from *The Marriage of Figaro* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《讓我們手牽著手》選自《費加羅的婚禮》

7. **Final scene** from *The Marriage of Figaro* by W.A. Mozart

莫扎特：《尾幕》選自《費加羅的婚禮》

8. **Quel guardo il cavaliere** from *Don Pasquale* by G. Donizetti

唐尼采蒂：《姑娘的秋波》選自《唐·帕斯夸雷》

9. **Mi volete fiera** from *Don Pasquale* by G. Donizetti



唐尼采蒂：《你要我傲慢嗎？》選自《唐·帕斯夸雷》

10. **O Don Fatale** from *Don Carol* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《噢！致命的禮物》選自《卡洛王子》

11. **La donna è mobile** from *Rigoletto* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《女人善變》選自《弄臣》

12. **Bella figlia dell'amore** from *Rigoletto* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《愛神的美麗女兒》選自《弄臣》

13. **Tacea la notte placida** *Il Trovatore* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《一個寧靜的夜晚》選自《遊唱詩人》

14. **Anvil chorus** from *Il Trovatore* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《鐵砧之歌》選自《遊唱詩人》

15. **Overture** from *La Traviata* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《序曲》選自《茶花女》

16. **É strano...Ah, fors'è lui...Sempre libera** from *La Traviata* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《及時行樂》選自《茶花女》

17. **Di Provenza il mar, il suol** from *La Traviata* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《普羅旺斯的大地與大海》選自《茶花女》

18. **Triumphal March** from *Aida* by G. Verdi

威爾第：《凱旋進行曲》選自《阿伊達》



19. **Evening Prayer** from *Hansel & Gretel* by E. Humperdinck

洪佩爾丁克：《晚禱》選自《糖果屋》

20. **Si, mi chiamano Mimì** from *La Bohème* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《我的名字叫咪咪》選自《波希米亞生涯》

21. **O soave fanciulla** from *La Bohème* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《哦·可愛的姑娘》選自《波希米亞生涯》

22. **Vissi d'arte** from *Tosca* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《為了藝術為了愛》選自《托斯卡》

23. **E lucevan le stelle** from *Tosca* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《星光燦爛》選自《托斯卡》

24. **Nessun dorma** from *Turandot* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《今夜無人入睡》選自《杜蘭朵》



Programme – 26 August 2023

1. **Intermezzo** from *The Tales of Hoffmann* by J. Offenbach
奧芬巴赫：《間奏曲》選自《荷夫曼的故事》
2. **Barcarolle** from *The Tales of Hoffmann* by J. Offenbach
奧芬巴赫：《船歌》選自《荷夫曼的故事》
3. **Va pour Kleinzach!** from *The Tales of Hoffmann* by J. Offenbach
奧芬巴赫：《克列扎可》選自《荷夫曼的故事》
4. **Doll Song** from *The Tales of Hoffmann* by J. Offenbach
奧芬巴赫：《木偶之歌》選自《荷夫曼的故事》
5. **Mon coeur s'ouvre a ta voix** from *Samson and Delilah* by Camille Saint-Saëns
聖桑：《我心花怒放》選自《森遜與黛麗拉》
6. **Je veux vivre** from *Roméo et Juliette* by C. Gounod
古諾：《我願活在夢中》選自《羅密歐與茱麗葉》
7. **Pourquoi me réveiller** from *Werther* by J. Massenet
馬斯奈：《為我喚醒我》選自《維特》
8. **Je marche sur tous les chemins** from *Manon* by J. Massenet
馬斯奈：《我走在所有路上》選自《曼儂》



9. **Soldiers Chorus** from *Faust* by C. Gounod

古諾：《軍士合唱》選自《浮士德》

10. **Vous qui faites l'endormie** from *Faust* by C. Gounod

古諾：《你假装睡著了》選自《浮士德》

11. **Jewel Song** from *Faust* by C. Gounod

古諾：《珠寶之歌》選自《浮士德》

12. **Street Boys March** from *Carmen* by G. Bizet

比才：《跟著上哨的士兵》選自《卡門》

13. **Habanera** from *Carmen* by G. Bizet

比才：《哈巴奈拉》選自《卡門》

14. **Toreador Song** from *Carmen* by G. Bizet

比才：《鬥牛士之歌》選自《卡門》

15. **Les voici** from *Carmen* by G. Bizet

比才：《來了，鬥牛勇士來了》選自《卡門》

16. **Intermezzo** from *Cavalleria Rusticana* by P. Mascagni

馬斯卡尼：《間奏曲》選自《鄉村騎士》

17. **Voi lo sapete mamma** from *Cavalleria Rusticana* by P. Mascagni

馬斯卡尼：《媽媽啊，你知道》選自《鄉村騎士》



18. **Mamma, quel vino e generoso** from *Cavalleria Rusticana* by P. Mascagni

馬斯卡尼：《媽媽·那些烈酒》選自《鄉村騎士》

19. **Si puo?** from *Pagliacci* by R. Leoncavallo

雷翁卡伐洛：《原諒》選自《丑角》

20. **Bell Chorus: Din don, suona vesper** from *Pagliacci* by R. Leoncavallo.

雷翁卡伐洛：《鐘聲合唱》選自《丑角》

21. **Qual fiamma avea nel guardo... Stridono Lassù** from *Pagliacci* by R. Leoncavallo

雷翁卡伐洛：《他眼裡有著怒火... 小鳥在空中唱歌》選自《丑角》

22. **Vesti la giubba** from *Pagliacci* by R. Leoncavallo

雷翁卡伐洛：《穿上戲裝》選自《丑角》

23. **O mio babbino caro** from *Gianni Schicchi* by G. Puccini.

浦契尼：《親愛的爸爸》選自《賈尼·斯基基》

24. **Signore ascolta** from *Turandot* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《先生·請聽我說》選自《杜蘭朵》

25. **Là, sui monti dell'Est** from *Turandot* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《茉莉花》選自《杜蘭朵》

26. **Un bel di vedremo** from *Madama Butterfly* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《美好的一天》選自《蝴蝶夫人》

27. **Coro a bocca chiusa (Humming Chorus)** from *Madama Butterfly* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《遠處傳來的聲音》選自《蝴蝶夫人》

28. **Vogliatemi bene (Love duet)** from *Madama Butterfly* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《心愛的寶貝》選自《蝴蝶夫人》

29. **Nessun dorma** from *Turandot* by G. Puccini

浦契尼：《今夜無人入睡》選自《杜蘭朵》