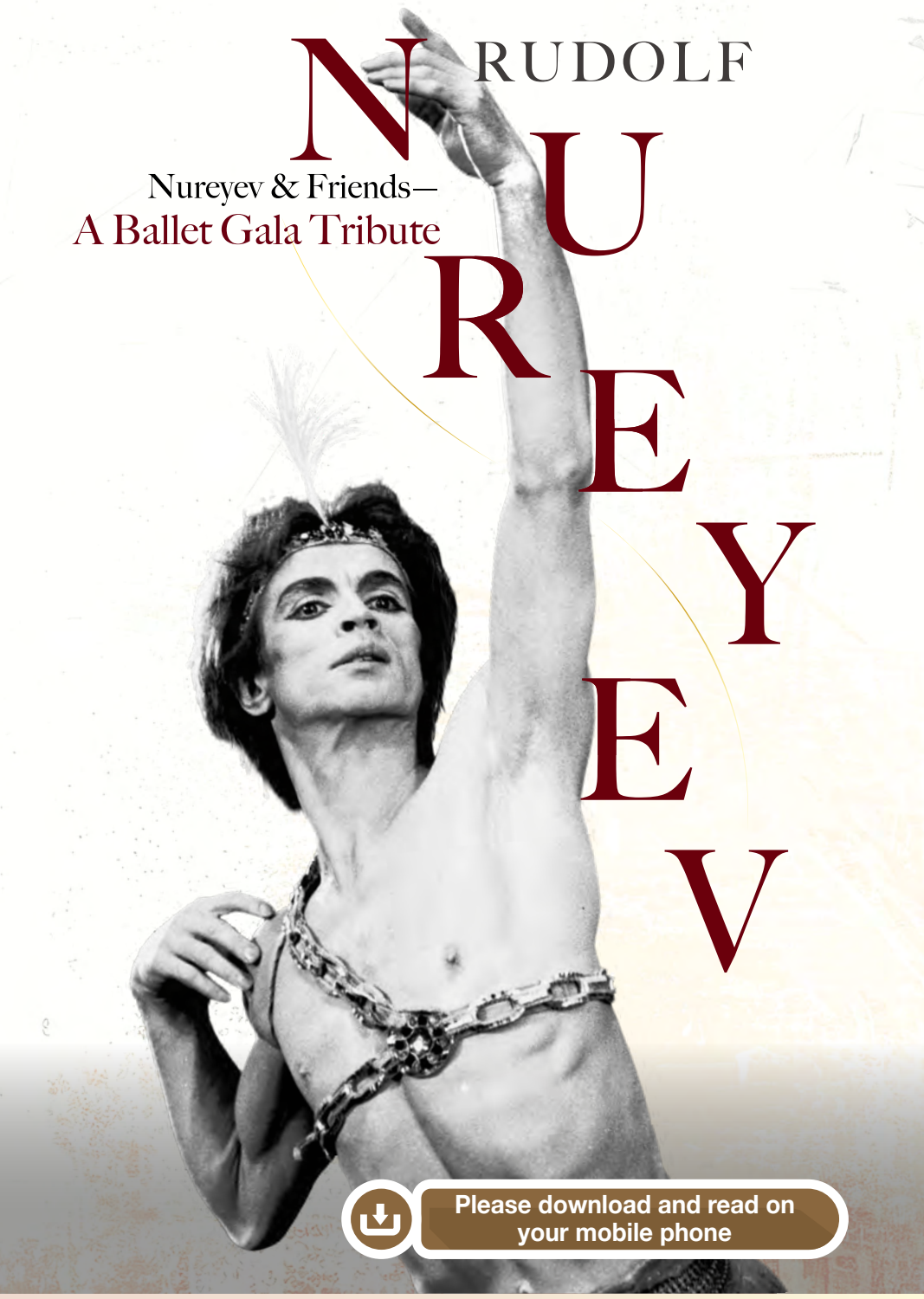
53rd 香港藝術節 HK ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

RUDOLF NUREYEV

Nureyev & Friends—
A Ballet Gala Tribute



Please download and read on your mobile phone

21-22.03.2025 / 7:45pm
22.03.2025 / 2:45pm

Grand Theatre, Hong Kong Cultural Centre
Approximately two hours including one interval

Cover Photograph
© Rudolf Nureyev Foundation/Francette Levieux

House Rules

※ Please switch off mobile phones and all electronic devices so they will not emit sound or light during the performance, disturbing the performers and other audience members.

※ Unauthorised photography or recording of any kind is strictly prohibited.

※ Please keep noise to a minimum during the performance.

※ The content of all works is independently produced by the creative team, and does not reflect the views or opinions of the Sponsor.

※ The content of this programme and the opinions featured in this publication are solely those of the artists/guest writers and do not represent the views or opinions of the Hong Kong Arts Festival ("HKAF").

※ Ticket holders are strongly advised to arrive punctually. The HKAF reserves the right to refuse the (a) admission of latecomers (whether at the beginning of the performance or after the intermission) and (b) re-admission of audience members who leave the auditorium during the performance.

※ The HKAF also reserves the sole discretion to determine the possibility of admission and re-admission of audience members (which includes latecomers and audience members who have left the auditorium and are seeking re-admission), as well as the manner in which they are admitted.

※ In any case, should the HKAF permit the admission of latecomers, such latecomers shall only be admitted at designated latecomer point(s). No refunds or changes will be offered if ticket holders are refused admission due to late arrival. In the event of any dispute, the HKAF reserves all rights to make the final decision.

※ The English versions of the house rules on the HKAF website and front-of-house announcements will prevail in the event of any dispute.

Plus

Exhibition
A Giant Leap—Ballet Luminary Rudolf Nureyev
Foyer Exhibition Area E3, Hong Kong Cultural Centre
27.02 – 30.03.2025

Film Screening
Nureyev: Lifting the Curtain
17.03.2025 (Past event)

Masterclass
Ballet Masterclass by Charles Jude
19.03.2025 (Past event)

Ballet Masterclass by Alexandr Trusch
Grand Theatre Rehearsal Room GR2, Hong Kong Cultural Centre
23.03.2025 / 11:30am-1:00pm

Click to join

Talk
Dancing with Nureyev
Podium Workshop, Hong Kong Cultural Centre
22.03.2025 / 5:30-7:00pm
Free admission, registration required

Click to join



香港賽馬會是致力建設更美好社會的世界級賽馬機構，透過其結合賽馬及馬場娛樂、
會員會所、有節制體育博彩及獎券，以及慈善及社區貢獻的綜合營運模式，
創造經濟及社會價值，並協助政府打擊非法賭博。
馬會是全港最大的單一納稅機構，其慈善信託基金是位居世界前列的慈善捐助機構。

The Hong Kong Jockey Club is a world-class racing club that acts continuously for the betterment of our society.
Through its integrated business model, comprising racing and racecourse entertainment, a membership club,
responsible sports wagering and lottery, and charities and community contribution, the Club generates economic and
social value for the community and supports the Government in combatting illegal gambling.
The Club is Hong Kong's largest single taxpayer and its Charities Trust is one of the world's leading charity donors.

香港賽馬會
The Hong Kong Jockey Club
140 年 YEARS

www.hkjc.com

Contents

Chief Executive's Message

Chairman's Message

Foreword

Programme

Creative Notes

About Rudolf Nureyev

Programme Notes

Creative Team, Dancers and Production Team

Creative Team Profiles

Dancers' Profiles

About the Hong Kong Arts Festival

Committee and Staff List

Acknowledgements

Chief Executive's Message

I am pleased to congratulate the Hong Kong Arts Festival on the organisation of its 2025 season—the 53rd edition of one of the world's most celebrated international cultural events.

This year's Festival brings together over 1,300 international and local artists in some 125 performances covering music, dance, theatre, Chinese and Western opera and much more. The Festival-opening performance, by Italy's Orchestra of the Teatro Comunale di Bologna, conducted by Maestro Donato Renzetti, features classic Italian opera arias. Renowned Chinese conductor Lü Jia and the China National Centre for the Performing Arts Orchestra, together with international pianist Zhang Haochen and soprano Song Yuanming, bring the Festival to a close in grand style.

Festival PLUS returns, presenting a wealth of artist-audience events, including masterclasses and workshops, backstage visits, guided cultural tours and more. Besides, the Festival's "Young Friends" programme features school tours, pre-performance talks, arts demonstrations and other special events designed to engage local young people with a world of arts and culture.

The Government is determined to enhance the appeal of Hong Kong's culture. To further solidify Hong Kong's position as a vibrant East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchanges, the Government has launched the Blueprint for Arts and Culture and Creative Industries Development in November 2024, and has been actively working on the 71 measures under four key strategic directions as outlined in the Blueprint.

I am grateful to the Hong Kong Arts Festival and its dedicated team for their unremitting efforts in promoting arts and culture in Hong Kong, throughout the region and around the world. I am grateful, too, to the many sponsors and donors for their generous support for the Festival.

I wish this year's Hong Kong Arts Festival another resplendent season of arts and culture, entertainment and memorable community engagement.



John KC LEE
Chief Executive
Hong Kong Special Administrative Region

Chairman's Message

A warm welcome to the 53rd Hong Kong Arts Festival. As a leading international performing arts event, the Festival is continuing its mission of enhancing Hong Kong's cultural landscape by showcasing over 1,300 exceptional international and local artists in more than 125 performances of over 45 unique programmes, as well as organising about 300 PLUS and educational activities for the community.

I would like to thank the HKSAR Government, acting through the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, for its annual subvention and matching grant which are not only essential to our operations, but also an important recognition of the work we do. I also want to thank The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust for its unwavering support during the past 53 years, as well as other corporate sponsors, charitable foundations and donors, whose contributions have enabled us to reach out to different sectors of the community and positively impact society through the performing arts.

My deepest gratitude goes to all participating artists for their dedication and exceptional performances. I also thank all HKAF staff, who worked extremely hard to bring this Festival to life.

Most importantly, I extend my heartfelt appreciation to all audience members for your participation and support. May you find joy and inspiration in our programmes and events.



Lo Kingman
Chairman
Hong Kong Arts Festival

香港藝術節
Hong Kong Arts Festival

Supporting Organisation:

HONG KONG TOURISM BOARD 香港旅遊發展局

Foreword

Promoting international cultural exchange has always been a key objective of the Hong Kong Arts Festival. This year's Festival continues to invite renowned global masters and internationally recognised young pioneers to present a range of world-class programmes, respecting tradition while encouraging new, innovative initiatives. Many of these works are inspired by classic literature or offer rediscoveries of the original, bringing vibrant artistic experiences to the city.

We will also present a series of programmes centred around "fantasy and adventure". These include works that seamlessly blend the arts with VR and AR technology, as well as captivating new creations that draw on traditional puppetry and circus performances. The Festival will also continue to support local artists and encourage exchanges to foster a vibrant and diversified platform for the arts.

We also remain dedicated to advancing arts education and audience building. Our PLUS programmes will present a series of thoughtfully curated masterclasses, backstage visits, post-performance artist talks and an exhibition. And our Young Friends and educational activities will continue to offer multi-dimensional arts experiences to students.

We hope that you will enjoy this year's arts extravaganza prepared by the Hong Kong Arts Festival team.



Flora Yu
Executive Director
Hong Kong Arts Festival

The Hong Kong Arts Festival is made possible with the funding support of:

140 年 YEARS

康樂及文化事務署
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

政府資助計劃
Government-funded programme

Contents

Programme

貢獻香港藝術節53年伙伴及藝術節開幕演出贊助
The Hong Kong Arts Festival's Proud Partner for 53 Years & Festival Opening Sponsor

香港賽馬會慈善信託基金
The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust

140 年 YEARS

藝術節閉幕演出贊助
Festival Finale Sponsor

ICBC 中国工商银行（亚洲）

跨越25載 25th Anniversary ICBC (Asia)

節目贊助 Programme Sponsors (按英文字母排列 In Alphabetical Order)

伍集成文化教育基金會
C. C. Wu Cultural & Education Foundation Fund

華潤集團 CR HOLDINGS

信興集團 SHUN HING GROUP

尤德爵士紀念基金
Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund

周年晚宴伙伴
Gala Dinner Partner

HENDERSON LAND 恒基兆業地產

藝術節指定航空公司
Official Airline

CATHAY PACIFIC 國泰航空

藝術節指定戶外媒體伙伴
Official Outdoor Media Partner

POAD

藝術節指定高級用車伙伴
Official Premium Car Partner

DCH MOBILITY 大昌行汽車租賃 | 共享

藝術節指定視頻技術合作伙伴
Official Video Technology Partner

MobileVision.ai

主要酒店伙伴
Major Hotel Partner

香港君悅酒店 GRAND HYATT HONG KONG

《竹林愛傳奇》大灣區巡演贊助
Love in the Bamboo Grove GBA Tour Sponsored by

國家藝術基金
CHINA NATIONAL ARTS FUND

國家藝術基金2024年度傳播交流推廣資助項目
彩票公益金資助——中國福利彩票和中國體育彩票
2024 Sponsored Project of the China National Arts Fund
Lottery Public Welfare Fund Sponsorship - China Welfare Lottery and China Sports Lottery

康樂及文化事務署
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

香港藝術節基金會
HONG KONG ARTS FESTIVAL FOUNDATION

香港藝術節的資助來自
The Hong Kong Arts Festival is made possible with the funding support of

140 年 YEARS

康樂及文化事務署
Leisure and Cultural Services Department

政府資助計劃
Government-funded programme



Please Donate
請即捐款

DONATE ♥

Enquiries 查詢:
(852) 2828 4911

王仁曼芭蕾舞學校
JEAN M. WONG SCHOOL OF BALLET

...where great dancers have begun since 1960

65 Glorious Years 1960-2025



The Tsinfarn C. Wong Memorial Scholarship Recipients 2024-25
Anson Chan – English National Ballet School, UK
Glory Ip – Tring Park School for the Performing Arts, UK

- **Ballet** 芭蕾舞
- **Scholar Class** 精英班
- **Adult Ballet** 成人芭蕾舞
- **Boys Class** 男生班
- **Children Summer Course** 兒童暑期課程
- **HK International Summer Dance School** 香港國際暑期舞蹈課程

Hong Kong Studios 香港校舍

North Point Headquarters 北角總校	2886 3992
Happy Valley 跑馬地	2577 2112
Central 中環	2869 6288

Kowloon Studios 九龍校舍

Kowloon Bay 九龍灣	2754 2277
Tsuen Wan 荃灣	2498 2345
Shatin 沙田	2697 0188

www.jmwballet.org

JEAN M. WONG SCHOOL OF BALLET 王仁曼芭蕾舞學校 | jmwballet

Free Trial Class
歡迎免費試堂

Programme

Pas de deux from Act III of *La Bayadère*

Choreography: Marius Petipa (1818-1910)
Music: Ludwig Minkus (1826-1917)
Dancers: Maria Khoreva and Jacopo Tissi

Pas de deux from Act II of *Giselle*

Choreography: Jean Coralli (1779-1854), Jules Perrot (1810-92) and Marius Petipa
Music: Adolphe Adam (1803-56)
Dancers: Luiza Lopes and Kentaro Mitsumori

Pas de deux from *Don Juan*

Choreography: John Neumeier (b. 1939)
Music: Christoph Willibald Gluck (1714-87)
Dancers: Alina Cojocaru and Alexandr Trusch

Adagio pas de deux from Act I of *Cinderella*

Choreography: Rudolf Nureyev (1938-93)
Music: Sergei Prokofiev (1891-1953)
Dancers: Dorothée Gilbert and Mathieu Ganio

Pas de deux from Act I of *Le Corsaire*

Choreography: Marius Petipa
Music: Adolphe Adam, with additional music by Riccardo Drigo (1846-1930) and Ludwig Minkus
Dancers: Isabella Gasparini and Luca Acri

INTERVAL

Video

Mikhail Baryshnikov talks about Rudolf Nureyev

Pas de deux from Act III of *The Sleeping Beauty*

Choreography: Marius Petipa
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky (1840-93)
Dancers: Maria Khoreva and Jacopo Tissi

Pas de deux from Act II of *La Sylphide*

Choreography: August Bournonville (1805-79)
Music: Herman Severin Løvenskjold (1815-70)
Dancers: Isabella Gasparini and Luca Acri

Manfred

Choreography: Rudolf Nureyev
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Dancer: Lam Chun-wing

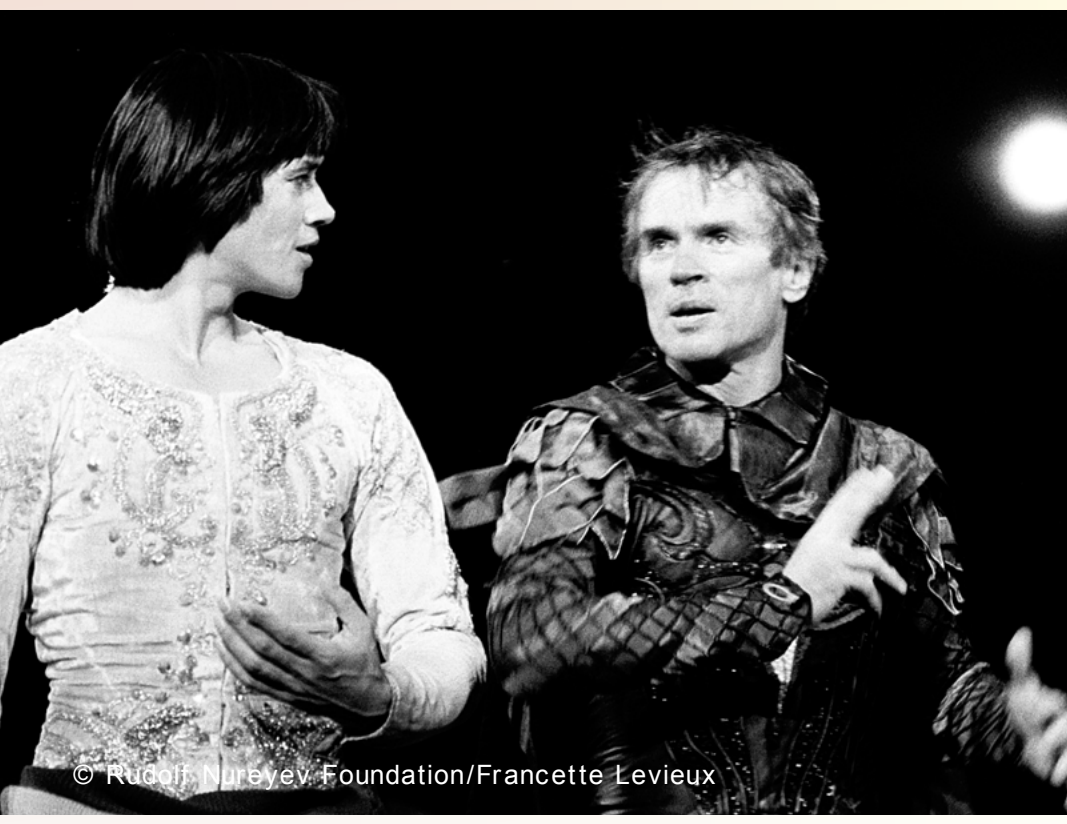
Adagio pas de deux from Act IV of *Swan Lake*

Choreography: Rudolf Nureyev after Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov (1834-1901)
Music: Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky
Dancers: Dorothée Gilbert and Mathieu Ganio

Pas de deux from Act III of *Don Quixote*

Choreography: Rudolf Nureyev after Marius Petipa
Music: Ludwig Minkus
Dancers: Luiza Lopes and Kentaro Mitsumori

Creative Notes



Today we gather to celebrate the extraordinary life and legacy of Rudolf Nureyev, a titan of ballet whose passion and artistry transcended the boundaries of dance. “Nureyev & Friends—A Ballet Gala Tribute” is not merely a performance; it is a heartfelt tribute to a visionary who transformed the world of dance and a reunion of the talented individuals he inspired.

As we embark on this enchanting evening, we pay homage to Rudolf’s enduring impact on the arts. From his early beginnings in Russia to his illustrious career at the Paris Opera House, Rudolf embraced the beauty of diversity in choreography and movement. This Gala features a stunning array of excerpts from ballets that reflect his eclectic tastes, presenting some of the best dancers from various prestigious companies.

As we enjoy the artistry on stage, let us remember Rudolf not just as a remarkable dancer and choreographer, but as a beacon of inspiration for all who share a love for dance. We invite you to celebrate with us, embracing the spirit of Rudolf Nureyev as we honour his lasting influence on the world of ballet.

Enjoy the performance!

Text: David Makhateli and Charles Jude

Contents

About Rudolf Nureyev

About Rudolf Nureyev



© Rudolf Nureyev Foundation/Francette Levieux

Rudolf Nureyev's origins seemed unremarkable. Born on 17 March 1938 aboard the Trans-Siberian Railway, he was the youngest of four children and the only boy. His father returned from army service in 1946, but their relationship suffered as Nureyev pursued dance, a career his father deemed non-masculine.

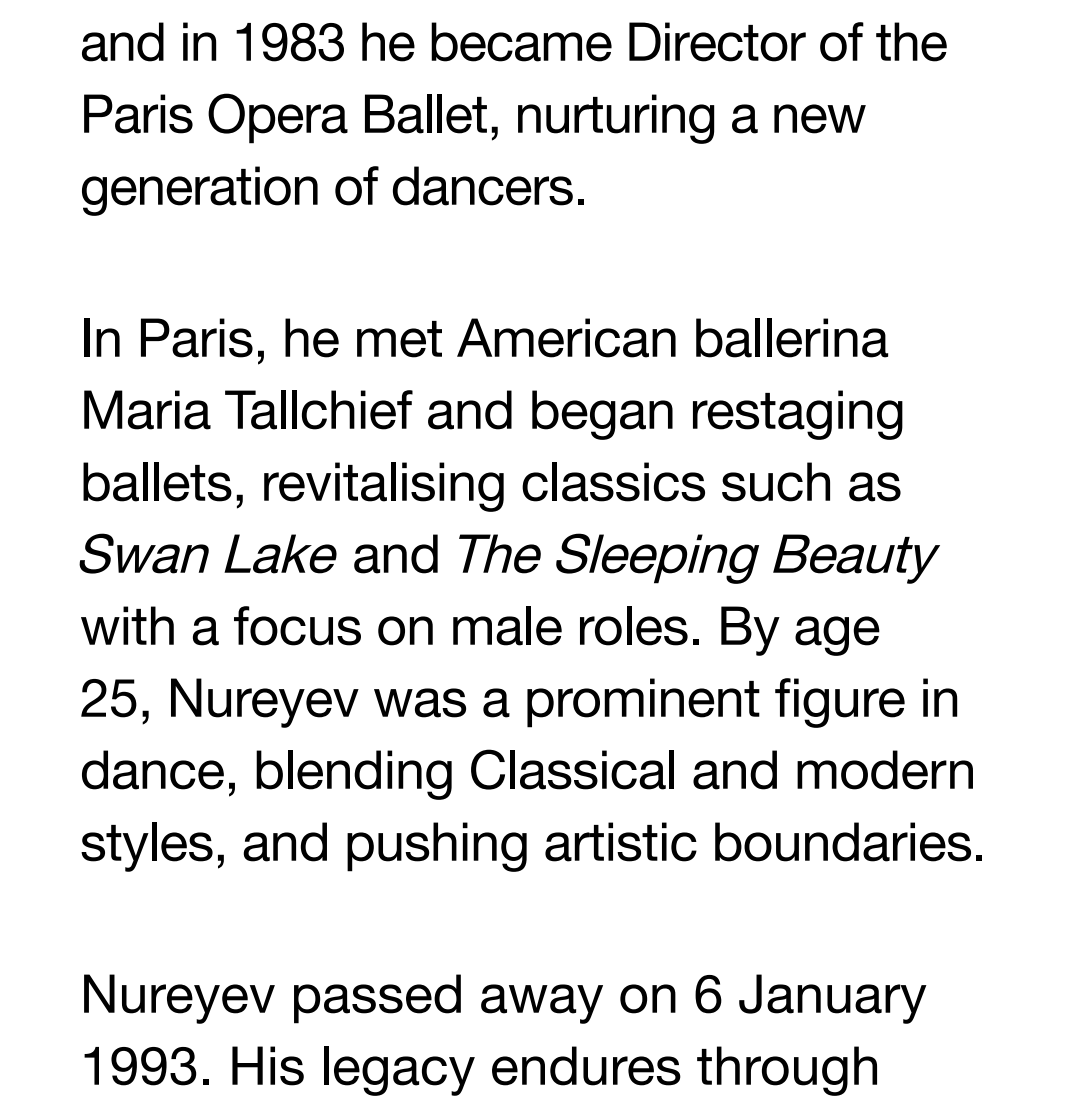
Nureyev's passion for ballet was ignited at the age of seven when, on New Year's Eve in 1945, his mother smuggled all of her children into a performance of *The Song of the Storks*. He began studying folk dance and, at 15, performed as an extra in theatre productions, quickly advancing to the corps de ballet.

After an injury in Moscow, he auditioned for the Bolshoi Ballet School but chose the Kirov Ballet School (now the Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet), the world's premier dance academy, when he was 17. Despite being warned he might fail, Nureyev dedicated himself to rigorous training, ultimately impressing his teachers, including Alexander Ivanovich Pushkin and dancing major roles in classics such as *Don Quixote* and *Swan Lake*, amassing a devoted following for his passionate performances.

Upon his graduation in 1958, Nureyev joined the Kirov Ballet (now the Mariinsky Ballet). In 1961, during a Kirov tour in Paris, Nureyev seized the opportunity to defect rather than return to the USSR, fearing he would never dance again. He later collaborated with prominent dancers and choreographers, and in 1983 he became Director of the Paris Opera Ballet, nurturing a new generation of dancers.

In Paris, he met American ballerina Maria Tallchief and began restaging ballets, revitalising classics such as *Swan Lake* and *The Sleeping Beauty* with a focus on male roles. By age 25, Nureyev was a prominent figure in dance, blending Classical and modern styles, and pushing artistic boundaries.

Nureyev passed away on 6 January 1993. His legacy endures through his ballets and the profound impact he had on the dance world, as highlighted by Mikhail Baryshnikov's tribute to his charisma and talent.



© Rudolf Nureyev Foundation/Francette Levieux

Contents

Programme Notes

Programme Notes

La Bayadère

La Bayadère premiered at the Bolshoi Kamenny Theatre in St Petersburg in 1877. Set in ancient India, it tells the story of Nikiya, a temple dancer, and her love for Solor, a warrior betrothed to Gamzatti, the Rajah's daughter. After discovering Nikiya and Solor's secret love, Gamzatti kills Nikiya with a venomous snake during the engagement ceremony. Marius Petipa revised his choreography for the Marinsky Ballet in 1884 and again in 1900. It was first presented in the West during the Kirov's tour in 1961 when Rudolf Nureyev defected. The Paris Opera Ballet's staging of *La Bayadère* in 1992 was Nureyev's first work. Today, Maria Khoreva and Jacopo Tissi will portray the couple in an excerpt from Act III, "The Kingdom of the Shades".

Giselle

Giselle, the quintessential Romantic ballet, embodies fantasy, etherealism and supernaturalism. This two-act ballet tells the tragic story of Giselle, a peasant girl who falls for the charms of the deceitful Count Albrecht. In 1959, Nureyev made his debut at the age of 21 in the role of Albrecht and in 1962 he began his collaboration with Margot Fonteyn in the ballet. As he grew older and more experienced, Nureyev added more weight, mass and depth to the part of Albrecht—as he did to his other princely roles—and it appeared regularly in his repertoire.

Don Juan

Choreographed in 1972 in Frankfurt, John Neumeier recreated several versions of this one-act ballet in the 1970s for the National Ballet of Canada, where Nureyev starred in it. The story starts on the Day of the Dead when Doña Ana throws herself at Don Juan Tenorio, who had seduced her before killing her father. Don Juan later seduces Aminta at a celebration banquet and meets a mysterious Lady in White. He attempts to pursue the Lady in White, ultimately realising she is the Angel of Death and sees his own funeral procession. This programme presents the pas de deux, highlighting the relationship between Don Juan and the Lady in White.

Cinderella

Cinderella has been re-imagined as a ballet countless times over the years since it was first staged in Vienna in 1813, including the famous version by Sergei Prokofiev that premiered at the Bolshoi Theatre in 1945. But arguably the most radical version was conceived by Nureyev when he was the Director of the Paris Opera Ballet. Transposing the fairytale ballet back to the golden era of Hollywood cinema in the 1930s, Nureyev's *Cinderella* featured his new young protégé, Sylvie Guillem, in the title role when it premiered in 1986.

Le Corsaire

The premiere of *Le Corsaire* took place in Paris in 1856. The story follows a young Greek woman, Medora, who is sold into slavery and rescued by the corsair, Conrad. The ballet concludes with a spectacular shipwreck, which Medora and Conrad survive. Marius Petipa's 1899 version for the Marinsky, with additional music by Riccardo Drigo and Ludwig Minkus, became the reference for all subsequent productions. This version was reconstructed using the notated choreographic records preserved in the Harvard University Theatre Library for the Bolshoi Ballet in 2007. The dazzling pas de deux presented in this programme became widely recognised through the performances of several virtuoso dancers, including Vakhtang Chabukiani and Nureyev. It allows dancers to showcase their technical abilities, particularly in the variations and coda.

The Sleeping Beauty

The Sleeping Beauty launched Nureyev's career in the West, where he performed the role of the Prince in the production by the Grand Ballet du Marquis de Cuevas in 1961. The story is based on the familiar tale, in which a princess sleeps for more than 100 years and is awakened by a handsome prince. The first performance of Marius Petipa's ballet was a costume rehearsal in 1890 at the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg. It is regarded as the model of 19th-century classicism and was created through an exemplary collaboration between the composer and choreographer. The pas de deux presented in this programme concludes the celebrations of the wedding in the final act.

La Sylphide

Premiered at the Paris Opera in 1832, *La Sylphide* is the first Romantic-era ballet. The version presented in this programme dates back to 1936. The ballet tells the story of James, who is visited by the Sylph, a spirit living in the woods, before his wedding to Effie. The Sylph lures James into the woods, where he becomes enchanted by her. Madge, a witch whom James had once chased away, seeks revenge by offering him a veil intended to capture the Sylph. But when he places it on her shoulders, he loses her wings and dies. Nureyev often danced the role of James, which he performed when he returned to dance with the Kirov Ballet in St Petersburg at the age of 50.

Manfred

Manfred, premiered in 1979, was the first work created by Nureyev for the Paris Opera Ballet. Due to his injury, Nureyev was substituted by Jean Guizerix in the premiere. However, Nureyev quickly recovered and later performed his creation at the Palais des Sports in Paris. Nureyev stated that the Russian cellist and conductor Mstislav Rostropovich had given him the idea for the ballet during a discussion in Washington. The music is Tchaikovsky's *Manfred Symphony*, which was inspired by Byron's poem. Nureyev acknowledged that his choreography was inspired by his "discovery of the virtues of modern dance thanks to Glen Tetley and Paul Taylor". A new version of *Manfred*, featuring new costumes without scenery, was revived at the Paris Opera in 1986.

Swan Lake

Nureyev created his own production of *Swan Lake* in 1964 for the Vienna State Opera and refined it for the Paris Opera Ballet in 1984. The ballet tells the story of Princess Odette, who is transformed into a swan by the sorcerer Von Rothbart. When Prince Siegfried promises her true love, Von Rothbart and his daughter, Odile, trick the prince into breaking his vow to Odette. Unlike previous productions featuring Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov's choreography, where the narrative centres on Odette/Odile, Nureyev shifted the focus to Prince Siegfried, reinterpreting his role with deeper psychological complexity, torn by internal conflicts and illusions. Nureyev's choreography included new solos, restored variations and a darker, symbolic narrative. This programme presents the Adagio from Act IV.

Don Quixote

Don Quixote is drawn from the famous novel by Miguel de Cervantes. It was originally choreographed by Marius Petipa and set to music by Ludwig Minkus. Nureyev danced the final pas de deux with Sonia Arova as early as 1962. He first staged *Don Quixote* in 1966 in Vienna and later refined it for the Paris Opera Ballet in 1981. Condensing it into three acts, Nureyev revitalised the traditional production by highlighting comedic elements inspired by the Commedia dell'Arte and choreographing vibrant ensemble scenes with a Spanish flair. This energetic, humorous production remains a testament to Nureyev's brilliance, blending tradition with modern theatricality. Today, you will see the final "Wedding Pas de Deux" from this dazzling masterpiece.

Creative Team, Dancers and Production Team

Creative Team

Artistic Advisor
Charles Jude

Artistic Director
David Makhateli

Project Manager
Lam Chun-wing

Dancers (in alphabetical order by last name)

Luca Acri
First Soloist, The Royal Ballet

Alina Cojocaru
International Ballet Star

Mathieu Ganio
Étoile, Paris Opera Ballet

Isabella Gasparini
First Soloist, The Royal Ballet

Dorothée Gilbert
Étoile, Paris Opera Ballet

Maria Khoreva
First Soloist, Mariinsky Ballet

Lam Chun-wing
Sujet, Paris Opera Ballet

Luiza Lopes
Principal Dancer, The Royal Swedish Ballet

Kentaro Mitsumori
Principal Dancer, The Royal Swedish Ballet

Jacopo Tissi
Principal Dancer, Dutch National Ballet

Alexandr Trusch
Principal Dancer, Hamburg Ballet

Production Team

Lighting Designer
Wong Ka-ki

Production Manager
Lam Hing-lun

Deputy Stage Manager
Bee Li

Lighting Programmer
Tam Ho-fung

Production Electrician
Leung King-yan

Creative Team Profiles

Artistic Advisor

Charles Jude



Charles Jude, a former Étoile with the Paris Opera Ballet, served as Director of the Ballet of the Opéra National de Bordeaux from September 1996 to July 2017. He began his dance education at the Conservatoire de Nice under Alexandre Kalioujny and joined the Paris Opera Ballet in 1971. Promoted to First Dancer in 1976, Jude received international acclaim after winning the bronze medal at the Tokyo International Ballet Competition the same year.

He earned the title of Étoile in July 1977 for his outstanding performance in Yury Grigorovich's *Ivan the Terrible*.

Jude developed a unique choreographic style, reinterpreting ballets including *The Nutcracker* and *The Sleeping Beauty*, and created a new production of *Romeo and Juliet* in March 2009. His accolades include the Nijinsky Prize (1976) and the Lifar Prize (1988), and honours such as the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (1990).

Artistic Director

David Makhateli



David Makhateli was born in Georgia. He is a graduate of the Tbilisi State School of Ballet and The Royal Ballet School in London, and has served as Principal Dancer with The Royal Ballet and Houston Ballet.

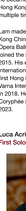
Makhateli has performed throughout Europe and in Japan, the USA, Brazil, Cuba, China, South Korea, Panama, Russia, Georgia and the United Kingdom in front of the royal family.

He is a co-founder and Artistic Director of D&D Art Productions and Grand Audition, and has organised numerous international ballet galas and festivals around the world.

With his wife Daria, Makhateli has organised and directed international ballet masterclasses for students in various countries and has served as a guest teacher with The Royal Ballet (London, UK), the Ballet de l'Opéra National de Bordeaux (France), the Dutch National Opera and Ballet (Amsterdam, Netherlands), the Finnish National Ballet (Helsinki, Finland), American Ballet Theatre Studio Company, the Paris Opera Ballet (France), and the Swedish Royal Ballet.

Dancers' Profiles

Project Manager and Dancer
Lam Chun-wing
Sujet, Paris Opera Ballet


© Laurent Philippe

Born in Hong Kong, Lam Chun-wing is a celebrated ballet artist. His dance journey began at the age of seven at the Jean M. Wong School of Ballet, where he received prestigious awards, including the Margot Fonteyn Award of the Tsinfon C. Wong Memorial Scholarship. His talent earned him scholarships to the Guangzhou National Ballet School and the Royal Ballet School in London, and he became a gold medallist at the Hong Kong Young Ballet Stars Award multiple times.

Lam made history as the first Hong Kong Chinese member of the Paris Opera Ballet School in 2011 and joined the Paris Opera Ballet in 2015. His excellence was recognised internationally when he became the first Hong Kong dance winner at the Varna International Ballet Competition in 2018. He was promoted to Coryphée in 2021 and to Sujet in 2023.

Luca Acri
First Soloist, The Royal Ballet


© Tristram Kenton

Luca Acri is a First Soloist at The Royal Ballet in London. He trained at The Royal Ballet School, joining the company in the 2012/13 season and rising through the ranks to First Soloist in 2019. His notable roles include Florizel (*The Winter's Tale*), Mercutio (*Romeo and Juliet*), Basilio (*Don Quixote*) and lead roles in *Rhapsody* and *Requiem*.

Alina Cojocaru
International Ballet Star


© Morgan Nichols

Born in Bucharest, Alina Cojocaru trained for seven years in Kiev before joining The Royal Ballet School in London in 1997. She became a Principal Dancer with The Royal Ballet Company in 2001, later joining the English National Ballet in 2013. Cojocaru has premiered galas in Romania and London, and received an OBE in 2023 for her contributions to the arts.

Mathieu Ganio
Étoile, Paris Opera Ballet


© Anne Deniau

Mathieu Ganio trained at the École nationale supérieure de danse de Marseille and joined the Paris Opera Ballet School in 1999. He became a Danseur Étoile in 2004 after performing in *Don Quixote* and received the Benois de la Danse Award in 2005. Ganio has performed internationally and boasts a diverse repertoire, including roles in *Giselle* and *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Isabella Gasparini
First Soloist, The Royal Ballet


© Tristram Kenton

Brazilian dancer Isabella Gasparini is a First Soloist with The Royal Ballet in London. She trained at Ballet Marcia Lago, with Nathalia Kobayashi, and at Canada's National Ballet School. Gasparini joined the Northern Ballet in 2007 and later danced with the English National Ballet before joining The Royal Ballet in 2014. Her roles include Fairies Spring and Autumn (*Cinderella*) and many more.

Dorothée Gilbert
Étoile, Paris Opera Ballet


© Julien Benhamou

Dorothée Gilbert, born in 1983 in Toulouse, is a distinguished French ballerina and Étoile with the Paris Opera Ballet. She joined the company in 2000 and was named Étoile in 2007 after performing in *The Nutcracker*. Renowned for her roles as Giselle, Juliet and Odette-Odile, she received the title of Commandeur de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres in 2023.

Maria Khoreva
First Soloist, Mariinsky Ballet


© Natasha Razina

Maria Khoreva is a First Soloist with the Mariinsky Ballet, known for her award-winning performances. Born in St Petersburg and a graduate of the Vaganova Academy of Russian Ballet, she joined the Mariinsky in 2018. Her notable accolades include the Grand Prix at the Beijing International Ballet Competition (2021). Her repertoire features roles in *Giselle*, *Swan Lake* and *The Sleeping Beauty*.

Luiza Lopes
Principal dancer, The Royal Swedish Ballet

Luiza Lopes began dancing at the age of eight in Brazil before receiving a scholarship to The Royal Ballet School in London. After graduating, she joined the São Paulo Dance Company as a soloist. In 2015, she became a First Soloist at the Royal Swedish Ballet. Promoted to Principal Dancer in 2022, she received the Galloober Award in 2021.

Kentaro Mitsumori
Principal Dancer, Royal Swedish Ballet

© Elias Pentikäinen

Kentaro Mitsumori, a Principal Dancer with the Royal Swedish Ballet, trained at John Cranko Schule Stuttgart. Known for roles in *Swan Lake*, *Don Quixote*, *Manon* and more, he won the Galloober Prize and the Mariane Orlando Scholarship. In 2024, he expanded internationally, performing across Europe, the USA, Brazil, and Japan. He has also worked as a model for major brands.

Jacopo Tissi
Principal, Dutch National Ballet

© Elias Pentikäinen

Jacopo Tissi, born in 1995 in Italy, trained at La Scala Theatre Ballet School in Italy. He joined the Vienna State Opera Ballet in 2014 before moving to La Scala, where he debuted as Prince Désiré in *The Sleeping Beauty*. In 2017, he joined the Bolshoi Ballet, becoming its first Italian dancer. In October 2023, he became Principal Dancer at the Dutch National Ballet.

Alexandr Trusch
Principal Dancer, Hamburg Ballet

© Holger Badekow

Alexandr Trusch, a Ukrainian ballet dancer born in 1989 in Dnipropetrovsk, has been with the Hamburg Ballet since 2007, becoming a Soloist in 2010 and a First Soloist in 2014. Trained at the School of the Hamburg Ballet, he debuted as Romeo in John Neumeier's production and has since performed leading roles in classics such as *Swan Lake* and *Giselle*.

尤德爵士紀念基金
Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund

香港藝術節青少年之友
創始贊助 - 攜手同行32年
Founding Sponsor of Young Friends of the Hong Kong Arts Festival – 32 Years With HKAF



青年作曲家工作坊 Young Composer Workshop



學校巡演 School Tour

The Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund Council currently operates the following award schemes:

- Fellowships and Scholarships for Overseas Studies;
- Fellowships and Scholarships for Local Studies;
- Fellowships and Scholarships for Disabled Students (for Overseas and Local Studies);
- Prizes for Outstanding Senior Secondary School Students;
- Medals for Outstanding Performers at Public Examinations;
- Awards for Self-improvement for Working Adults; and
- Outstanding Apprentice Awards

Young Friends
Hong Kong Arts Festival
香港藝術節青少年之友

The Sir Edward Youde Memorial Fund has since its inception supported more than **30,500** Hong Kong students under its major award schemes. The total value of the grants awarded stands at over **HK$266** million. Over **2,890** scholars and fellows have completed their studies and are now working in different fields, contributing to the well-being and development of the community.

53rd 香港藝術節 HK ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

Insula orchestra and accentus
島嶼管弦樂團及誦調合唱團

Beethoven Wars: 《貝多芬和平之戰》A Battle for Peace

MAR 三月 26-28
Concert Hall,
Hong Kong Cultural Centre
香港文化中心音樂廳



Buy Tickets Now

53rd 香港藝術節 HK ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

MAR 三月 26-29
Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts
香港演藝學院

EMMA RICE
WUTHERING HEIGHTS
《咆哮山莊》

英國四大頂級劇院
聯合製作

音樂劇場

A music theatre production
co-produced by:
National Theatre, Wise Children,
Bristol Old Vic, York Theatre Royal



Buy Tickets Now



愛難忘 拉米許·梅亞潘

導演：馬修·蘭頓

Love Beyond by Ramesh Meyyappan / Directed by Matthew Lenton

驚艷舞台視覺
如夢似真的
追憶愛情故事

A poignant love story
in a world without words

20 - 22 MAR THU - FRI • 7:30pm
SAT • 3:00pm / 7:30pm

$220 / 160

上環文娛中心劇院
Theatre, Sheung Wan Civic Centre

聯合主辦
Co-presented by

香港藝術節 Hong Kong Arts Festival
香港賽馬會慈善信託基金 The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust
140 年 YEARS

策略支持伙伴
Strategic Supporting Partner

香港展能藝術會 Arts with the Disabled Association Hong Kong

nolimits.hk

Buy Tickets Now



Details and Online Application



Details and Online Application

About the Hong Kong Arts Festival

Launched in 1973, the **Hong Kong Arts Festival** is a major international arts festival committed to enriching the cultural life of the city. In February and March every year, the Festival presents leading local and international artists in all genres of the performing arts, placing equal importance on great traditions and contemporary creations. The Festival also commissions and produces work in Cantonese opera, theatre, music, chamber opera and contemporary dance by Hong Kong's creative talent and emerging artists; many of these works have had successful subsequent runs in Hong Kong and overseas. The Festival also presents "PLUS" and educational activities that bring a diverse range of arts experiences to the community as well as tertiary, secondary and primary school students. In addition, through the "No Limits" project co-presented with The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, the Festival strives to create an inclusive space for people with different abilities to share the joys of the arts together.

The HKAF is a **non-profit organisation**. The total estimated income for FY2024/25 (including the 53rd Hong Kong Arts Festival and 2025 "No Limits") is approximately HK$150 million. Current Government annual baseline funding accounts for around 12% of the Festival's total income. Around 23% of the Festival's income needs to come from the box office, and around 45% from sponsorship and donations made by corporations, individuals and charitable foundations. The remaining 20% is expected to come from other revenue sources including the Government's matching grant scheme, which matches income generated through private sector sponsorship and donations.

Completed Profile:
https://www.hk.artsfestival.org/en/about-us/index.html?

Audience Survey

Contents | Committee and Staff List

Committee and Staff List

53rd 香港藝術節 HK ARTS FESTIVAL 2025

ADDRESS	Room 1205, 12/F, 2 Harbour Road, Wan Chai, Hong Kong
TEL	(852) 2824 3555
FAX	(852) 2824 3798、(852) 2824 3722
Email	afgen@hkaf.org
Programme Enquiry Hotline	(852) 2824 2430

PATRON The Hon. John KC Lee, GBM SBS PDSM PMSM

HONORARY LIFE PRESIDENT The Hon. Sir Run Run Shaw, GBM CBE (1907-2014)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Prof. Lo Kingman, SBS MBE JP
Vice-Chairman	Mr Sebastian Shiu-wai Man
Honorary Treasurer	Mr Colin Farrell
Members	Ms Margaret Cheng, JP
	Mr Michael Fung
	Ms Joanna Hotung
	Mr Hugh Simon
	Mr Tam Wingpong, SBS
	Ms Miriam Yao
	Mr Sunny Yeung

PROGRAMME COMMITTEE

Chairman	Mr Tam Wingpong, SBS
Members	Prof. Giorgio Biancorosso
	Mr Peter C L Lo
	Prof. Fredric Mao, BBS
	Mr Joseph Seelig, OBE +
	Ms Jue Yao, SBS JP

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Chairman	Mr Colin Farrell
Members	Ms Margaret Cheng, JP
	Mr Nelson Leong

DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Members	Mr Carey Cheung
	Mr Michael Fung
	Ms Ophelia Fung
	Ms Catherine Leung
	Ms Samanta Sum-yee Pong
	Mrs Helen Lin Sun
	Ms Yi Wen

ADVISORS The Hon. Ronald Arculli, GBM CVO GBS OBE JP
Mr Martin Barrow, GBS CBE
Mr Victor Cha
Dr John CC Chan, GBS JP
Dr Darwin Chen, SBS ISO
Mr Angus H Forsyth
The Hon. Charles YK Lee, GBM GBS OBE JP
Mrs Mona Leong, SBS BBS MBE JP
Dr The Hon. Sir David KP Li, GBM GBS OBE JP

HONORARY SOLICITOR Ms Gabriela Kennedy, Mayer Brown Hong Kong LLP

AUDITOR PricewaterhouseCoopers

+ Honorary Programme Advisor

STAFF

Executive Director	Flora Yu
Assistant to Executive Director	Connie Ho
PROGRAMME	
Programme Directors	Grace Lang, So Kwok-wan
Associate Programme Director	Kenneth Lee
Senior Programme Managers	Shirley So, Janet Yau*
Programme Managers	Cathy Cheng*, Crystal Chiu*, Sophie Liao*, Katie Ma*
Programme Coordinator	Ryan Yung*
Programme Officers	Nicole Chow*, Dorothy Chung*
Production Assistant	Alice Chan#
Programme Assistant	Melissa Wong#
LOGISTICS	
Logistics Manager	Elvis King*
TECHNICAL	
Production Manager	Shirley Leung*
Deputy Production Manager	Jacob Chan*
PUBLICATIONS	
Editorial Manager	Eugene Chan*
English Editor	Adam Wright*
Associate Editors	Shao yi Chan*, Trista Yeung*
OUTREACH	
Outreach Manager	Carman Lam*
Outreach Coordinators	Giselle Li*, Tina Tang*, Ariel Wong*
Outreach Officers	Olivia Chan*, Raven Chiu*
Outreach Assistants	Angel Kwok*, Elaine Wong*
MARKETING	
Marketing Director	Katy Cheng
Associate Marketing Director	Eugene Lo
Marketing Managers	Annie Chan*, Vicki Cheng*, Stephanie Cheung*,
Deputy Project Managers - Marketing	Hill Li*, Hades Tam*
Deputy Marketing Manager	Margaret Tsang*
Marketing Coordinator	Lettie Lo*
Marketing Officer	Isaac Leung*
Marketing Assistant	Kelly Chan#
TICKETING	
Senior Marketing Manager (Ticketing)	Eppie Leung
Ticketing Assistant	Heidi Choi*
DEVELOPMENT	
Development Director	Brenda Kan
Special Development Associate	Alex So*
Senior Development Manager	Lorna Tam
Development Managers	Evelyn Ip*, Janice Wong*
Assistant Development Manager	Angela Wong*
Development Assistant	Jeria Yip*
CORPORATE SERVICES	
Finance Director	Teresa Kwong
ACCOUNTS	
Account Manager	Connie To*
Accounting & Administrative Assistant	Charmaine Mak*
HR & ADMINISTRATION	
HR and Admin Manager	Janet Yeung*
Receptionist/Junior Secretary	Virginia Li
General Assistant	Bonia Wong
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY	
Information Technology Manager	Derek Chan*
NO LIMITS	
Project Director	Eddy Zee*
Programme and Outreach Managers	Becky Chung*, Tiffany Ko*, Frieda Ng*
Assistant Programme and Outreach Manager	Jasmine Poon*
Programme and Outreach Coordinator	Cheung Chi-ling*
Marketing Manager	Carly Wong*
Deputy Marketing Managers	Gina Chan*, King Ng*
Assistant Production Manager	Dick Cheng*

Senior Accounting Officer	Catherine Chung*
Head of Artist Coordinators	Eleanor Chu*
Artist Coordinators	Haynes Cheung*, Viola Chong*, Cassandra Heung*, Kelvin Ho*, Kitty Leung*, Joyce Lo*, Giacomo Matelloni*, Jan Pang*, Renee Tsang*, Blanche Wu*, Jiajia Yang*, Bonnie Yung*
Production Officer	Anissa Wong*
Technical Coordinators	Jess Cheung*, Yan Fan*, Lawrence Lee*, Pang Ka-tat*, Joyi Tsang*

*Contract Staff
In alphabetical order
2023/24 and 2024/25 The Arts Talents Internship Matching Programme is supported by the Hong Kong Arts Development Council

Updated February 2025

Contents Acknowledgements

Acknowledgements

The Hong Kong Arts Festival would like to thank the following for their generous support:

Patron's Club Members

Platinum
Kerry Holdings

Gold Members
The Jardine Matheson Group
Shanghai Commercial Bank Limited

Silver Member
Swire Properties

Sponsors of the Hong Kong Arts Festival 2024 Gala Dinner

Diamond Table Sponsors
Mr Victor Cha
Mr Francis Lui
Dr Sabrina Ho

Diamond Seat Sponsors
Anonymous

Gold Table Sponsors
Anonymous
Mrs Betty Yuen Cheng
Ms Vena Cheng and friends
Mr Michael Fung
Dr Mok Hing Hung
J.P. Morgan Private Bank (HK)
Dr & Mrs Ronald Lu
Mr Sebastian Man
Ms Wen Yi Wendy

Gold Seat Sponsors
Mr Patrick Hui Hung Kwong
Dr Elina Leung

Other Supporters
Performing Arts Fund NL

In-Kind Supporters
The Peninsula Hotel Limited
Tom Lee Music

Festival Donation Scheme

PLATINUM DONORS (HK$140,000 OR ABOVE)
Chung Mei Industries Limited

DIAMOND DONORS (HK$70,000 - HK$139,999)
Anonymous
Ms Doreen Pao
Shanghai Commercial Bank Limited

JADE DONORS (HK$30,000 - HK$69,999)
Anonymous
Ms Eva Chan
Nathan Road Investment Limited
Ms. Candice Leung
Karen Lin
Arthur Mui
Ms Wendy Nam
Mrs. Purviz R. Shroff, MH and Late Mr. Rusy M. Shroff, BBS, MBE
Dr Stephen Suen
Mr Stephen Tan
The Swire Group Charitable Trust

GOLD DONORS (HK$12,000 - HK$29,999)
Anonymous (2)
Dr Chow Yat Ngok, York
David and Monse Eldon
Mr Jeffrey Chan and Mrs Helen Chan
Mr & Mrs HO Che Kin
Sophia Kao
The Elementary Charitable Foundation
Dr & Mrs TSAO Yen-Chow
Dr Sabrina TSAO
Mr & Mrs YS Wong

SILVER DONORS (HK$6,000 - HK$11,999)
Anonymous (2)
Dr Keith Hariman
Ho Man Fung Edith
Mr & Mrs David S L Lin
Michael Mak
Mrs Schmitt Ling Jane
Ray So
Wang Family Foundation
Mr Wong Yick Kam
Ms Wu Tseng Helen
Ms Isabel Yiu
Enoch Yiu

BRONZE DONORS (HK$3,000 - HK$5,999)
Anonymous (8)
Richard ARBLASTER
Mrs Anson Chan
Bethan and Tim Clark
CHEUNG Shuk Mei Cora
Flavia & Gary MA
Ms Mak Chi Tuen Jennie
Shai Joory
José Manuel Sevilla & Julie Bisaillon
TAM Ching Yee
Christine TONG
Wong Kam Ming Chris
Yang Rubi Ruby
Cecilia Yeung
Zhu Yuying

Student Ticket Scheme

PLATINUM DONORS (HK$140,000 OR ABOVE)
Anonymous
CYMA Charity Fund Limited
The Lanson Foundation

DIAMOND DONORS (HK$70,000 - HK$139,999)
Mrs Purviz R. Shroff, MH and Late Mr Rusy M. Shroff, BBS, MBE
Tin Ka Ping Foundation
Zhilan Foundation
陳德鏗先生

JADE DONORS (HK$30,000 - HK$69,999)
Anonymous
Ms Cheng Wai Ching Margaret
Dr Stephen Suen

GOLD DONORS (HK$12,000 - HK$29,999)
Dr & Mrs Chan Kow Tak
CompliancePlus Consulting Limited
See Yuen CHUNG
Kenneth Lau & Anna Ang
C H Mak
Mr Stephen Tan
Mr Allan Yu

SILVER DONORS (HK$6,000 - HK$11,999)
Anonymous (2)
Mr and Mrs Herbert Au-Yeung
Dr. Cindy Chan
CHIANG Grace
Mrs Margaret Hamilton
Dr Keith Hariman
S Hon
Dr Mak Lai Wo
Karen and Vernon Moore
Ms Teresa Pong
Dr & Mrs TSAO Yen-Chow
Chui Pak Ming Norman,
Wong Pie Yue Cleresa
Anna W.Y. Chan and Henry N.C. Wong
Ms Wu Tseng Helen

BRONZE DONORS (HK$3,000 - HK$5,999)
Anonymous (3)
Mr Au Son Yiu
Biz Office Limited
Carthy Limited
Dr Chan Wan Tung
D. Chang
Cheung Kit Fung
Community Partner Foundation Limited
Dr Eddy Li
Ms Janice Ritchie
Alan and Penny Smith
Savita Leung
Lian Crystal Rhinestone
Dr Xina Lo
YIM Chui Chu
殷和順先生及劉善萍女仕

New Works Scheme

JADE DONORS (HK$30,000 - HK$69,999)
Nathan Road Investment Limited

GOLD DONORS (HK$12,000 - HK$29,999)
Lau Yeung Chak
Dr Tony Ling

SILVER DONORS (HK$6,000 - HK$11,999)
MDB&StarB CHAN

BRONZE DONORS（HK$3,000 - HK$5,999）
Anonymous (2)
D. Chang
CHANG Shen
Ms CHIU Shui Man Tabitha
W W Y Ho
Dr Alfred Lau
Mr LEE Ming Wai Joannes
Dr LEE Wan Fai Walter

Digital Arts Education Scheme

BRONZE DONORS (HK$3,000 - HK$5,999)
Anonymous
HKCT ABRSM Alumni Association

Hong Kong Arts Festival Foundation Patrons

Lead Founding Patrons
Mr Thomas Chan
Ng Teng Fong Charitable Foundation
PCCW
The Wharf Group

Major Founding Patrons
YF Life Insurance International Ltd
ZA BANK

Founding Patrons
Dr Raymond Chan, JP
Tan Sri Dato'
David Chiu
Mr Silas Chou
Mr and Mrs Canning and Eliza Fok
E.M. Fung Foundation Limited
Ms Pansy Ho, SBS, JP
Flair International (Holdings) Limited
Dr Elina Leung
Dr Stephen Suen
Ms Cissy Pao, BBS and Mr Shinichiro Watari

Other Patron
Goldman Sachs Gives Annual Giving Fund
(Recommended by Mr James Houghton)

Support and Co-operation List

Contents