



The Venetian Macao Bringing Musicians from The Philadelphia Orchestra Back to Macao for Acclaimed “Ode to Humanity” Concert Led by Accomplished Local Conductor

World-renowned American orchestra’s first-ever concert with members of both Shenzhen and Macao orchestras

East and West come together to connect 2,000 years of oriental wisdom to the rest of the world

(Macao, Jan. 16, 2015) – Musicians of The Philadelphia Orchestra will return to Macao Feb. 4 for a unique performance featuring **“Ode to Humanity” – A Symphony Concert with Over 100 Choristers, featuring members of the Shenzhen, Philadelphia and Macao Orchestras in a first-of-its-kind collaboration** at The Venetian® Macao’s Venetian Theatre. With Macao-native Lio Kuokman conducting the orchestra, the event is supported by the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao S.A.R. government, and is part of The Philadelphia Orchestra’s Pearl Delta China Residency Week. Presenting Sponsor of The Philadelphia Orchestra’s China Residency Program 2015, The Venetian Macao is bringing more than 100 of the world’s best musicians from the East and the West to perform together in Macao. Tickets are on sale now at all Cotai Ticketing™ box offices*.

“Ode to Humanity” – A Symphony Concert with Over 100 Choristers is a ground-breaking symphony production that pays tribute to 2,000 years of Confucianism and expresses the core

* The Venetian Macao – Cotai Arena and Main Lobby box offices; Four Seasons Hotel Macao – The Plaza™ Macao box office; Sands® Macao – Level 1 box office; Sands® Cotai Central – Sheraton Main Lobby and Holiday Inn Main Lobby

values of human civilization through music. This East-meets-West performance represents a cultural bridge and bond between the three groups of musicians performing together.

Sought after as a conductor, piano soloist and chamber musician, Macao-born Lio has been praised by the American press as “a startling conducting talent” with a “beautiful sense of control.” He has both conducted and performed with renowned orchestras around the world, including The Philadelphia Orchestra, who named him an Assistant Conductor in April 2014. For his contributions to the development of arts and culture, Lio received a Medal of Merit – Culture from the government of Macao last December. His musical education includes a master’s degree from the prestigious Juilliard School.

“Ode to Humanity” has been internationally acclaimed since its 2011 debut, with its significant cultural importance recognised by the United Nations – it was performed on World Peace Day at UNESCO headquarters in Paris and at the General Assembly’s Concert Dinner and Welcome Banquet at the UN headquarters in New York. For the first-ever performance of “Ode to Humanity” in Macao, members from the Macao Orchestra will join those from the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra and The Philadelphia Orchestra – one of the “Big Five” orchestras in the United States – adding local significance to the show and further solidifying Macao’s position as a world centre of tourism and leisure.

The musical composition has five movements, each representing a core concept of Confucianism: Benevolence (Ren), Righteousness (Yi), Etiquette (Li), Wisdom (Zhi) and Integrity (Xin). The concert’s theme reinforces the Chinese social values of ‘people first’ and ‘the world belongs to all people’ – ideas not only central to ancient Chinese philosophy, but in line with universal values such as philanthropy, justice, grace, intelligence and trust.

Eight years in the making, “Ode to Humanity” is dedicated to the Chinese Dream: the pursuit of becoming a more prosperous, well-developed, peaceful and cooperative country. This one-of-a-kind symphony performance in Macao expresses this Chinese concept and showcases the ancient history of oriental wisdom – led by the extraordinarily talented Lio.

Tickets for the 7:45 p.m., Feb. 4, 2015, performance of **“Ode to Humanity” – A Symphony Concert with Over 100 Choristers, featuring members of the Shenzhen, Philadelphia and Macao Orchestras in a first-of-its-kind collaboration** at The Venetian Theatre are on sale now via Cotai Ticketing. They are priced at HKD/MOP 200 (A

Reserve) and HKD/MOP 100 (B Reserve). Tickets can also be booked online at www.cotaiticketing.com, or by phone at +853 2882 8818 (Macao) / +852 6333 6660 (HK) / 4001 206 618 (mainland China). Tickets are also available through Macao Kong Seng Ticketing Network, online at www.macauticket.com, by phone at +853 2855 5555, or in person at selected retail outlets (for locations, visit www.macauticket.com/TicketWeb/ServiceStations.aspx).

The Feb. 4 performance of “Ode to Humanity” is part of The Philadelphia Orchestra’s Pearl Delta Residency Week, which is sponsored by:

- The Venetian Macao (Presenting Sponsor)
- Coca-Cola China (Supporting Sponsor)
- Four Seasons Hotel Shenzhen (Supporting Sponsor)
- Ruder Finn (Supporting Sponsor)

Additional support has been provided by the China-U.S. Exchange Foundation and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. . .



指揮：伊國欽
CONDUCTOR: ED KUCARIK

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深圳交響樂團、費城交響樂團、澳門樂團
三大交響樂團首次聯袂合作演出

ODE TO HUMANITY - A SYMPHONY CONCERT
WITH OVER 100 CHORISTERS
FEATURING MEMBERS OF THE SHENZHEN, PHILADELPHIA AND
MACAO ORCHESTRAS IN A FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND COLLABORATION

4/2 星期三 7:45PM 威尼斯人劇場
WEDNESDAY THE VENETIAN THEATRE

門票由 HKD 100
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THE VENETIAN
澳門威尼斯人

Photo caption: Macao's accomplished conductor Lio Kuokman will lead members of The Philadelphia Orchestra, Macao Orchestra and Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra in performing **"Ode to Humanity" – A Symphony Concert with Over 100 Choristers**. The first-of-its-kind collaboration takes place Feb. 4, 2015, at The Venetian Macao's Venetian Theatre. Tickets are on sale now via Cotai Ticketing.

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Entertainment at Sands China Ltd. Resorts

Sands China Ltd. has as a clear vision to establish Macao as Asia's top entertainment destination.

The 15,000-seat Cotai Arena is the only venue in Asia ranked in *Pollstar's* Top 100 Worldwide Arena Venues based on ticket sales. It is the top entertainment destination in southern China, hosting the world's and the region's biggest names in music, sports and awards shows. Superstars frequently choose the venue as the starting point of their Asian tours.

The 1800-seat, multi-purpose Venetian Theatre is one of the most luxurious entertainment venues in greater China. Featuring ushers in black-tie, champagne service, gourmet food and beverage items and other unique, premium amenities, it offers an intimate, luxurious and exclusive venue experience. The Venetian Theatre is playing a key role in bringing the best in international and Chinese entertainment to Macao, with a luxury theatre experience like no other in the region.

The 650-seat Sands Theatre regularly features internationally-renowned singers, performers and artists of the highest calibre. From traditional Chinese-costumed dancers to modern performances, and from singing troupes to contemporary bands, everything from Western rock to Cantonese pop is covered.

With an unbeatable diversity, the entertainment offering of Sands China Ltd. is ushering in a new era of entertainment in Macao.

For information about upcoming shows and events, visit <http://en.sandsresortsmacao.com/macau-shows.html> and www.sandsmacao.com/entertainment.html.

About The Philadelphia Orchestra

The Philadelphia Orchestra is one of the preeminent orchestras in the world, renowned for its distinctive sound, desired for its keen ability to capture the hearts and imaginations of audiences, and admired for a legacy of innovation in music-making. The Orchestra is inspiring the future and transforming its rich tradition of achievement, sustaining the highest level of artistic quality, but also challenging—and exceeding—that level by creating powerful musical experiences for audiences at home and around the world.

Music Director Yannick Nézet-Séguin triumphantly opened his inaugural season as the eighth artistic leader of The Philadelphia Orchestra in the fall of 2012. His highly collaborative style, deeply-rooted musical curiosity, and boundless enthusiasm, paired with a fresh approach to orchestral programming, have been heralded by critics and audiences alike. The *New York Times* has called him "phenomenal," adding that under his baton, "the ensemble ... has never sounded better." He is embraced by the musicians of the Orchestra, audiences, and the community itself. His concerts of diverse repertoire attract sold-out houses, and he has established a regular forum for connecting with concert-goers through Post-Concert Conversations.

Under Nézet-Séguin's leadership the Orchestra returns to recording with a newly-released CD on the Deutsche Grammophon label of Stravinsky's *The Rite of Spring* and Leopold Stokowski transcriptions. In his inaugural season the Orchestra has also returned to the radio airwaves, with weekly Sunday afternoon broadcasts on WRTI-FM.

Philadelphia is home and the Orchestra nurtures an important relationship not only with patrons who support the main season at the Kimmel Center but also those who enjoy the Orchestra's other area performances at the Mann Center, Penn's Landing, and other venues. The Philadelphia Orchestra Association also continues to own the Academy of Music, a National Historic Landmark.

The Philadelphia Orchestra maintains a strong commitment to collaborations with cultural and community organizations on a regional and national level. Since Orchestra President and CEO Allison Vulgamore's arrival in 2010 the Orchestra has reinvigorated and launched new partnerships with Opera Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Ballet, Philadelphia Live Arts (FringeArts), Philadanco, the Curtis Institute of Music, Ridge Theater Company, and stage director James Alexander, among others.

Through concerts, tours, residencies, presentations, and recordings, the Orchestra is a global ambassador for Philadelphia and for the United States. Having been the first American orchestra to perform in China, in 1973 at the request of President Nixon, today The Philadelphia Orchestra boasts a new partnership with the National Centre for the Performing Arts in Beijing. The ensemble annually performs at Carnegie Hall while also enjoying a three-week residency in Saratoga Springs, New York, and a strong partnership with the Bravo! Vail Festival.

The Philadelphia Orchestra continues its decades-long tradition of presenting learning and community engagement opportunities for listeners of all ages across the Delaware Valley. Concerts for families and schoolchildren; eZseatU, which allows full-time college students to attend an unlimited number of Orchestra concerts for a \$25 annual membership fee; free Neighborhood Concerts; and PreConcert Conversations before every subscription concert are only a few examples of ways in which the Orchestra introduces orchestral music to a new generation of listeners.

Musician-led initiatives, including recent highly-successful PlayINs, shine a spotlight on the Orchestra's musicians, as they spread out from the stage into the community, and serve a key role in growing young musician talent and a love of classical music in their own dedicated roles as teachers, coaches, and mentors.

For more information on The Philadelphia Orchestra, please visit <http://www.philorch.org>.

About the Macao Orchestra

The Macao Orchestra is a professional ensemble, organized under the auspices of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao Special Administrative Region Government. For the past twenty-odd years, the Macao Orchestra has played an important role in the musical life of Macao. Beginning in September 2008, Lü Jia has taken over as Music Director and Principal Conductor, once again marking a turning point in the Orchestra's history. The Orchestra has included several Concert Series in every season, presenting both Western and Chinese masterpieces in a comprehensive and systematic way, and thereby encouraging the pursuit of music among a broader public. Through its refined performance style and high quality concerts, the Orchestra has become a symbol of Macao's prosperity as an international cultural city.

The Orchestra has worked with dozens of internationally renowned musicians and conductors and has been invited to tour around Mainland China, reaching 30 cities in 14 provinces. The Orchestra has also been invited to perform in Portugal, Spain and the U.S.A. The Macao Orchestra successfully presented its charms and strengths, becoming a cultural brand name of Macao in addition to vigorously promoting the achievements of cultural development made by the Macao SAR and the cultural image of Macao. Dedicated to organizing activities related to arts education targeting audiences of different age groups, the Orchestra has provided a number of opportunities for local music students and local organizations to showcase their talents. All of which embraces the high regard and continued care of the Macao SAR in enhancing the cultural quality of local residents, particularly teenagers.

About the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra

Founded in 1982, the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra is being steered by the current president Mr. Chen Chuansong, and music director now is professor Christian Ehwald, the director of Conductor Faculty, "Hanns Eisler" Conservatory in Berlin. During the period from 1985 to 2007, the chief conductors and music directors presented respectively included well-known conductor Yao Guan Rong, professor Zhang Guoyong and professor Yu Feng.

As the guest conductors, such as Delun Lee, Tang Muhai, Chen Zuohuang and foreign conductors including Daniel Oren, Lior Shambadal, Husco Michael, Foster, Smart, etc., contributed a great deal to improving the performance level of the orchestra. The successful cooperation also embedded with famous composers of Erich Kunzel, Tan Dun, and well-known performers, such as Kun Woo Paik, Lang Lang, Yundi Lee, Midori, Chen Xi, Cory Roger, Wang Jian, Qin Liwei, etc., as well as the top singers, including Jose Carreras, Carlow Struly, He Hui and Dai Yuqiang, etc..

Over the last 30 years, the orchestra accumulated a large sum of classic repertoire both at home and abroad. It keeps sponsoring over hundred of concerts each year.

Since 1987, the orchestra has not only based at Shenzhen, touring show around the country, HK, Macau and Taiwan, but also travelling to Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and India, Czech Republic, Poland, Germany, France, Italy and Turkey. The orchestra has been nominated into the 3rd China International Piano Competition, China (Shenzhen) International Piano Concerto Competition and China Conductor's Competition in terms of Concerto Orchestra, and presented respectively at key gala of CCTV, China International Chorus Festival, Beijing Modern Music Festival, National Center for the Performing Arts Festival, SZ ICIF Art Festival, Turkish Istanbul Music Day, Italian Milt Fister Festival, French Dinar Festival and the world first Buddhism Forum with overwhelming appreciation since 2004.

In Jan. 2007, as being invited by French National Military Museum, Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra performed at St. Louis Cathedral, Hotel des Invalides de Paris, which turned out to be the first Asian music troupe showing the dedicated concert at such a music palace.

In September 21, 2013, as being invited by UNESCO, Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra performed <"Ode to Humanism" Choral Symphony> at Auditorium of UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, France with a huge success. In August, 2014, Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra performed <"Ode to Humanism" Choral Symphony> in Taiwan with a huge success too.

Since 2005, the Orchestra has successfully held three sessions of China Composing Doctorate Music Works Concert and two competitions of local symphonic works. It has achieved a great deal in terms of success by working out respectively the large scale Buddhist choral Symphony <Harmony of the Divine Land>, < Symphonie Ballad· New Tone of Hakka>, Confucius choral symphony <Ode to Virtue>, etc..

About the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra Chorus

Founded in June 2007, the Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra Chorus (SSOC) is a non-professional choral group whose members come from a variety of walks in the city. Its current director is Yang Hongwei, and its artistic supervisor and conductor Wang Jun.

Among its repertoire are "Great Buddhist Music of China", "The Symphony of Hakka", "Mass for Peace", and "Chanting of Buddhist Bliss". The SSOC also participated in many influential galas such as "An Ode to Our Motherland" and "A Wondrous Land" in celebration of National Day, both organized by the China Central Television. Its annual Christmas Choral Concert has been critically acclaimed.

APPENDIX

Repertoire

“Ode to Humanity” – A Symphony Concert with Over 100 Choristers

Wednesday, Feb. 4, 7:45 p.m.

Initiator: Wang Jingsheng

Writer: Yi Heng

Composer: Wang Ning

Conductor: Lio Kuokman

Orchestra: Members from The Philadelphia Orchestra, Macao Orchestra and Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra

Chorus: Shenzhen Symphony Orchestra Chorus

PRELUDE—BEGINNING SONG

THE FIRST MOVEMENT: BENEVOLENCE

THE SECOND MOVEMENT: RIGHTEOUSNESS

THE THIRD MOVEMENT: ETIQUETTE

THE FOURTH MOVEMENT: WISDOM

THE FIFTH MOVEMENT: INTEGRITY —CODA

ENDING SONG