

Dr Yip Wai-hong's violin concerto "Heroic" to be premiered in Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra concerts

The Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra will be joined by National Class One Conductor Fan Tao and principal violist of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra Andrew Ling in the "Heroic" concerts to be held in September and October. The programme includes the world premiere Dr Yip Wai-hong's violin concerto "Heroic", as well as Mozart's overture to "Così fan tutte" and Beethoven's "Symphony No. 8".

The opening piece of the concerts is the overture to "Così fan tutte" which, alongside "Le nozze di Figaro" and "Don Giovanni", is part of the famous trio of opera buffa works by Mozart.

Beethoven's "Symphony No. 8", the following item on the programme, is a short but finely crafted piece. Though it was composed at a time when the composer was going through several unpleasant incidents in his life, it betrays no trace of them and maintains a cheerful, light-hearted mood throughout. The terse structure and the ingenious instrumentation are good illustrations of why Beethoven's work holds high esteem in classical music.

The second half of the concerts will feature the violin concerto "Heroic" by Dr Yip Wai-hong. The music is in three movements. The first, "Hero", is in a traditional sonata form. The unusual rhythm and the pleasing melody reflect the emotional world and stoicism of a heroic figure. The second movement, "The Boundless Desert", is a slow, lyrical movement imbued with the musical elements of Inner Mongolia. The third movement, "Triumph", which has only been completed recently, sums up the story and life experience of a national hero on his triumphant return from an expedition.

Presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department, the "Heroic" concerts by the Pan Asia Symphony Orchestra will be held at 8pm on September 30 (Sunday) at the Auditorium of Tuen Mun Town Hall and at 3pm on October 1 (Monday) at the Auditorium of Sha Tin Town Hall. Tickets with prices ranging from \$100 to \$180 are now available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk).

For telephone credit card bookings, please call 2111 5999. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7321 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/music/programs_609.html.