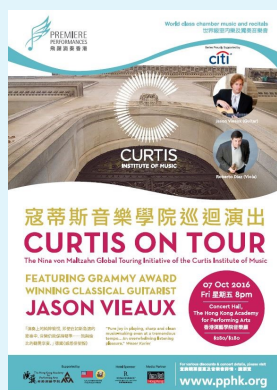


PREMIERE PERFORMANCES ANNUAL REPORT

1 July 2016-30 June 2017



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Message from Founder & Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that this Annual Report covers our 10th season in operation! Premiere Performances is no longer a start-up organization, but an established player in the Hong Kong arts & culture scene.

We presented a record-breaking 113 events in 2016-17 with over 70 artists performing. Highlights included the jaw-dropping Hong Kong debut of Venezuelan pianist Gabriela Montero and the stunning recital by Augustin Hadelich & Joyce Yang - whose careers have continued to soar with a Grammy nomination for their duo album. Another highlight was the world premiere of The Beat of the Dragon Boat - an original commission by Alexis Alrich & Christina Matula-Häkli - telling the story of a Chinese festival with music & narration.

This year, we were very fortunate to be one of the first recipients of a new grant from the Hong Kong government called the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme. Under this grant, every dollar we receive in donations and net sponsorship income will be matched by the Home Affairs Bureau. Through this grant, the Hong Kong government has taken an affirmative step in promoting a culture of arts philanthropy, and is actively encouraging collaboration between the community, business sector and the government in promoting the development of arts and culture in Hong Kong.

This is very forward-thinking. Although Hong Kong has a strong culture of philanthropy, arts & culture is often not seen as a charitable endeavour requiring individual support. But the reality is that ticket sales cover only 15-20% of the costs of most arts organizations around the world. So the shortfall has to be made up by a combination of individual donations, corporate sponsorship and government support.

That is why we have spent a lot of time this year cultivating our donor programmes. We are very proud of our Young Music Lovers Circle (engaging young professionals in their 20s and 30s), our Salon Circle (private salon concerts for our top donors, sponsors and prospects) and our Audience of Tomorrow Project (where donors underwrite the cost of Family Series tickets for children from NGO partners).

I truly believe that having a loyal donor base is the key to ensuring the sustainability of our programmes and our organisation. If you are interested in learning more or would like to help us achieve our mission of enhancing the cultural life of Hong Kong while making the thrill of live music performances accessible to all, please contact me - I'd love to chat with you!



Administration (as of 30 June 2017)

Board of Governors

Andrea Fessler, Chair
Ember Deitz Goldstein
Harry Lee
Winnie Kwan
Joanne Ooi
Alain Le Pichon
Vivek Sharma
Ada Tse

Staff

Andrea Fessler, Founder and Executive Director
Raymond Chang, Development Officer (to Nov 2016)
Loretta Cheung, Box Office Manager (from Mar 2017)
Ainsleigh Hennig, Development Officer (from April 2017)
Sally Hui, Arts Administration Manager
Henry Leung, Senior Project Manager
Phoebe Ma, Box Office Manager (to Aug 2016)
Johnny Yip, Programme & Public Relations Manager

Interns

University students from Hong Kong and overseas have spent time interning with Premiere Performances. We are very grateful for their commitment to helping us in the office this year.

Chan Ting Hoi
Lau Shing Cheong
Joyce Wing-si Hon
Lizzie Leung
Winky Li
Francis Kwan
Heitung Yip

Chan Yee Ting
Kelvin Ho
Patty Lau
Michelle Li
Jocasta Lo
Jason Sun

If you would like to join one of our committees or volunteer in any capacity, please contact info@pphk.org.

About Premiere Performances

Mission & Vision

Premiere Performances brings internationally celebrated artists and the world's brightest rising stars to Hong Kong for solo recitals, chamber music and community outreach, building a vibrant local arts scene and inspiring audience members of all ages with performances that are accessible to all.

Premiere Performances is sparking a musical movement. We want to enliven the imagination of Hong Kong audiences through extraordinary performances, inspire those who play to pick up their instruments and play with joy and love, and enable those who listen to have a concert experience like no other.

Overview

Founded in 2007 as a registered charity by Andrea D. Fessler, Premiere Performances aims to contribute to a vibrant local classical music scene and establish Hong Kong as a leader in the international cultural landscape. From its beginnings as a four-concert Rising Stars Piano Series, Premiere Performances has evolved into a presenter of the world's best performers of recitals and chamber music with almost 100 events each year. From internationally celebrated musicians to the world's brightest rising stars, our programmes feature a dynamic array of instruments, performance styles and musical genres.

In 2016/17, Premiere Performances organized:

- **53** public events
- **11** private events
- **70** musicians
- **6,500** audience members

Plus:

- **49** school concerts
impacting over
- **13,000** students, and
- **350** teachers

Beneficiaries

From special needs students through to the elite of Hong Kong, we have programmes aimed at all demographics of Hong Kong society. We believe that everybody, regardless of social class or education, ethnicity or language, will be moved by the power of a live music performance presented at a world class level.



Augustin Hadelich & Joyce Yang



Kristin Lee, Nicholas Canellakis, Haochen Zhang & Brian Chen



Our Programmes

Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival

Every January the Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival, under the guidance of Artistic Director Cho-Liang Lin, brings the best in the world to Hong Kong for two weeks of chamber music performances, including six ticketed concerts and 20+ Outreach & Education events. This is chamber music at the highest international standards.

Recital Series

Throughout the year, Premiere Performances presents a Recital Series, presenting rising stars to seasoned international favourites. Since 2007, we have presented almost 50 artists in solo recitals, many of them making their Hong Kong debut.

Family Series

To bring the thrill of live music performances to young audiences, Premiere Performances presents afternoon concerts specifically designed for children and performed by top local and international musicians. Not just classical music, the Family Series has also featured jazz, folk, world music and Chinese instruments as well as musical storytelling and narration.

Outreach & Education

Premiere Performances aims to make classical music accessible to all. We increase participants' appreciation of music and bring the joys of music-making to diverse audiences through school performances, teacher development sessions, free concerts, masterclasses, music education talks, and ticket giveaways.

Programme Reach 2016/17

| Artist | Concert Attendance | Outreach Attendance | Audience Satisfaction | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| | | | Enjoyable | High Quality |
| Curtis On Tour | 310 | 500 | 100% | 100% |
| Shrewd Brass | 206 | 5160 | 97% | 100% |
| Viva! Pipers | 252 | 3200 | 100% | 100% |
| Iskandar Widjaja | 720 | 20 | 100% | 100% |
| 2017 Chamber Music Festival | 2331 | 2069 | 99% | 99% |
| Gabriela Montero | 653 | - | 100% | 100% |
| Akoustic Odyssey | 323 | 4800 | 100% | 94% |
| Nemanja Radulovic | 733 | - | 99% | 100% |
| Beat of the Dragon Boat | 394 | - | 100% | 100% |
| Augustin Hadelich & Joyce Yang | 602 | - | 100% | 100% |
| Subtotal | 6,524 | 15,749 | | |
| Total Reach | | 22,273 | | |

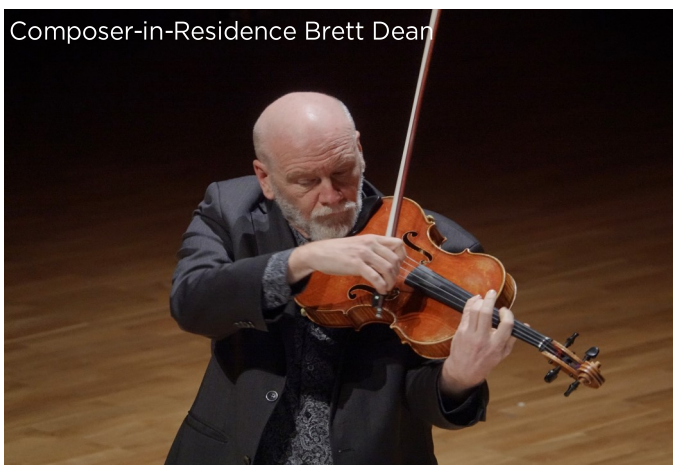
New Developments

Fiesta Brass Quintet

Following public auditions in October 2016, Premiere Performances formed Fiesta Brass, a brass quintet made up of talented local musicians. After the Viva! Pipers, Fiesta Brass are the second local ensemble formed by Premiere Performances for its Chamber Music In Schools Programme. Fiesta Brass will make their public debut at Premiere Performances' 10th Anniversary concert in September 2017 and will conduct a pilot school tour in spring 2018.



Composer-in-Residence Brett Dean



Composer-In-Residence

During the 2017 Chamber Music Festival, Premiere Performances presented our first Composer-in-Residence, renowned Australian composer and violist Brett Dean. Three of Brett's compositions were performed, and he played in five Festival concerts. In a groundbreaking collaboration between Premiere Performances, the Hong Kong Sinfonietta and the New Music Ensemble, the music of Brett Dean was performed by all three groups throughout the city during January 2017.

Concerts in the New Territories

In 2016/17, Premiere Performances came closer to achieving our goal of making world-class music accessible to all by presenting five concerts in the New Territories. For the first time, the Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival included concerts in the New Territories, with performances in Tsuen Wan, Sha Tin and Kwai Tsing. Two Family Concerts also took place in Tsuen Wan and Tuen Mun.

Borromeo Quartet with Cecile Licad & Cho-Liang Lin at Sha Tin Town Hall



Donor Programmes

In addition to our general Friends of Premiere Performances Circle, we have created three specially tailored donor programmes to support the work that we do. Developing a strong and stable donor base is particularly important we have a matching grant where every dollar we raise from donors is matched by the Home Affairs Bureau. Without private donations, we would simply not be able to continue delivering the range and quality of our programmes.

Young Music Lovers Circle

The Young Music Lovers Circle (YMLC) is a philanthropy circle for young professionals in their 20s and 30s who are passionate about arts and culture. For an annual donation of at least HK\$2,500, members are invited to exclusive events involving world-class musicians. Highlight events included a salon concert with Augustin Hadelich & Joyce Yang, a post-concert dinner with pianist Gabriela Montero, and a piano recital on a private yacht featuring local talent KaJeng Wong.

In its first year, the YMLC gained 23 members and raised HK\$137,000; nearly all of these members were new donors to Premiere Performances.



KaJeng Wong piano salon on a yacht

Salon Circle

Since 2009, Premiere Performances has organized private concerts for our top donors and invited guests with our world class artists, often in private homes. These salons are a truly unique experience to see performances by the best in the world in an intimate and private setting. There are currently 12 members of the Salon Circle donating at least HK\$50,000 annually. Donors of \$10,000 or more also receive invitations to our private salon concerts.



Salon concert at a private home with Nemanja Radulovic

Audience of Tomorrow Project

The Audience of Tomorrow Project is a donor initiative that underwrites hundreds of Family Series concert tickets to local NGOs, allowing underprivileged children to attend our concerts. In 2016/17, 372 tickets were donated to children from 16 local charities (see page 11 for the list of charities).

The Audience of Tomorrow campaign in the Spring of 2017 raised \$143,760 from 15 donors, 10 of whom were making their first donation to Premiere Performances.



Chamber Music In Schools

Our Chamber Music in Schools Programme involves bringing specially trained music ensembles into local schools for performances and workshops. In 2016/17, Premiere Performances organized three school tours: two from Musica Viva Australia (brass quintet **Shrewd Brass** and world music ensemble **Akoustic Odyssey**), and a tour with our own local wind quintet, the **Viva! Pipers**.

At each school, ensembles perform a concert for up to 300 students, followed by a workshop for up to 40 students. We also provide professional development workshops and a teachers' resource kit with activities to reinforce the learning objectives of the in-school performances. The Australian ensembles also provided coaching for our local wind quintet, the **Viva! Pipers**.

In 2016/17 we reached:

13,160 students

350 teachers

49 schools including:

11 special needs schools

4 kindergartens

16 primary schools

13 secondary schools

5 international schools

"[Akoustic Odyssey] was my favourite concert ever because it was fun and interactive!" - Student

"[Shrewd Brass] performance was absolutely wonderful. Their music showed their passion to encourage students to explore brass music" - Teacher



Since its establishment in 2013, Chamber Music In Schools has brought eight ensembles to 240 schools, reaching over 60,000 students and 2,300 teachers.

Schools Visited in 2016/17

Government Schools

King's College (HK West)
Sha Tin Government Primary School (Sha Tin)

Special Needs Schools

Caritas Jockey Club Lok Yan School (Sham Shui Po)
The Jockey Club Hong Chi School (Wan Chai)
Saviour Lutheran School (Sham Shui Po)
ESF Jockey Club Sarah Roe School (Ho Man Tin)
Hong Kong Juvenile Care Centre Chan Nam Cheong Memorial School (Wong Chuk Hang)
Hong Chi Morninghope School Tuen Mun (Tuen Mun)
Rotary Club of HK Island West Hong Chi Morninghope School (HK West)
Caritas Resurrection School (Sha Tin)
Caritas Lok Yi School (North Point)
Ebenezer New Hope School (HK West)
HK Red Cross Margaret Trench School (Wong Tai Sin)

Kindergartens

Christian Little Tree Kindergarten (Kwun Tong)
Christian Alliance S Y Yeh Memorial Primary School (Tin Shui Wai)
ECFB Creativity Kindergarten (Wong Tai Sin)
First Assembly of God Primary School & Kindergarten (Mongkok)
Lee Andrew Memorial Anglo-Chinese Kindergarten (Tai Po)

Aided Primary Schools

Bishop Paschang Catholic School (Kowloon Bay)
Chinese YMCA Primary School (Tin Shui Wai)
Christian Alliance SY Yeh Memorial Primary School (Tin Shui Wai)
CNEC Lui Ming Choi Primary School (Tsing Yi)
FMB Chun Lei Primary School (Sha Tin)
HKTA Yuen Yuen Institute Chan Lui Chung Tak Memorial School (Kwun Tong)
Lok Sin Tong Primary School (Kowloon City)
Mui Wo School (Mui Wo)
Sau Mau Ping Catholic Primary School (Kwun Tong)
SKH Kowloon Bay Kei Lok Primary School (Kowloon Bay)
Tsuen Wan Public Ho Chuen Yiu Memorial Primary School (Tsuen Wan)



TWGHs Ma Kam Chan Memorial Primary School (Sheung Shui)

Aided Secondary Schools

Buddhist Mau Fung Memorial College (Tin Shui Wai)
Fanling Kau Yan College (Fanling)
Ju Ching Chu Secondary School (Yuen Long)
Maryknoll Convent School (Kowloon Tong)
Sam Shui Natives Association Huen King Wing School (Tai Po)
SKH Holy Carpenter Secondary School (Hung Hom)
SKH Kei Hau Secondary School (Kwun Tong)
SKH Lui Ming Choi Secondary School (HK West)
Wah Yan College (Wanchai)

Direct Subsidy Scheme School

Creative Secondary School (Tseung Kwan O)
HKMA David Li Kwok Po College (Yau Ma Tei)
Li Po Chun United World College (Ma On Shan)

Private/International Schools

ESF Peak School (The Peak)
Kellett School (Kowloon Bay)
Kellett School (Pokfulam)
Kingston International School (Kowloon Tong)
San Wui Commercial Society YMCA of Hong Kong Christian School (Sham Shui Po)

Outreach & Education

Community Concerts

The 2017 Chamber Music Festival included two community concerts. The first took place at the Asia Society, featuring Leo Phillips and local musicians Born Lau, Cheung Ming Fai, and KaJeng Wong. The second took place at the Rotunda, Exchange Square featuring international and local musicians.

We also presented two additional community concerts at the Rotunda, Exchange Square: the Viva! Pipers in September and the RTHK Quartet in November 2016. This was our fifth year presenting the Rotunda concert series, and we look forward to many more to come!

This year, we also began a new series of free community concerts in the lobby of Hysan Place. In 2016/17 we presented two Hysan concerts featuring the Viva! Pipers (November) and Akoustic Odyssey (May).



RTHK Quartet at the Rotunda



Akoustic Odyssey at Hysan Place

Music Talks

As part of our Chamber Music Festival Outreach, we presented five music talks intended to increase concert-goers' appreciation and understanding of the music. These included:

Inside Chamber Music: in collaboration with the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Centre, we presented two streamed lectures by Bruce Adolphe, followed by live performances by local Hong Kong musicians.

Music appreciation talks: one music appreciation talk by Ken Smith entitled "How to Understand Contemporary Music", and two talks in Cantonese by Leon Chu about Festival repertoire.

A Pre-concert talk in English by Ken Smith.

Open Rehearsals

Five Festival rehearsals were open to the public and were attended by 200 people. This was an excellent opportunity to witness our professional musicians and their creative process.



Live performance as part of *Inside Chamber Music*



Open Rehearsal with Cho-Liang Lin and Kristen Lee



Iskandar Widjaja with Music Children Foundation

Masterclasses & Workshops

Six masterclasses were conducted by Chamber Music Festival artists. 17 local students participated in these masterclasses, which were attended by nearly 300 people. The Festival also featured three chamber music coaching sessions led by Outreach Artist Leo Phillips, and the Borromeo Quartet. Seven local ensembles received coaching from internationally-renowned artists, while performing in front of over 100 audience members.

Curtis On Tour conducted two masterclasses at the HK Academy for Performing Arts for viola (with Roberto Diaz) and guitar (with Jason Vieaux). Jean Kim and Nigel Armstrong also participated in workshops in the New Territories with Music Children Foundation and Music for the Growing Mind. Iskandar Widjaja also conducted a workshop with the Music Children Foundation in Nam Cheong.



Viola masterclass with Brian Chen



Shrewd Brass with Sprouts Foundation

Ticket Giveaways

Over 900 Festival, Recital and Family Series tickets were donated to 36 local partner NGOs to help make concerts accessible to all.

Notably, thanks to our donors' generous support of our Audience of Tomorrow Project, over 300 children from local charities were able to attend our Spring 2017 Family Concerts— Beat of the Dragon Boat and Akoustic Odyssey.

2016/17 Partner NGOs

Adolescent Medical Centre Queen Elizabeth Hospital
Agency for Volunteer Service
Art in Hospital
Breakthrough Limited
Caritas Integrated Family Service Centre - Aberdeen
Creative Secondary School
Chinese University
Ebenezer School
Education University of Hong Kong
HK Academy for Performing Arts
HK Baptist University
HKMA David Li Kok Po College

HK University
HK Children & Youth Services
HK Christian Service
HK Council of Social Service
HK Family Welfare Society
HK Federation of the Blind
HK Girl Guides Association
HK Professional Teachers' Union
HK Red Cross
HK Scouts
Music for the Growing Mind
Music Children Foundation
SKH Holy Carpenter Secondary School

SKH Kowloon City Children and Youth Integrated Service Centre
Society for Community Organisation (SoCO)
Sprouts Foundation
Tung Wah (E Major)
TWGHs Jockey Club Lei Tung Integrated Service Centre
TWGHs Residential Child Care Services
Wah Yan College
Women Service Association
Yamati Catholic Primary School
Youth Square

Recital Series

Sponsored by: 

Premiere Performances' 2016/17 Recital Series included several Hong Kong debuts (**Gabriela Montero** and three artists from **Curtis on Tour**), and all the artists in the series made their Recital debuts. We were thrilled to welcome Citi as the Title Sponsor of this year's Recital Series.



In September 2016, Premiere Performances hosted **Curtis On Tour** from the renowned Curtis Institute of Music. The ensemble included Grammy-winning guitarist Jason Vieaux, Curtis Institute President Roberto Diaz (viola), recent graduate Nigel Armstrong (violin), and current student Jean Kim (cello). They performed a ticketed concert at the HK Academy for Performing Arts and two free concerts at the HKUST and the Asia Society. Sponsored by Citi with hotel provided by the Renaissance Hotel and supported by the U.S. Consulate General.



German-Indonesian violinist **Iskandar Widjaja** made his Hong Kong recital debut in November with Israeli pianist **Itamar Golan**. With an extremely varied programme ranging from Bach to Arvo Pärt and from Schumann to Gershwin, there was something to appeal to all audience members. Sponsored by Citi and supported by the Consulate General of Israel.

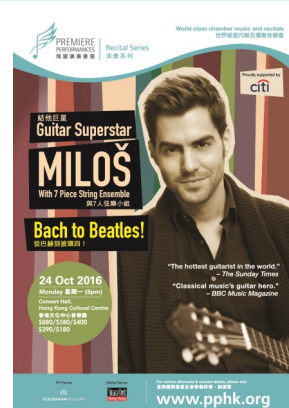
"He is really a genius, a very precious performance"

"Invite him to come again!"

Due to a serious long-term injury, guitar superstar **Miloš** regrettably cancelled his Recital scheduled for October 2016. We had already sold almost 700 tickets to this concert and spent \$157,950 on marketing and other expenses that we could not recover.

Ticket holders had three options: refund (91%), exchange to a future Premiere Performances concert (4%) or donate the ticket proceeds to Premiere Performances (3%).

We are happy to hear that Miloš will finally be returning to the concert stage in the 2017-18 season.



The long-awaited Hong Kong debut of pianist and classical improviser **Gabriela Montero** was held in April 2017. Gabriela dedicated the entire second half of her recital to her signature improvisations based on audience requests. The result was a highly emotional set of unique pieces of music, with audience members clamoring to have their requests performed. This concert was mentioned by the South China Morning Post in their review of performing arts highlights from 2017. Sponsored by Citi.

"I liked the [improvisations] as it is so different from any other classical concert"



Serbian violinist **Nemanja Radulović** continued the Recital Series in May 2017, accompanied by Laure Favre-Kahn. Nemanja certainly lived up to his "rockstar" reputation with his blisteringly fast and flawless technique and powerful stage presence - not to mention his flowing locks, leather pants and biker boots! This concert was sponsored by Citi and was an associated concert of Le French May.

"Best of the year"

"Energetic, lively and expressive performance"

"Outstanding amazing performance! Thank you!"



Our 2016/17 Recital Series closed in June with the recital debut of **Augustin Hadelich** (violin) and **Joyce Yang** (piano). Augustin and Joyce first performed in Hong Kong together during the 2014 Chamber Music Festival. This young duo wowed audiences with a diverse programme from Beethoven to Brett Dean. Their duo album has since been nominated for a Grammy Award for Best Chamber Music performance and Augustin was named *Musical America's* Instrumentalist of the Year. A great way to end the season! Sponsored by Citi.

"Excellent performers! Incredible skill and versatility in styles."



Chamber Music Festival

The 8th **Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival** took place from 19-25 January 2017. Taiwanese-American violinist **Cho-Liang Lin** returned for his sixth year as Artistic Director of the Festival, and he was joined by a roster of talented local and international musicians, many of whom were making their Hong Kong debut. Premiere Performances was proud to present our first Composer-in-Residence, renowned Australian composer and violist **Brett Dean**.

Returning sponsors included Hongkong Land, the Leisure & Cultural Services Department, Tom Lee Music, the U.S. Consulate General, Interlude, and Rosamond Brown. We were excited to have Urban Spring as the new water partner, providing water in reusable bottles for all outreach events.

This year's Chamber Music Festival featured a special lecture-recital at which Nicholas Kitchen, first violinist of the Borromeo Quartet, delivered a fascinating lecture examining Beethoven's original scores. Following the talk, the Borromeo Quartet performed two Beethoven string quartets alongside a projection of the original manuscript score. The concert was an incredible success.

The 8th Chamber Music Festival also included a performance that was part of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department's Arts Experience Scheme for Senior Secondary Students. An afternoon concert was performed for almost 300 secondary students in Kwai Tsing Theatre, hosted by Artistic Director Cho-Liang Lin.

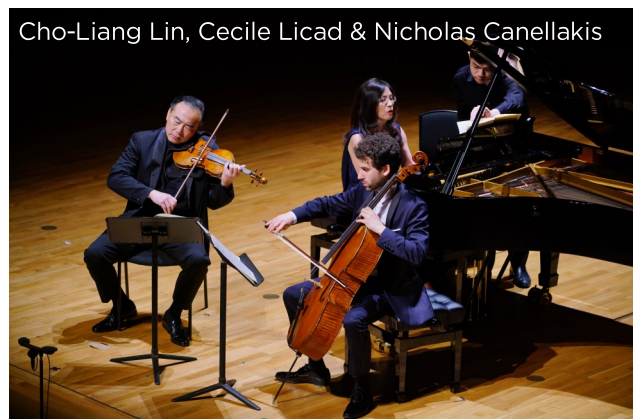
"A standing ovation was given to the Borromeo Quartet after the APA concert. In fact, the first three evenings of the Festival were always greeted with whistling cheers and thundering hurrahs, resonating the small halls after nearly every piece." - Review by Chamber Muse



In the 8th Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival, there were:

- 32 events over 18 days
- 13 visiting and 15 local musicians
- 6 ticketed concerts including a Family concert
- 1 education concert
- 22 **Beyond the Performances** events, including:
 - ◆ 9 Instrumental masterclasses and workshops:
 - ◇ 3 chamber music coaching sessions
 - ◇ 2 violin masterclasses
 - ◇ 2 piano masterclasses
 - ◇ 1 cello masterclass
 - ◇ 1 viola masterclass
 - ◆ 5 open rehearsals
 - ◆ 2 free community concerts
 - ◆ 6 music talks:
 - ◇ 2 Inside Chamber Music presentations featuring a streamed lecture from the Chamber Music Society of Lincoln Center and a live performance
 - ◇ 3 music appreciation talks
 - ◇ 1 pre-concert talk
- 3 associated concerts in collaboration with the Hong Kong Sinfonietta and The Modern Academy
- 6 sponsors
- 9 partners and collaborators

Almost 4,400 people attended the 32 Festival events, including over 2,300 audience members at the six ticketed concerts.



Family Series

The 2016/17 Family Series featured five concerts designed to inspire a love of music in primary school students. There were three concerts by Chamber Music In Schools ensembles: Australian ensembles **Shrewd Brass** and **Akoustic Odyssey**, and local wind quintet the **Viva! Pipers**. We also presented a Family Concert as part of the Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival called **Musical Fairytales**, and our second original commission, **The Beat of the Dragon Boat**.



Australian brass quintet **Shrewd Brass** opened our Family Series in October with an introduction to the larger-than-life brass family. They presented a toe-tapping concert of classical, jazz, rock, pop and Latin numbers at Tsuen Wan Town Hall.

Local ensemble the **Viva! Pipers** performed their second Family Concert at the Tuen Mun Town Hall in Cantonese in October. We are so excited to become more involved in the local community by fostering the development of local musicians and presenting concerts in Cantonese.



World music group **Akoustic Odyssey** performed a Family Concert in May featuring music inspired by the marvels of the Mediterranean. This performance took place at Sai Wan Ho Civic Centre and was sponsored by Hysan.

Little Red Violin and the Big Bad Cello,
Musical Fairytales



The Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival featured a nearly sold-out Family Concert called **Musical Fairytales**. The performance featured top local musicians and told the story of the Emperor's New Clothes and Little Red Riding Hood through music, with bilingual narration by local celebrity Gregory Rivers.

In May we were proud to present our second original commission, **The Beat of the Dragon Boat** by Alexis Alrich and Christina Matula-Häkli. This performance was the second in a series of commissions telling the story of traditional Chinese festivals using Western and Chinese instruments, with bilingual narration. The performance took place at the Asia Society and featured top local musicians along with narrator Gregory Rivers. The concert was preceded by a paper dragon boat-making workshop organized by the Asia Society, and finished with rice dumplings sponsored by Maxims.

Paper Dragon Boat workshop, Beat of the Dragon



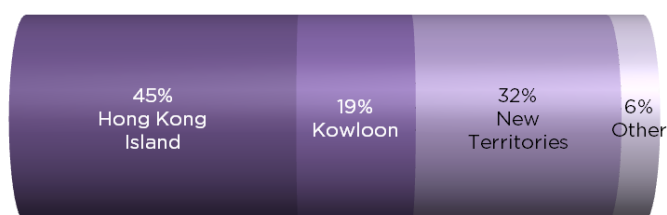
Our Audience

Surveys collected after each Recital, Festival, and Family Concert tell us about our audience; the following represents an average of all three series.

In 2016/17 we presented five concerts in the New Territories which impacted our audience demographics. This year, an increased percentage of our audience are native Cantonese speakers and live in the New Territories. Audience age, education and monthly income stayed consistent with previous years.

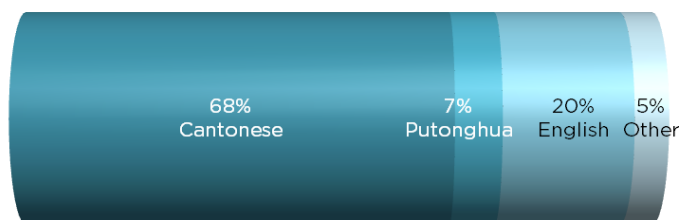
District of Residence

Our audience lives across the city. Unlike in previous years, more than half of our audience live in Kowloon and the New Territories.



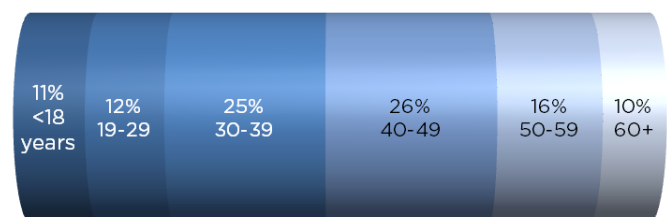
Mother Tongue

A majority of our audience is local, with 68% having Cantonese as their first language.



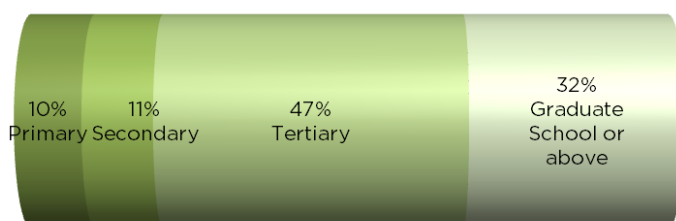
Age

The age of our audience is extremely diverse, with the majority of our audience between the ages of 30 and 50.



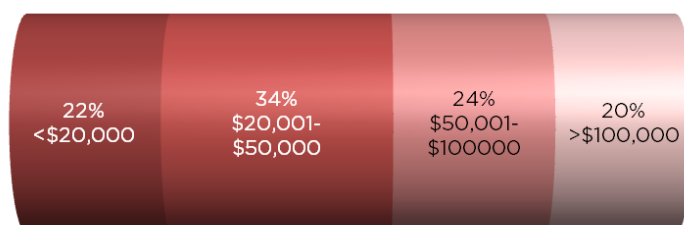
Education

Our audience is highly educated, with nearly 80% having a university education.



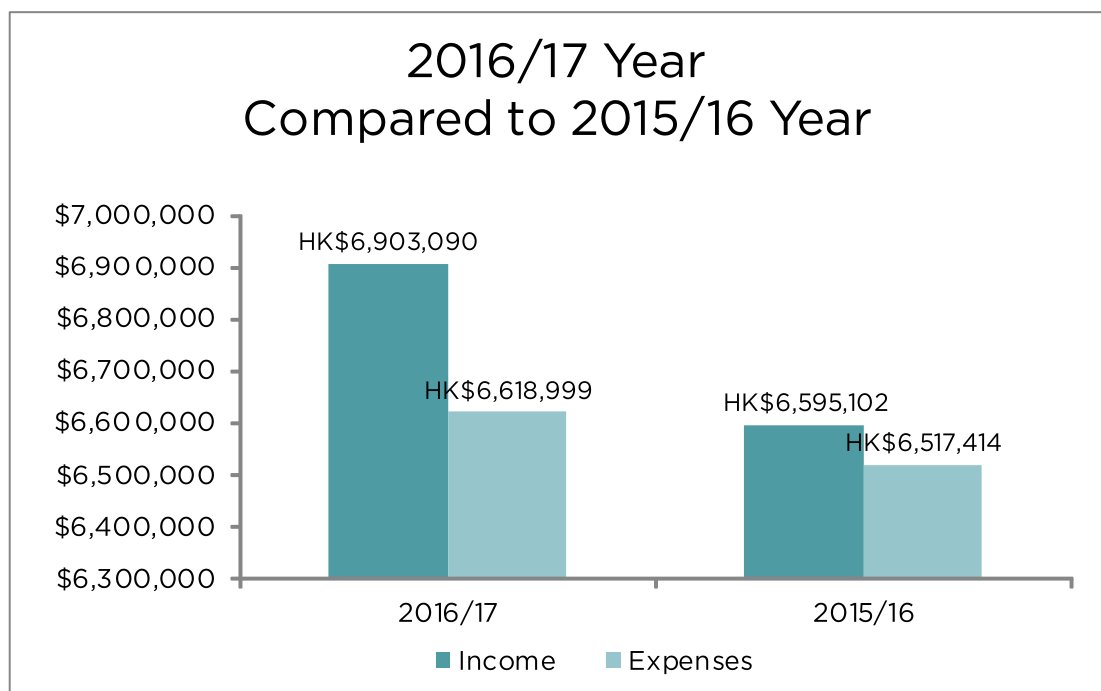
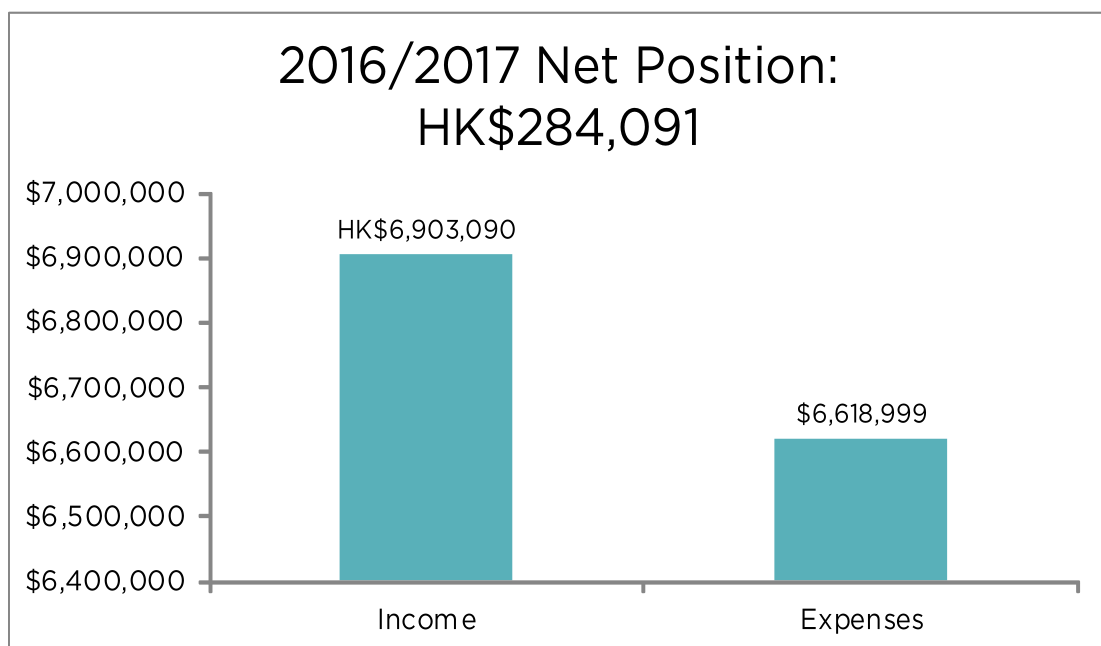
Monthly Income

Our concerts attract a wide and evenly distributed range of incomes.

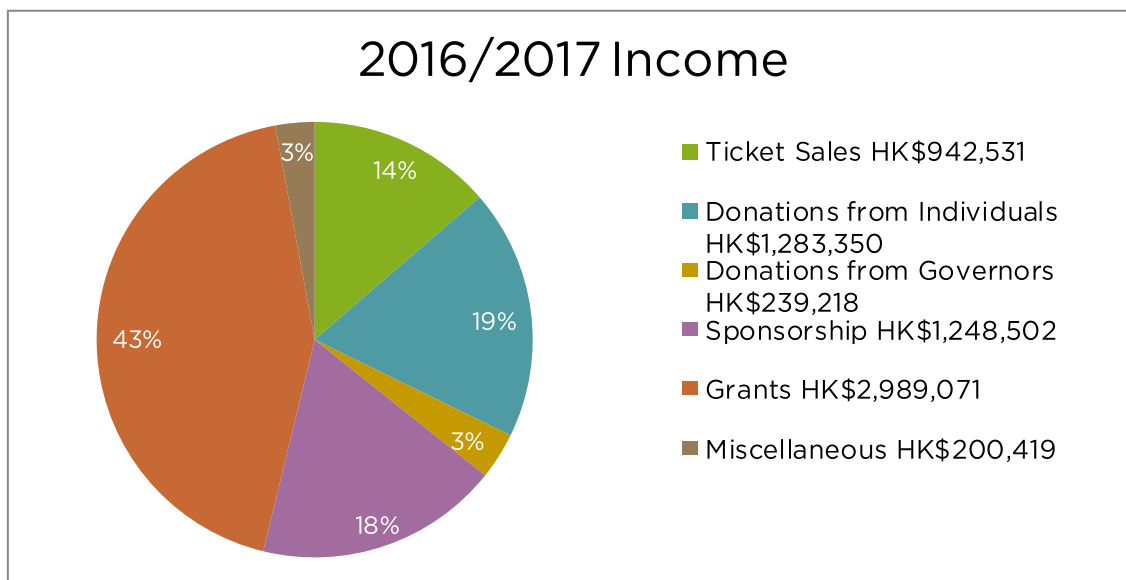


Financial Information

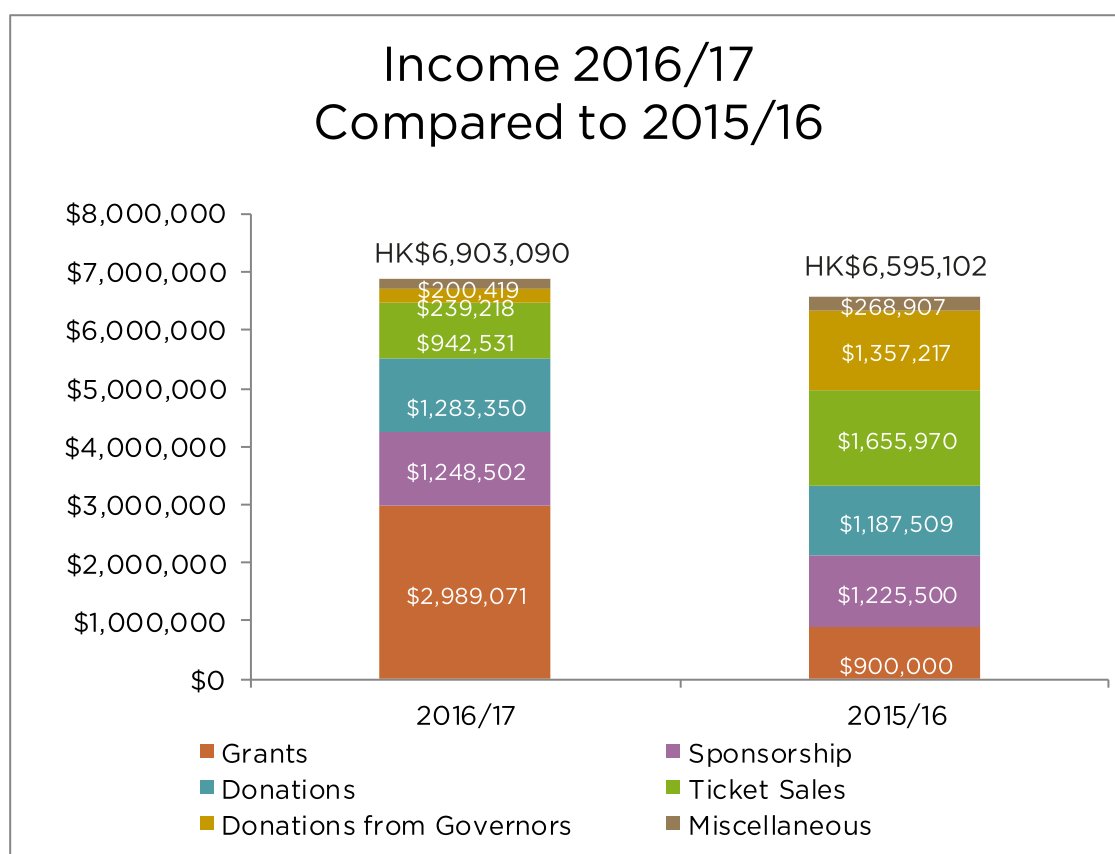
In 2016/17, we closed our books with a surplus of HK\$284,091 compared to HK\$77,688 in 2015/16. This increase in income and surplus is primarily due to the receipt from the Home Affairs Bureau of both the last installment of the second Springboard Grant (covering the period 9/2013-12/2015) and the first installment of the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme (covering the period from 4/2016-present). As our Board of Governors generally covers any shortfall when necessary, payment of this grant money resulted in a corresponding decrease in Donations from Governors.



Income



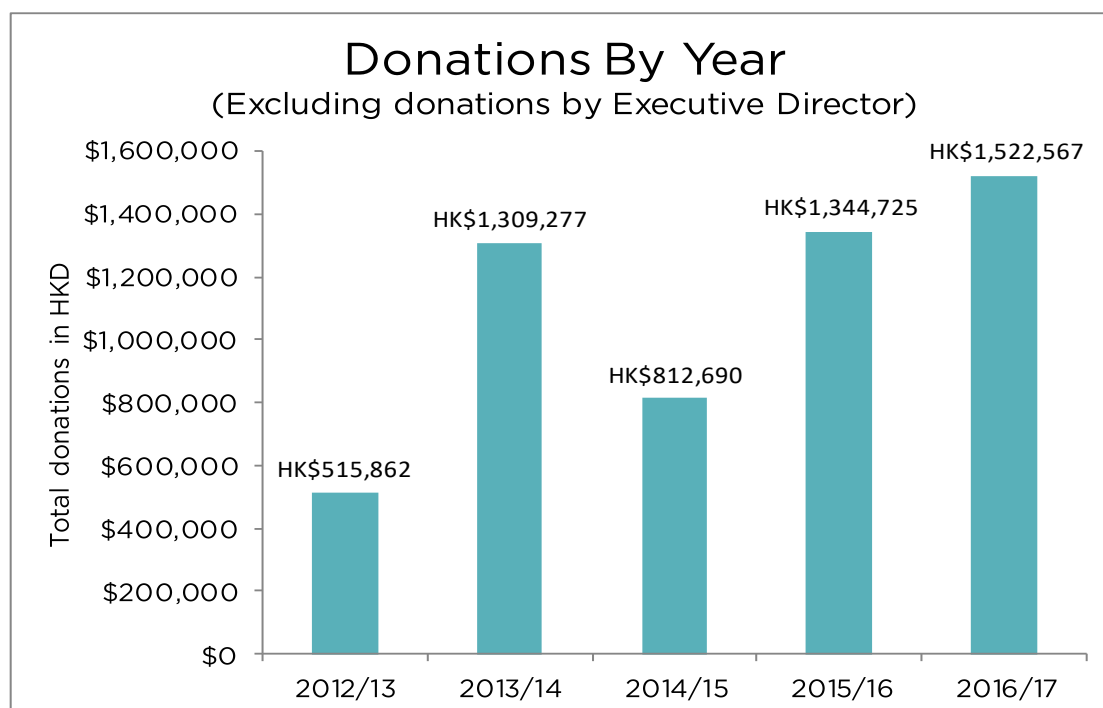
This year, our two largest categories of income were Government Grants (43%) and Donations (21%). Sponsorship was our third largest income category (19%) and Ticket Sales fell to 14%. 2015/16 was an anomaly for us in that our largest category of income was ticket sales (25%), which was a record high. Previously, Grants and Sponsorship had been the two largest income categories, representing a significant portion of our income (over 67% in 2014/15).



Sponsorship income remained flat year-on-year. Although we are fortunate to have a stable base of loyal sponsors, we have not gained any new sponsors, and we have not secured a Title Sponsor for any programmes except the Recital Series. That means that the Government of Hong Kong, through the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme, has essentially stepped into the shoes of a Title Sponsor. With this grant, we are able to maintain our current level of programmes at this level of income, but new sponsors will be necessary if we would like to expand our programmes in the future.

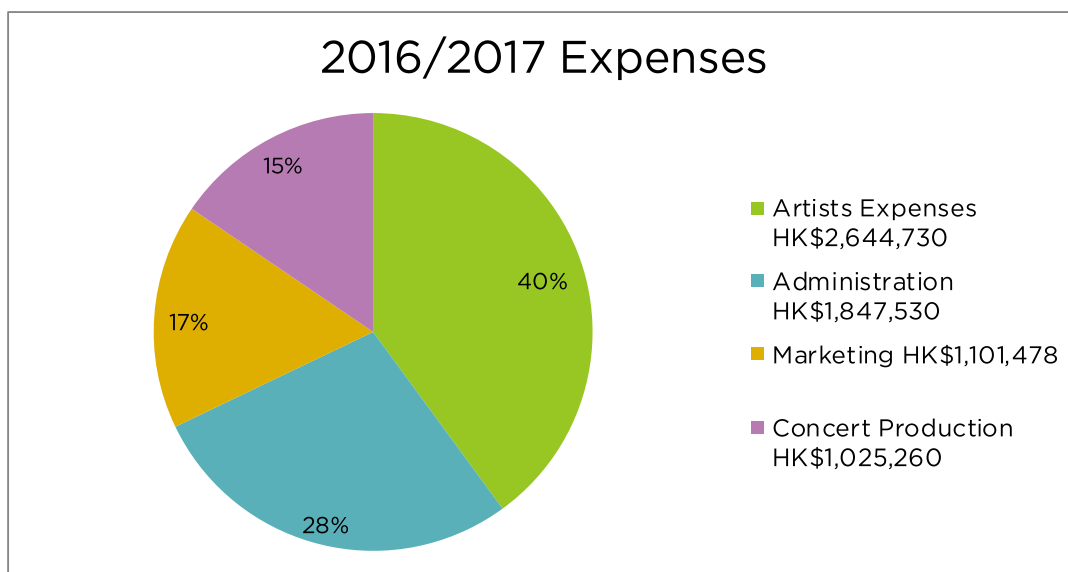
Unfortunately, ticket revenue decreased by 43%. Our lower ticket sales number was impacted by the cancellation of the Recital by guitar superstar Miloš. That concert was supposed to be a big revenue generator for the year, as his two previous concerts were completely sold out. Also, the 2017 Hong Kong International Chamber Music Festival had the lowest ticket sales since its inception in 2009, primarily because City Hall Concert Hall was closed. That meant that we had to use smaller venues (e.g. City Hall Theatre) and venues in the New Territories which generate lower sales and do not command such high ticket prices. Other Recitals and Family Concerts also did not meet their ticket sales targets for unknown reasons.

Donations from Individuals and Foundations increased by 8% from 2015/16 to \$1,283,350. If we add donations from Governors (excluding the Executive Director who is also a Governor), donations hit an all-time high. Looking at the trend of our donations over time (excluding from the Executive Director), we can see that we are succeeding in building up our donor base.

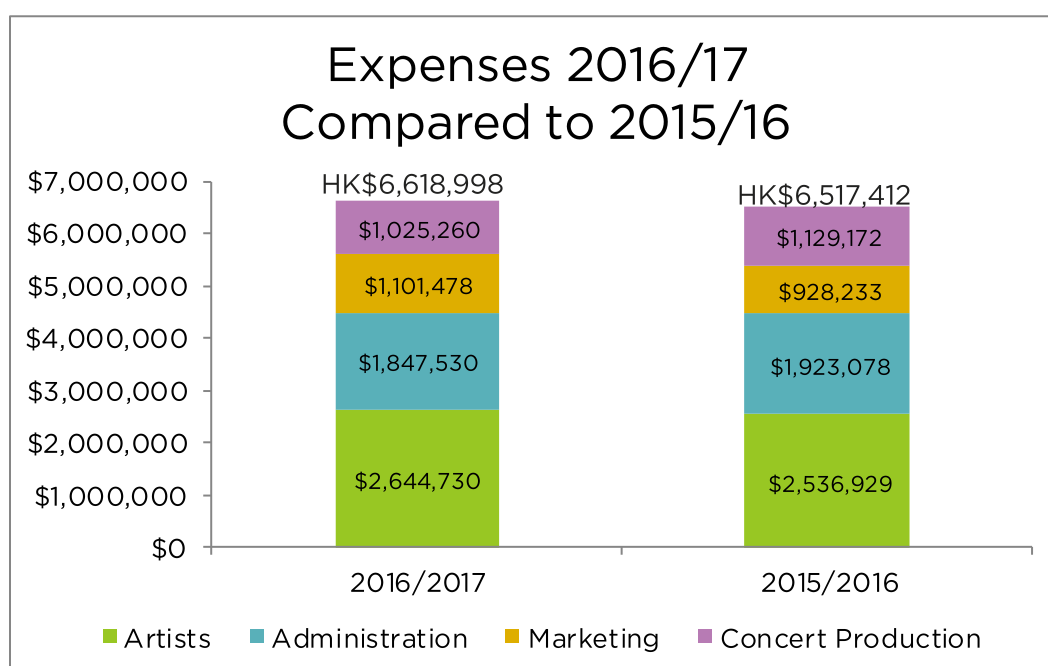


Expenses

Our Expenses were essentially flat from 2015/16 to 2016/17, with only a marginal increase overall (1.5%). As in previous years, our largest expense was Artist Expenses at 40%, which covers the costs of bringing performers to Hong Kong, including travel, accommodation and transportation. Artist Expenses increased marginally by 4% from 2015/16 to 2016/17.



Marketing Expenses account for 17% of our Total Expenses, which is more than in 2015/16 but considerably less than in previous years. Marketing expenses increased by 16% in 2016/17 due to increased costs for the MTR billboards. It is worth noting that we had already spent a considerable amount of money marketing the Miloš concert before it was cancelled. Nevertheless, Marketing Expenses were less than Ticket Sales, which is one of our KPIs. Although Administration Costs make up 28% of our total Expenses, our Administrative Costs declined from 2015/16 by 4%. Concert Production (venue rental, production, printing) also declined by 7% from 2015/16.



Thank you to our supporters

In 2016/2017 Premiere Performances was financially supported by the Art Development Matching Grants Pilot Scheme of the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administration Region.

Sponsors &
Collaborators:



Individuals:

(As of 30/6/2017)

HK\$50,000+

Anonymous (6)
Audry Ai & Tom Morrow
Sarah & Anthony Bolton
The Capital Group Companies
Charitable Foundation
Rohin Chada
Anne Farlow & Oliver Bolitho
Andrea Fessler & Davide Erro
Leonie Foong & Wen Tan
Great Eagle Holdings Limited
Wendy & Danny Hegglin
Jean Ho
Jenny Hodgson
Abby & Fred Hu
Haewon Hwang & Nick Taylor
Winnie Kwan & Mark Shuper
Jeff Levy
Lipman Karas
Y.S. Liu Foundation Ltd.
Macquarie Group Foundation
The Ronald & Rita McAulay
Foundation
Vivek Sharma
Julie & Sebastian Wittgenstein
Elaine Wong and Fritz Demopoulos
Clara Wu Tsai & Joe Tsai
YangTse Foundation

HK\$25,000-HK\$49,999

Mira Christanto
Spencer Goh
Bobbi Hernandez & Morgan Sze
Susan Ho & Andrew Brandler
Janice Lee & Joe Bae
Tracy Li
Alison Lusher & Benjamin Falloon
Moon Yik Company Limited
Amna & Ali Naqvi
Tung Family Foundation
Sofia Zanchini & Gaetano Bassolino
Jason Zhang

HK\$18,000-HK\$24,999

Anonymous (1)
Esther & John Chi
GaveKal Endowment Limited
Nelson K. F. Leong
Doreen & Alain Le Pichon
Christina Matula-Häkli & Jukka Häkli
Katherine & Willard McLane
Elena & Andrea Vella
Mr. K K Yeung, JP
Mi-Ran & Chi-Won Yoon

HK\$10,000-HK\$17,000

Anonymous (1)
Anchor International
Tzo Tze Ang & Eashwar Krishnan

Brenda Baker & Steve Baum
Vishal Bhammer
Leslie & Brian Brille
Ming Chen & Jelmara deJong
Cheng Kar Wai
Vincent Chui
Rebecca & Anthony Correa
Sachin Divecha
Haylie Ecker & Marc Fisher
Marissa Fung Shaw
Sabrina & Spencer Fung
Natalie da Gama-Rose
Daphne Ho
Jane Kim
Tamara Kovse & Zoltan Varga
Tasha & Anish Lalvani
Radhika Mahidhara
Sharene Mak
Joanne Ooi & John Bleach
Ingrid & Jonas Palsson
Yana & Stephen Peel
Ellen & Frank Proctor
Lily & Andrew Riddick
Justine & Damian Roche
Mia Sakata & Emerson Yip
Takatoshi Shibayama
Anna Stephenson & Alan Leigh
Fiona Steffensen
Maggie & Nelson Tang
Melanie Tang & Nick Simunovic
Anne & John Witt
Hugh Zimmermann

HK\$5,000-HK\$9,999

Anonymous (3)
Dania & Hani Abuali
Juliana Beckel & Jacob Carnow
Molly Bersani
Iain Bruce
Lissi & Michael Bucher
Janice Chan and Louis Choy
Lewis Chung
Chung See-yuen
David Coates
Credit Suisse Foundation
Lydia Denworth & Mark Justh
Miki Edelman
Joseph Fok
Alison Harbert
Esther Heer
Claire Hsu & Benjamin Vuchot
Sonny Hsu
Doreen Jaeger-Soong
Selina Kuok & Paolo Picazo
Charlotte Lai Wing Sze
Amy & Mattias Lamotte
Edward Lau
Tak Lee
Lee Family
David Li
Helen & Arne Lindman
Deborah & Michel Lowy

Tytus Michalski
Evan Miracle
Nadine Ouellet & David Legg
Dimitra & Dimitri Perrotis
Chrissy Sharp & Michael Lynch
Jeffrey Shiu
Audrey & Eric Slighon
Rajan Sujananani
Amy Tam
Su-Mei & Marcus Thompson
Christine Van & Martin Matsui
Clare Williams
Ella Wong
Amy Wood
Jessamy Woolley & Ralph Sellar
Tony Xu
Adam & Kirsten Zaki
Jennifer Zhu Scott & Adrian Scott

HK\$1,000-HK\$4,999

Anonymous (3)
Meenakshi Ambardar
Kylie Anania
Robin & Alexandra Black
Mimi Brown and Alp Ercil
Roberto Bruzzzone
Elizabeth Chan
Karen Chan
Elaine Cheng
Lucy Choi
Regina Chui
Elizabeth Clark & Richard Boseley
Gerald Dennig
Charles Firth
Carolyn Fong & James Rodriguez de Castro
Angus Forsyth
Fu Chong & Chen Lei
Emma Louise Fung - ELFWORKS
Nelly & Kenneth HC Fung
Ember & Evan Goldstein
Ellen Gorra
Lori Granito - Go Gourmet
Oshan Gunawardana
Claude Haberer
Corey Hall-Cooper
Wu Han & David Finkel
Rumiko Hasegawa
Lina and Rami Hayek
John Heath
Deborah & Paul Hennig
Elaine Ho
Kevin Ho
Younma & Bruno Hostelet
Dede Huang & Alec Stuart
Hui Yui
Betty Hung
Mimi & Peabody Hutton
Carolyn & Pekka Johnson
Martine & Michel Jospé
Deborah Kan & Joseph Gallagher
Kong Wing Fai

Kong Yuk Yi, Anna
Samantha & Jonathan Krieger
Randolph Kwei
Cissy Lam & Robert Tang
Eric Landolt
Andra Le Roux-Kemp
Chui-Inn Lee
May Lee
Chui-Inn Lee & Jay Chen
Joan Leung
Camilla & John Lindfors
William Littlewood
Judy Lo
Margie & George Long
John Louie
Craig & Michelle Lovett
Sandra Mak & Alex Hee
Jonathan Mandel
Stephen Matthews
Kwok-Ling Mau
Jane McBride
Sophie Mensdorff
Micramusic Limited
Siu Ming & Friends
Louisa Mitchell
Forrest Morr
Amy & Lincoln Pan
Yvonne Poon & John H Boey
Gweneth Rehnborg
Georgina & Thibaut de Rocquigny
Andrea Roth
Rubicon Communications Ltd.
Barbara Ann Rust
Philippa Salewicz
Andy Schroth
Helen Scott
Nicole & Jonathan Silver
Miki & Andrea Sorani
Jinut & Lionel St. Exupery
Jean Sung & Peter Krismer
Time Out Hong Kong
Harriet & C.C. Tung
Caroline & Douglas Van
Kim & Thomas Walther
Olivia Wang
Kohei Anthony Watanabe
Tim Weinert-Aplin
Julie & Joe Welch
Allison Haworth West & Michael West
William Westbrook
Jennifer Wilson
May Wong
Sook Leng Wong
Wong Nai Hei
Benjamin Wu
Margaret Yang
Pauline Yeung
Peter Yu
Jelena Zec & Jonathan McCullagh

Upcoming Events in 2018




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Hong Kong
International

第九屆香港國際
室內樂音樂節

**CHAMBER
MUSIC
FESTIVAL**

17-24 January 2018



Gramophone Young Artist of the Year

Benjamin Appl, baritone
with James Baillieu, piano

23 Apr 2018 Monday 8pm
Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall
\$480 / \$300 / \$200 / \$100

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Family Concert by
親子音樂會

**BEST OF
BRASS**

13 May 2018 Sunday 4pm
Cultural Activities Hall, Sha Tin Town Hall

阿Bob銅管樂五重奏

Rising Stars Duo Recital

**Bomsori Kim, violin &
Pallavi Mahidhara, piano**

15 May 2018 Tuesday 8pm
Hong Kong City Hall Concert Hall
\$480 / \$300 / \$200 / \$100



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**Danish String
Quartet**

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10 YEARS

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