

To: Editor – General News, Art & Culture, Education, Environment, Entertainment
Immediate Release

A highlight of Wan Chai Festival: Wan Chai Music Festival's Finale

Hysan presents – Music in the Green City

**First-ever city-centre outdoor concert
with elements of architectural art and music**

featuring Alice Lau - "Spring Musical" Highlights

(Hong Kong, 17 January 2007) **Music in the Green City**, the finale of the Wan Chai Music Festival, will be staged from **1:45pm to 7pm on 28 January 2007 (Sunday) at Hysan Avenue and Sunning Road, Causeway Bay.**

The concert is co-organised by Wan Chai District Council's Economic and Employment Committee, Steering Committee of Wan Chai "Hygienic, Healthy and Dynamic City" Scheme, Cultural and Leisure Services Committee, Hysan Development Co. Ltd, Chung Ying Theatre Company, Hong Kong Architecture Centre and supported by Wan Chai District Office.

It is the first-ever city-centre outdoor concert to be held in bustling Causeway Bay, blending the elements of architectural art and music.

Mr Michael Lee, Managing Director of Hysan Development Company Limited said, "We all seek a harmonious, peaceful and environmentally friendly lifestyle. With 'green' as its theme, **Music in the Green City** combines the best elements of visual art with different music genres to provide a fun-filled but also relaxing afternoon for Causeway Bay residents and visitors alike."

Music in the Green City is the combined efforts of two top Hong Kong talents from the field of performing arts and architecture, Mr Ko Tin-Lung, Event Producer, also Artistic Director of the Chung Ying Theatre Company, and Dr Chan Lai-kiu, Honorary Secretary of the Hong Kong Architecture Centre, the Hong Kong Institute of Architects.

The concert promises a street music carnival in the vibrant heart of Causeway Bay. Bringing together architectural art and music, and making use of a leaf-shape hanging decor specially designed for this event. The concert, set against the venue,

accentuates the importance of a green urban environment. As in other street carnivals, performers will play on and off stage and interact with the audience. All that will take place in a safe, vehicle-free section of the Hysan Avenue, while games & crafts booths will be mounted in Sunning Road, most of which will also be closed to traffic.

“Causeway Bay has been well known for being a place where East meets West, business meets business and people gather from different nationalities. There is a convergence of fascinating people, goods and trends. One can enjoy oneself alone in Causeway Bay, or one can share the fun with business partners, families and friends. The **Causeway Bay spirit** is not only at the core of the **Hong Kong spirit**, but is also the essence of a cosmopolitan city,” continued Michael Lee.

“We are not ending our effort to strengthen ties with the community at Hysan Avenue. We are delighted to work further together with Mr Ko to establish the “Green Express”, which will ‘travel’ to other districts to extend this creative concert beyond the center of Hong Kong,” continued Mr Lee.

Music is not constrained by borders. The spirit of the concert – and that of Causeway Bay and Hong Kong - will spread throughout Hong Kong.

Mr Ko Tin-lung said, “The Lee Hysan Foundation has been nurturing talents from various disciplines by sending them overseas for exposure. These include theatre performance, music and architecture. I am one of the beneficiaries having a chance to study drama and art in the United States. In line with this admirable tradition, Hysan Development lends support to the development of local art relentlessly. In fact, art comes in many different forms and does not confine itself to a single medium. This concert is just the beginning. I am sure there will be many more forms of performance for the community in future. The uniqueness of this concert is indeed is to highlight the concept of inclusion for enjoyment by all”.

Hysan will sponsor 300 kids from Tin Shui Wai and Tung Chung to visit Causeway Bay and to watch the concert, facilitating those who may seldom have the chance to be in touch with art to share the fun.”

“We are delighted to have the opportunity to participate in this meaningful event,” Dr. Chan Lai-kiu of the Hong Kong Architecture Centre said. “When we developed the venue design, we wanted it to be simple and safe. We also thought that the audience

should not need to stand and watch the show for too long. We decided to create inflatable leaf-shape 'cushions' which can be used as seats as well as hanging decors," said Dr. Chan.

" In fact, the cushions will also be used as souvenirs. Both Mr Ko and the Organising Committee believe the leaf-shape design truly represents what this concert is all about: our wish for a greener and fresher environment," stated Dr. Chan. "The architects' contribution will not end at the venue design. An architect's band will be performing and we will also run one of the game booths, sharing our belief in art with all the participants."

~ Ends ~

Hysan's major business in Hong Kong includes investment, management and development of high quality office, shops and residential projects. The company currently is the biggest property owner of in Causeway Bay, a district dominated with premier offices and shops.

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Programme

Time	Description	Length
13:45	Opening Ceremony	15 min
14:05	Ban's Gig Drums - African Drums	20 min
14:35	HK Treble Choir - Children's Choir	20 min
15:00	HK Melody Makers - a cappella	15 min
15:20	Ban's Gig Drums - African Drums (w/ interaction)	30 min
16:00	The Architect Band - Western Pop Music	25 min
16:35	Romance Quartet-Russian Music & Others (Justin Siu)	30 min
17:15	American Community Theatre - Broadway Musicals	25 min
17:45	Longman's Steel Drum & Jazz Band	20 min
18:15	Alice Lau's "Spring Musical" Highlights	45 min
	Total:	4hrs 5mins

The musical performance will take place on Hysan Avenue. There will be game and refreshment booths along Sunning Road. Clowns, jugglers and stilt-walkers will also mingle with the crowd throughout the afternoon.

Encl.

Appendix

Event Producer



Ko Tin-lung

Mr Ko received a Bachelor Degree in Sociology from the Chinese University of Hong Kong and a Diploma of Education from the University of Hong Kong. He joined the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre as full time actor in 1983 and was promoted to Assistant Artistic Director. Ko played the parts of a scriptwriter, director and actor in a number of different dramatic productions. Among the best-known shows were “I Have A Date With Spring”, “The Mad Phoenix” and “Stand by Me” (First Show) and all of them were made into movies.

Ko received the Stage Director of the Year Award from the Hong Kong Artists Guild in 1991, the Ten Years Outstanding Achievement Award from the Hong Kong Federation of Drama Societies in 1994 and the Best Director (Comedy/Farce) for his performance in 《The School And I》 at the 4th Hong Kong Drama Awards. He received the award of “Secretary for Home Affairs Commendation Scheme” in 2006 in the capacity of “Persons with Outstanding Contribution to the Development of Arts and Culture”.

Venue Design Consultant



Chan Lai-kiu

Dr Chan is a Registered Architect in Hong Kong and is currently the Director of P&T Architects and Engineers Ltd. Her design portfolios included Entertainment Building in Central (1993 HKIA Silver Medal), Suzhou Sheraton Hotel in PRC (2004 HKIA Annual Award for Work Outside Hong Kong) and Shunde Cultural Complex, also in PRC (the Performing Arts Centre of which was awarded 2006 DFA Best Design from Greater China Award.)

She graduated from Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong in 1986 and completed her Ph.D. studies in 1998. She was awarded the Hong Kong Young Architect Award in 1993.

She is also a part-time teacher, artist, designer and writer and has co-authored a number of Chinese book. She had also won various design awards outside the field of architecture. She is currently the Director and the Honorary Secretary of Hong Kong Architecture Centre and a member of Asian Cultural Council.

Performers:



Ban's Gig Drums

Ban's Gig Drum was established six years ago. The group frequently participates in variety types of shows, including performing with well-known famous local singers. The group is best known for its African drumbeats, but the members are also accomplished percussionists with other types of drums. The group's surging rhythm and the members' warm on-stage personalities have made it one of the most original arts in town.



The Hong Kong Melody Makers is a well-established, high quality youth choir founded by The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups and sponsored by The Dragon Foundation. Through singing songs composed locally, the choir hopes to share with the audience the local dynamic culture and build up a stronger sense of belonging.



HK Treble Choir

The Hong Kong Treble Choir is a registered non-profit making organisation founded by Mr Leon Tong, Vice President of International Federation for Choral Music. Its directors and advisors are all local or international renowned experts in treble choir and music. The Choir aims to promote Hong Kong 's children and youth singing and music education. It provides members with a lot of opportunities for performance locally and overseas with a view to building up their confidence.



The Architect Band

Most members of the band are graduates from the Department of Architecture of the University of Hong Kong. They met each other in the design studio around ten years ago, when music playing during off-studio hour was quite popular. They started with playing guitars and singing pop song in the studio and later formed a band for participation in various campus performances. Their passion in music did not fade after graduation, but continue to form a bond among them.



Romance Quartet-Russian Music & Others (Justin Siu)

The European Romance Quartet is a unique group of musicians consisting of an accordionist, guitarist or Russian Balalaika player, double bassist and a drummer who, instead of sitting in front of drums, performs with self-made mobile drumming kit. The group has an authentic touch of European music and Russian folk dance music. They are ready to perform in any occasion - even at a Hennessy V.S.O.P. DJ dance party featuring Anthony Wong. Kids and parents might wonder in awe, as the Quartet is a sight rarely found in Hong Kong.



American Community Theatre

American Community Theatre is a registered non-profit making organisation with a mission to producing high quality theatre performance for the enjoyment of the audience. They usually produce 3 shows a year (one comedy, one children's production and one musical.)



Longman's Steel Drum & Jazz Band

Started playing cello since the age of 7, Longman has always been well taken care of by all orchestra members and his subordinates. He is usually very active during performance and has performed together with many famous musicians and artists.



Alice Lau

Alice Lau was a member of the third graduating class of the Drama School of the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. In school, she played the leading role in a number of musicals, including Man of La Mancha and Grease. She had been awarded the Most Promising Actor and Outstanding Actress Award. She was a full-time actress of the Hong Kong Repertory Theatre from 1990 to 1994. Since then, she started her career as a free-lance actress and singer.

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