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Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra

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featuring Hakken 八犬

Symphonic

2023 SEASON

PERFORMANCE AT DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS

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MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

The Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) gave its inaugural performance at Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS (DFP) on 17 August 1998. With the initial search for outstanding musicians involving a worldwide audition tour, the MPO today is made up of many talented musicians from Malaysia and other nations, a beautiful example of harmony among different cultures and nationalities.

With each new season, the MPO continues to present an exciting programme of orchestral music drawn from over three centuries, as well as the crowd-pleasing concert series. Its versatility transcends genres, from classical masterpieces to film music, pop, jazz, traditional, contemporary and commissioned works.

Among renowned Malaysian artists who have mesmerised audiences with the MPO include SM Salim, Sheila Majid, M. Nasir, Siti Nurhaliza, Jamal Abdillah, Ella, Faizal Tahir, Dayang Nurfaizah, Aishah, Jaclyn Victor and Aubrey Suwito. A host of internationally acclaimed musicians have performed with the MPO including Lorin Maazel, Sir Neville Marriner, Yehudi Menuhin, Joshua Bell, Harry Connick Jr., José Carreras, Andrea Bocelli, Dame Kiri Te Kanawa, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Chris Botti, Branford Marsalis and Judika, many of whom have praised the MPO for its fine musical qualities and vitality.

The MPO regularly performs in major cities of Malaysia such as Alor Setar, George Town, Ipoh, Johor Bahru, Kuantan, Kota Kinabalu, Kuching and many more. Internationally, it has toured Singapore (1999, 2001, 2003, 2005 and 2018), Japan (2001, 2009 and 2017), Korea (2001), Australia (2004), China (2006 and 2019), Taiwan (2007) and Vietnam (2013). The MPO has also released 21 CDs.

The MPO remains steadfast in its mission to be the premier Malaysian orchestra, providing the ultimate music experience through the power of live music that educates, entertains and inspires. Its main benefactor is PETRONAS, and its patron is YABhg. Tun Dr. Siti Hasmah Haji Mohd Ali.

Symphonic Anime

Fri 28 Apr 2023, 8:30 pm Sat 29 Apr 2023, 11:00 am & 8:30 pm

- 03 Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra
- 05 Naohisa Furusawa, conductor
- 08 Hakken, cosplayer

TAKANASHI

PROGRAMME	
HISAISHI	Spirited Away: One Summer Day 4 mins
HISAISHI	Kiki's Delivery Service smins
HISAISHI	Howl's Moving Castle: Merry Go Round of Life 3 mins
HISAISHI	My Neighbour Totoro: Orchestra Suite 24 mins • Hey Let's Go • The Village in May • Dust Bunnies – Mother • A Little Monster – Totoro • The Path of the Wind • A Lost Child • Cat Bus • My Neighbour Totoro
20-mins intermission	
20-mins intermission MIYAGAWA	Space Battleship Yamato: Suite 10 mins
	Space Battleship Yamato: Suite 10 mins Hunter x Hunter: Kingdom of Predators 3 mins
MIYAGAWA	
MIYAGAWA HIRANO	Hunter x Hunter: Kingdom of Predators 3 mins
MIYAGAWA HIRANO MOZART	Hunter x Hunter: Kingdom of Predators 3 mins Requiem: Lacrimosa 4 mins
MIYAGAWA HIRANO MOZART TAKANASHI	Hunter x Hunter: Kingdom of Predators 3 mins Requiem: Lacrimosa 4 mins Naruto Shippuden: Departure to the Front Lines 2 mins
MIYAGAWA HIRANO MOZART TAKANASHI KAJIURA & SHIINA	Hunter x Hunter: Kingdom of Predators <i>3 mins</i> Requiem: Lacrimosa <i>4 mins</i> Naruto Shippuden: Departure to the Front Lines <i>2 mins</i> Demon Slayer: Kamado Tanjirou no Uta <i>5 mins</i>

HAYASHI & TACHIBANA Haikyuu: Team Potential 4 mins

Fairy Tail: Dragon Force Theme 4 mins

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Naohisa Furusawa

Naohisa Furusawa has been a member of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO) double bass section since 2003. Born in Tokyo in 1973, he started to play the violin when he was 4 and joined his junior high school orchestra as a double bass player at 12. His first conducting experience was with this orchestra. Later, he studied double bass with Professor Nobuo Shiga and conducting with Professor Kazue Kamiya at Toho Gakuen School of Music (Tokyo, Japan); and with Professor Frank Reinecke at the Mozarteum University in Salzburg.

Furusawa has performed as a double bass player with the NHK Symphony, Yomiuri Nippon Symphony, Tokyo Metropolitan Symphony and other orchestras, under the direction of conductors such as Seiji Ozawa, Kazuyoshi Akiyama, Wolfgang Sawallisch, Horst Stein, Lorin Maazel, Herbert Blomstedt, Charles Dutoit, Fabio Luisi, Esa-Pekka Salonen, Mstislav Rostropovich, Paavo Järvi, Pierre Boulez and Valery Gergiev.

He conducted many youth ensembles including the MPO's Encounter Training Ensemble and the Miri Tutti Project in East Malaysia as part of the MPO's Education and Outreach Programme and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony nine times with the MAX Philharmonic Orchestra (Tokyo, Japan). In 2015, he conducted Mahler's Second Symphony with the MAX Philharmonic to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War.

Furusawa was Principal conductor of the Malaysian Philharmonic Youth Orchestra (MPYO) from 2020 – 2021 and is currently the Resident Conductor of the MPO. He also served as covering conductor for Mark Wigglesworth, Roberto Abbado, Stéphane Denève, Jun Märkl and Vladimir Ashkenazy.

The MPO, under his baton, kicked off its 18th Season in September 2016 with four sold-out concerts themed *A Musical Journey in Anime* featuring the works of acclaimed Japanese composer Joe Hisaishi at Dewan Filharmonik PETRONAS (DFP).

He conducted Beethoven's Ninth Symphony in DFP as well in August 2017 for the 60th Anniversary of the diplomatic relations between Malaysia and Japan with a combined choir consisting of choirs from The Dithyrambic Singers (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia), The Choir of Gonville and Caius College (Cambridge, United Kingdom), and The MAX Philharmonic Choir (Tokyo, Japan).

His first conducting tour with the MPO and Malaysian pianist, Tengku Irfan was in Japan at the Tokyo Opera City Concert Hall for the Asia Orchestra Week (AOW) in 2017, a festival under Japan's Agency for Cultural Affairs. He also conducted the side-by-side orchestra with the MPO and Kansai Philharmonic Orchestra (Osaka, Japan), as part of AOW at the Iwaki Performing Arts Centre.

He made his debut with the MPYO in the International Youth Orchestra Festivals at the Esplanade, Singapore in 2017, Hong Kong Cultural Centre, Hong Kong in 2018, and Taman Ismail Marzuki, Jakarta in 2019.

> Furusawa and the MPO have toured Kota Kinabalu, Kuching, Johor Bahru and Melaka in 2018, and Dalian, China in 2019.

cosplant Hakken

HAKKEN八犬, also known as Hakken Ryou, originally from Sarawak, Malaysia, is a world renowned cosplayer and model who has amassed more than 5 million fans on social media and is one of the most influential figures in cosplay world.

From Hakken's teenage years Hakken started cosplaying as a hobby but with the great passion and enthusiasm, Hakken began to receive a lot of attention and attracted a large number of fans from all over the world. There are many Japanese and Korean manga/anime artists who are amazed at how Hakken could portray their manga/anime characters so flawlessly, such as Gojo Satoru from the manga Jujutsu Kaisen, Bruno Buccellati from the Jojo's Bizarre Adventure Part 5. Hakken perfectly embodies the character and charmed the fans and even the manga artists themselves. They said, "as if the manga characters come to life!". With the recognition from the original artists, Hakken has been brought to the highest level in cosplay world.

Nevertheless, Hakken is not overwhelmed with the fame but continues to pursue a career in fashion and lifestyle. Hakken has own fashion label, published a photograph album and collaborated with many brands to further expand despite the young age.

In February 2023, Hakken was appointed as Tokyo Tourism Ambassador by the Tokyo Metropolitan Government, presenting Hakken's positive public image as well as power of influence.

Hakken has become an internationally recognized style icon and continues to inspire the young generation to be authentic to their creative expressions and to achieve what they believe.

PROGRAMME NOTES

As part of commemorating the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra (MPO)'s 25th anniversary this year, the MPO brings some of the most iconic anime soundtracks to life with the *Symphonic Anime IV* concerts.

The concerts, the fourth in the MPO's *Symphonic Anime* series, not only showcase the allure of anime music but also highlight the remarkable talent of the MPO, led by its Resident Conductor Naohisa Furusawa.

Anime music has gained a significant following outside Japan, and its popularity continues to grow with the global recognition of anime. Encompassing a wide range of genres, from pop and rock to classical and orchestral, anime music is employed to enhance the storytelling, character development and emotional impact of the show.

Some anime soundtracks are so popular that they have become iconic in their own right, with fans eagerly anticipating new releases and attending 'live' concerts featuring the music. An integral part of the anime experience, the music enhances the excitement, drama and emotional impact of the concert.

Many Malaysians grew up watching anime on television, making Anime and its music very popular in Malaysia for decades. This exposure has created a strong fan base for anime and anime music. The popularity in Malaysia has created a vibrant community of fans who share their love and appreciation for anime and anime music through social media, conventions and cosplay events. This sense of community has helped to strengthen the fan base for anime anime and anime music in Malaysia.



Spirited Away

The concerts present, among others, the soundtrack for *Spirited Away - One Summer Day*, which is widely regarded as one of the most successful and beloved film scores in anime history. It features a mix of playful, haunting, and emotionally resonant tracks that perfectly complement the film's magical and surreal visuals. The music was composed by Joe Hisaishi, who has collaborated extensively with the well known anime filmmaker Hayao Miyazaki. *Spirited Away* is a critically acclaimed and commercially successful anime film directed by Miyazaki and produced by Studio Ghibli. Its evocative music captures the whimsical and mysterious spirit of the film.



Legendary duo: Hayao Miyazaki (left) & Joe Hisaishi (right)

Next on the line-up is the soundtrack from *My Neighbour Totoro*, a beloved anime film directed by Miyazaki and produced by Studio Ghibli. The film follows the story of two young sisters who move to the countryside with their father and encounter a variety of magical creatures, including the titular Totoro. The film's soundtrack, *That Path of Wind*, composed by Hisaishi, is considered one of the most iconic and celebrated scores in anime history. The enchanting and tranquil piece of music captures the serenity and natural beauty of the countryside setting of the film.

The programme also features the music from *Howl's Moving Castle*, a much-loved anime film directed by Miyazaki and produced by Studio Ghibli. It tells the story of a young girl named Sophie who becomes embroiled in a magical adventure with a mysterious wizard

named Howl. The soundtrack for the film, *Merry Go Round*, is an upbeat music by Hisaishi that perfectly captures the playful and fantastical nature of the film, adding depth, emotion and atmosphere to Miyazaki's stunning visuals.





My Neighbor Totoro

Howl's Moving Castle



Kiki's Delivery Service

Kiki's Delivery Service, which tells the story of a young witch named Kiki who moves to a new town to start her own delivery service, is also included in the programme. Composed by Hisaishi, the film's soundtrack is a delightful and imaginative piece of music that captures the sense of adventure and joy that is present throughout the film. It adds a sense of wonder and magic to the film, elevating the already excellent animation and storytelling to new heights.

The collaboration between Miyazaki and Hisaishi has been a crucial element in the success of many Studio Ghibli films. Hisaishi's music enhances the magical and visionary worldbuilding that Miyazaki is known for, creating a truly immersive cinematic experience.



Hiroshi Miyagawa

Space Battleship Yamato

The concert will also showcase the music of Hiroshi Miyagawa, a composer who is best known for his work on the music for the *Space Battleship Yamato* anime series. *Space Battle Suite Yamato*, a track from the series, is a thrilling and epic score that captures the intense and action-packed nature of the series, with Miyagawa's music adding depth and excitement to the already intense space battles of the series, creating a truly unforgettable aural and visual experience.



Hunter X Hunter

Kingdom of Predators, a track from the 2011 version of the *Hunter x Hunter* anime series, and composed by Yoshihisa Hirano, is a haunting and suspenseful piece of music that captures the intense and perilous atmosphere of the series. Hirano's music plays a significant role in establishing the tone and emotional depth of the series. The soundtrack features a diverse range of genres, from epic orchestral scores to more subtle, atmospheric pieces, with each track serving to enhance the visual storytelling of the anime.

Lacrimosa is a movement from Mozart's *Requiem in D minor, K. 626.* It is a powerful and emotional piece of music that is often performed at solemn occasions. The *Lacrimosa* is known for its haunting melody and powerful choral writing, and it is considered one of the most iconic pieces of classical music ever written. It is frequently used to accompany Anime works.

Departure to the Front Lines is a track from the original soundtrack of the anime series **Naruto Shippuden**. The series is a continuation of the popular Naruto anime and follows the story of Naruto Uzumaki and his friends as they embark on new adventures and face even more dangerous enemies. It is a high-energy, action-packed track that is often played during intense battle scenes in the series. The track was composed by Yasuharu Takanashi. The soundtrack is well regarded for its ability to capture the emotions and energy of the series, and *Departure to the Front Lines* is no exception.



Naruto Shippuden



Demon Slaver

Kamado Tanjirou no Uta is the opening theme song for the anime series *Demon Slayer*. It is a beautiful and emotional piece of music that perfectly captures the spirit of the series. The lyrics tell the story of the main character, Tanjirou Kamado, and his journey to become a demon slayer in order to protect his family and avenge his sister. The anime series itself is a thrilling and emotional story about Tanjirou's quest to turn his demonised sister back into a human and avenge his family. The series has been praised for its stunning animation, gripping story and memorable characters, and has become one of the most popular anime series in recent years.

Shinzou wo Sasageyo is one of the most iconic songs from the **Attack on Titan** series, Season 2. The song is known for its powerful and uplifting lyrics. The title of the song (which translates to *Dedicate Your Heart* in English), is a phrase that is often used throughout the series as a rallying cry for the soldiers fighting against the Titans. The lyrics encourage the soldiers to keep fighting and to dedicate their hearts to the cause of humanity, even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds.

Guren no Yumiya is the first opening theme song for the anime series *Attack on Titan* and is known for its fast-paced and energetic sound. The title of the song translates to *Crimson Bow and Arrow* in English, which is a reference to the weapons used by the soldiers in the series to fight against the Titans. The lyrics encourage the soldiers to never give up even in the face of overwhelming adversity.



Attack on Titan

Haikyuu!!, which features exhilarating and intense music that perfectly captures the excitement and energy of the show's volleyball matches, is composed by Asami Tachibana. The soundtrack **Above** is a fast-paced and energetic piece of music that plays during the show's action sequences, adding to the intensity and excitement of the matches. The music, which often incorporates elements of rock and pop, complements the show's dynamic animation style and helps to build tension and emotion during key moments, adding a layer of excitement and emotion to the already gripping story, making it one of the most exciting and entertaining sports anime series of all time.

Another soundtrack from *Haikyuu!! Team Potential*, is a motivating and inspiring piece of music that plays during the show's training and practice sequences, highlighting the potential of the team to reach its goals.



Haikyu!!

The Fairy Tail anime series features an epic and memorable soundtrack composed by Yasuharu Takanashi that perfectly captures the excitement and emotion of the show's magical battles. **Dragon Force Theme**, a track from the series, is a powerful and energetic piece of music that plays during some of the most intense and action-packed moments of the series, particularly during battles involving the Dragon Slayers.



Fairy Tail

ABOUT THE WRITER

Joseph Edwin is passionate about helping audiences deepen their understanding and appreciation of music. He is known for his ability to make complex musical concepts accessible to a wide audience and has honed his craft over the years, developing a unique voice that is both lyrical and compelling. His experience as a writer spans a wide range of formats, both online and offline, from reports and essays to reviews and profiles. On some weekends, he works with disadvantaged children to help them read and write.

MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

RESIDENT CONDUCTOR

Gerard Salonga Naohisa Furusawa

FIRST VIOLIN

Concertmaster Peter Daniš Co-Concertmaster Ming Goh Principal Zhenzhen Liang

Tan Ka Ming Wong Lu Ee * Sherwin Thia * Chan Mei Teng * Lisa Chia Xiaoli

- * Leona Siona Ouen
- * Lee Sing Hong

SECOND VIOLIN

Section Principal * Miroslav Daniš

- * Keng Xin Tian
- * Stefan Kocsis
- * Yunzhi Ling

* Izzywan Musib

* Joanna Ho * Khaw Hui Yang Catherine

VIOLA

Ong Lin Kern Thian Ai Wen Jebat Arjuna Kee Jia Liang Ling Li Yen *Fan Ran * Phoon Zu Ying

CELLO

Section Principal Csaba Kőrös

Elizabeth Tan Suyin Dylan Lee Mihn Tang Goh Wen Chih Wong Jun Yuan * Joshua Sim Te Sheng DOUBLE BASS Section Principal Wolfgang Steike

Jun-Hee Chae Lin Yi Rou Lee Kar Yan

FLUTE *Co-Principal* Yukako Yamamoto

Sub-Principals *Foo Chie Haur

PICCOLO Principal

* Japheth Law Sze Cheng **OBOE** *Sub-Principal* Lee Chun Howe

COR ANGLAIS *Principal* Niels Dittmann

CLARINET Section Principal Gonzalo Esteban

BASS CLARINET

Principal Chris Bosco

BASSOON Section Principal Alexandar Lenkov

CONTRABASSOON *Principal* Vladimir Stoyanov HORN Section Principal Grzegorz Curyła

Assistant Principal Sim Chee Ghee Sub-Principals Eric Tiow Xian Liang * Mohd Adznan Mokhtar * Kartik Alan

TRUMPET

Assistant Principal Matthew Dempsey Sub-Principals Jeffrey Missal * Suchol Nintawong * John Bourque

TROMBONE

Section Principal Marques Young Co-Principal Fernando Borja * Ainul Basyirah

BASS TROMBONE

Principal * Chee Chow Ming

TUBA

Section Principal Tan Shun Zhong

TIMPANI Section Principal

Matthew Thomas

PERCUSSION

Assistant Principal Antti Olavi Ohenoja Sub-Principal Tee Ching Hong Yap Siu Yan *Ng Lip Sheng *Yon Nian Shee

HARP

Principal Tan Keng Hong

PIANO

* Akiko Danis

GUITAR

* Ihzwan Omar

BASS GUITAR *Mohd Firdaus Abd Wahab

Mond Firdaus Abd Waha

DRUM

* Kam Cheong Jin

Note: Sectional string players are rotated within their sections. *Extra musician.

music that moves you



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COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE SERVICES Munshi Ariff Abu Hassan Hisham Abdul Jalil Muhammad Farhan Aziz Zulfadil Mohd Zakarrudin BUSINESS & STRATEGIC RELATIONS MANAGEMENT At Ziafrizani Chek Pa

Norsahida Mohd Salim Syazwan Arif Yayuk Yulianawati Rila TECHNICAL SERVICES

Firoz Khan Mohd Yunus Muhamad Hafiz Abdul Aziz

HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT Mohd Fahmi Md Radzi

FINANCE & CORPORATE SERVICES Mohamed Sultan Haja Mohideen Norhisham Abd Rahman Nurfharah Farhana Hashimi Logiswary Raman Nor Afidah Nordin

MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER Hassina Begam A Gani

ARTISTIC MANAGEMENT Khor Chin Yang Sharon Francis Lihan Ong Li-Huey Wong Seong Seong

ORCHESTRA MANAGEMENT Fadilah Kamal Francis Sharifah Nurhadaina Mishra Syed Mohamad MUSIC TALENT DEVELOPMENT Ahmad Muriz Che Rose Shireen Jasin Mokhtar

COMMUNICATIONS & CREATIVE SERVICES Munshi Ariff Abu Hassan Farah Diyana Ismail

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MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA - 199801007000



Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra

Kaya Sepanjang Zaman

SAT 6 MAY 2023 8:30PM

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra Ahmad Muriz Che Rose, conductor Bob Yusof, vocals Datuk Hail Amir, vocals Ziana Zain, vocals Sanisah Huri, vocals

RM218 RM268 RM318 RM368 Suite*: RM600/seat RM650/seat *Inclusive of artiste Meet & Greet

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Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra

BRAHMS VIOLIN CONCERTO

SAT 20 MAY 2023 8:30PM

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra Stanislav Kochanovsky, conductor Peter Daniš, violin

RM198 RM238 RM288 RM298 Suite: RM328/seat RM358/seat

DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS, KLCC mpo.com.my boxoffice@dfp.com.my 603 - 2331 7007





Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra

The Music of

SAT 27 MAY 2023 8:30PM SUN 28 MAY 2023 3:00PM

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra Gerard Salonga, conductor

RM218 RM288 RM338 RM398 Suite: RM458/seat & RM518/seat

DEWAN FILHARMONIK PETRONAS PETRONAS TWIN TOWERS, KLCC mpo.com.my boxoffice@dfp.com.my 603 - 2331 7007







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