

**25**  
ANNIVERSARY  
SEASON 2023

E-CONCERT PROGRAMME

Malaysian  
Philharmonic  
Orchestra

# Beethoven Lives Upstairs

FAMILY FUN DAY

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 Malaysian musicians and musicians from 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 in 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.

# Beethoven Lives Upstairs

Produced by Classical Kids Music Education

Sat 23 Sep 2023, 11:30am

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra  
Gerard Salonga, *conductor*

Director & Producer  
**PAUL PEMENT**

Series Creator  
**SUSAN HAMMOND**

*Featuring*  
**ANDREW REDLAWSK** as Christoph  
&  
**THAD AVERY** as Uncle

*Based on the Original Work by*  
**BARBARA NICHOL**

*Dramaturge & Music Timing by*  
**PAUL PEMENT**

*Light Design by*  
**PAUL PEMENT**

*Costume Design by*  
**ALEX MEADOWS**

*Production Stage Management  
& Technical Coordination by*  
**PAUL PEMENT**



**Classical Kids CDs/Merchandise Available at [www.ClassicalKidsLive.com](http://www.ClassicalKidsLive.com)**

The theatrical concert version of Beethoven Lives Upstairs is an adaptation of the best-selling and award-winning Classical Kids audio recording, Beethoven Lives Upstairs, produced by Susan Hammond and originally directed as a staged concert by Peter Moss with additional direction by Dennis Garnhum. Classical Kids® is a trademark of Classical Productions for Children Ltd., used under exclusive license to Pement Enterprises, Inc., and produced by Classical Kids Music Education, NFP.

Actors and Production Stage Manager are members of Actors' Equity Association.

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## MUSICAL EXCERPTS

Symphony No. 7, Mvmt. II	Sonata, Op. 27, No. 2 (Moonlight)
Symphony No. 5, Mvmt. I	Mozart Variations (Woodwind Trio)
Piano Sonata, No. 27, Op. 90, Mvmt. II	Symphony No. 6, Mvmt. I
Symphony No. 1, Mvmt. IV	Symphony No. 6 (Birds)
Romance for Violin and Orch. in G Major	Symphony No. 6 (Storm)
Piano Sonata, (Pathétique)	Piano Concerto No. 1. Mvmt. I
Symphony No. 9, Mvmt. II	Piano Concerto No. 5, Mvmt II
Piano Sonata Op. 14, No. 2	Variations on 'Nel Cor Più' (Piano)
Symphony No. 4, Mvmt. II	Bass Sting from Symph. No. 9 (Finale)
Minuet in G Major (Piano & Bells)	Piano Capriccio, (Rage over a Lost Penny)
Spring Sonata (Violin & Piano)	Symphony No. 6 (Tremolo)
Symphony No 8, Mvmt. II	Symphony No. 9 (Ode to Joy)
Leonore Overture No. 3	Symphony No. 9 (Finale)
Für Elise (Piano)	Piano Sonata Op. 49, No. 2, Mvmt. II
Polonaise für Militärmusik in D major	Symphony No. 6 (Shepherd's Theme)

***The concert will last approximately 60 mins with no interval.***

## PLOT SYNOPSIS

This world famous production features a lively exchange of letters between young Christoph and his Uncle. Their subject is the “madman” who has moved into the upstairs apartment of Christoph’s Vienna home.

The funereal second movement of Beethoven's Seventh Symphony sets the scene as we travel back in time from March 26, 1827, the day of Beethoven's death, into the more intimate setting of young Christoph's house in Vienna a few years before. Christoph's father has just died and Beethoven has taken the room upstairs. As the correspondence with his uncle unfolds, Christoph recounts the horrors of the composer standing naked at the window, water dripping down into their apartment and Beethoven playing late into the night. Finally, after attending the famous first performance of the Ninth Symphony, Christoph comes to understand the genius of Beethoven, the torment of his deafness, and the beauty of his music.



*conductor*

**GERARD  
SALONGA**

Gerard Salonga is currently Resident Conductor of the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra in Kuala Lumpur, a position he has held since January 2019. For two seasons he served as Assistant Conductor of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra from 2016 to 2018 where he was appointed by Maestro Jaap van Zweden, having been selected from a field of over 170 international applicants. He also served as Music Director of the ABS-CBN Philharmonic Orchestra in Manila from 2012 to 2020. In January of 2021, Gerard began his term as the Music Director of the Orchestra of the Filipino Youth (OFY).

He has assisted and covered distinguished conductors such as Jaap van Zweden, Jun Märkl, Hans Graf, Yu Long, Vladimir Ashkenazy, Mark Wigglesworth, and Leonard Slatkin, and has conducted the Philippine Philharmonic, Shanghai Opera House Orchestra and Chorus, Kunming Nie-Er Symphony, Evergreen Symphony of Taiwan, Bangkok Symphony, Singapore Symphony, South Denmark Philharmonic, Queensland Camerata, Orchestra Victoria, and the Sydney Symphony Orchestra. Gerard has also conducted in iconic venues such as the Sydney Opera House and Royal Albert Hall.

He has conducted symphonic, pops, family, and film concerts including the Harry Potter, Raiders of the Lost Ark and Ratatouille films in concert, and his orchestral arrangements have been performed by orchestras such as the Hong Kong Philharmonic, Sydney Symphony, Singapore Symphony, Malaysian Philharmonic, RTÉ Concert Orchestra, New York Pops, Guangzhou Symphony, Winnipeg Symphony, Cincinnati Pops, Indianapolis Symphony, BBC Symphony, and Royal Philharmonic. Gerard has also collaborated as arranger or conductor across different styles with artists like Lea Salonga, Regine Velasquez, Wang Leehom, Wu Tong, Cecile Licad, Tengku Irfan, Michael Ball, Blake, Il Divo, Danielle de Niese, TaikOz, Ksenija Sidorova, Shen Yang, Lily Williams, James Ehnes, Jing Wang, Jan Lisiecki, and The Beach Boys.

In 2018 Gerard conducted the Sydney Symphony and TaikOz in the world premiere of Australian composer Lachlan Skipworth's *Breath of Thunder* (concerto for Taiko and orchestra) at the Sydney Opera House, which earned an APRA AMCOS (Australian art music) nomination for Performance of The Year. In 2019 he collaborated with pianist Cecile Licad and the Sønderjyllands Symfoniorkester (South Denmark Philharmonic) on a new recording of the works of George Gershwin for piano and orchestra released on the Danacord label. In 2020 and 2021 he served as music producer for the MPO's recordings of classical and new works for its YouTube channel MPOTV and was also the artistic adviser for MPO's recent collaborations with the Malaysian Composers' Collective, premiering new compositions by Malaysian composers.

As a conductor of musical theatre, he has led the orchestras for the Manila stagings of *Carousel* (1996), *They're Playing Our Song* (2000), *Dreamgirls* (2003), *Baby* (2004), *West Side Story* (2008), *Sweeney Todd* (2009), and *Little Women* (2010). In 2019 he conducted *Sweeney Todd* for Atlantis Theatrical in Manila, and in Singapore for Singapore Repertory Theatre. For his work in concerts and theatre, he is a four-time recipient of the Aliw Award for best musical director, and twice winner of the Gawad Buhay Philstage Award.

Ha has served as a jury member of several competitions, including the finals of the National Music Competition for Young Artists (Philippines) Strings in 2018 and Youth Symphonic Band in 2016, the 2021 Yong Siew Toh Conservatory (Singapore) concerto competition, and served on the jury on for the 1st Malaysian National Concerto Competition. In 2020 he was one of the panelists for the San Francisco Conservatory conducting seminar, and in Malaysia he has given lectures on conducting through MPO's education and outreach to institutions such as the Malaysian International Schools Association, Taylor's University, Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris, and Universiti Malaysia Sabah. theatre, he is a four-time recipient of the Aliw Award for best musical director, and twice winner of the Gawad Buhay Philstage Award.

In 2012 Gerard was honoured as one of The Outstanding Young Men (TOYM), the Philippines' highest civilian award to achievers under the age of 40. In 2021 he was named one of the recipients of the SUDI National Music Awards by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA).

For 2023, aside from concerts with the MPO in KL and OFY in Manila, engagements include a return visit to the Singapore Symphony Orchestra, as well as the Hong Kong Philharmonic, where he will conduct the world premiere of *The Metaverse Symphony* by composer Elliot Leung.

## PRODUCTION NOTES

The original audio recording of *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* claims dozens of top music, educational, and parenting awards. It has gone multi-platinum, been translated and distributed around the world, and made into an Emmy award-winning film. Based on this highly acclaimed recording, the *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* theatrical symphony concert is an imaginative way to introduce young audiences and their families to the life and music of Ludwig Van Beethoven in a live performance setting. Audiences are inspired by more than twenty-five excerpts of the master's music, including *Moonlight Sonata*, *Fur Elise*, and the great Fifth and Ninth Symphonies.

Classical Kids LIVE! is produced by Classical Kids Music Education, a Chicago-based not-for-profit organization that works to enrich communities through direct access to culturally significant venues, professional artists and organizations, and high-quality theatrical concert productions, while fostering new appreciation for classical music and music history. In combination with the Classical Kids Teaching Edition, Classical Kids LIVE! serves as one of the worlds best educational outreach and community engagement programs contributing to the long-term health of classical music. Having received more awards and honors than any other entity of its kind, Classical Kids is proud to say, "We're making a difference!" ([www.ckme.org](http://www.ckme.org))

***"Far And Away the Best for Introducing Children to Classical Music!"***

- Boston Herald

***"One of the Most Completely Wondrous Examples of Children's Entertainment Ever!"***

- Billboard

***"Art Made Accessible: Nobody Does it Better than Classical Kids!"***

- Entertainment Weekly

***"The Best Way to Unlock the Mind and Heart of a Child to the Wonders of Musical Masterpieces!"***

- New York Daily News

\*Note: at various points in the production, loose sheets of manuscript paper may drift over the edge of the stage. Please refrain from gathering up or removing the paper at any time during or after the performance.



## ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

### Paul Pement – Director & Producer



Paul serves as Executive & Artistic Director of Classical Kids Music Education, a non-profit arts organization focused on introducing children (and their parents) to the lives and musical masterpieces of the great classical composers. A BFA in theatre from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and professional experience as an actor, singer, dancer, director, choreographer and stage manager have enabled Paul to achieve success with Classical Kids LIVE! programming - the “gold-star” leader in the field for creating theatrical family concerts presented by professional symphony orchestras throughout North America and abroad.

Production titles include *Beethoven Lives Upstairs*, *Mozart’s Magnificent Voyage*, *Vivaldi’s Ring of Mystery*, *Tchaikovsky Discovers America* and the newest in the series, *Gershwin’s Magic Key* - the first-ever symphony concert production that introduces new generations to the extraordinary legacy of the great American composer, George Gershwin.

### Susan Hammond – Series Creator



Susan has created a whole new generation of classical music fans through her innovative and award-winning Classical Kids recordings. She is the executive producer of a 16 title series of children’s classical music recordings known collectively as Classical Kids, selling to date nearly 5 million CDs, DVDs and books worldwide, and earning over 100 prestigious awards and honors. Each story entails its own adventure featuring a unique combination of music, history, and theatricality to engage the imaginations of children. Susan holds the philosophy that, “Where the heart goes, the mind will follow.” An accomplished concert pianist and

music teacher, Hammond searched for recordings about classical music to share with her young daughters. One day, she sat reading to her girls with a classical music radio station on in the background and noticed how they responded to the literature in a different way when enhanced by music. The rest, as they say, is history. Susan is the recipient of Billboard Magazine’s International Achievement Award and resides with her husband in Toronto where she is a member of the Order of Canada for her contribution to the arts.

### Barbara Nichol – Author



Barbara is an award-winning author and filmmaker. Her book *Dippers* was a finalist for the Governor General’s Literary Award, and *Biscuits in the Cupboard* won the Mr. Christie’s Book Award. She is also well known as the author and director of the Juno award-winning original recording of *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* and author of the book by the same title. She was awarded a Genie for Best Short Film for *Home for Blind Women* and was nominated for an Emmy for her work with *Sesame Street*. Barbara Nichol has published four books with Tundra, including *Safe and Sound*, *Trunks All Aboard: An Elephant ABC*, and *Dippers*.

### Andrew Redlawsk – Christoph



Andrew Redlawsk has been performing with Classical Kids Live! since 2007, and it has been one of the great joys of his life to be a part of such an incredible company for so many years. Originally from Iowa, Andrew has lived and performed all over America. He currently lives in Washington DC, where he just finished his Master's degree at George Washington University. Over the course of his career, Andrew has performed in some of the most prestigious venues in the country, from the big musical theatre houses of Chicago to the Kennedy Center in DC. But after more than a decade in the performing industry, Andrew is shifting gears to focus on his other passions: travel, adventure, advocacy, and writing. In July, he launched a travel blog called The Adventure Dudes ([www.theadventuredudes.com](http://www.theadventuredudes.com)) with the goal of sharing stories and travel tips to help bring the world a little closer together. These days the world seems pretty scary, but we're betting it isn't. So we travel to off the beaten path locales, meet the people, and share their stories, all while giving readers the tools they need to go on their own adventures. Check it out! And thank you so much for being here today to support live theatre and classical music. We can't do any of this without you. Enjoy the show!

### Thad Avery – Uncle



Mr. Avery performs for Classical Kids Live! as both Uncle in *Beethoven Lives Upstairs* and Tchaikovsky in *Tchaikovsky Discovers America*. He is based in Chicago with his wife Cheryl, and two children, Spencer and Grace. A proud union member of all three performing unions his first professional show was with Milwaukee Repertory Theatre. He received his training from Wayne State University in Detroit. There he performed in a number of shows ranging from the Classics to many musicals. After graduation, he was a company member of Utah Shakespearean Festival and traveled around the world with an international comedy troupe. The troupe was featured at World Entertainment in Japan and also at the Wintergarten in Berlin. When Thad returned home, he started a long and rewarding relationship with the musical *Forever Plaid*. The production took him from Door County, WI to the first national tour, to Las Vegas, and back home to Chicago. Other appearances in Chicago include: *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Alice in Wonderland*, and *The Nutcracker*. Thad gives special thanks to his mentor, the late Robert Hazzard.

## **Classical Kids Music Education, NFP**

Classical Kids Music Education, NFP was formed for charitable and educational purposes to build pathways for progression in music so that all young people, whatever their background or abilities, have access to the rich and diverse range of influence classical music offers. Reduced funding to the arts has diminished the ability of many symphony orchestras to provide high-quality educational and family programs like the one you are seeing today. It is imperative that more organizations are able to reach students and families through excellent music education programs in a time when affordable and worthy programming is lacking. Classical Kids Music Education, NFP was created to “bridge the gap” by securing funding for high-caliber projects and, together with individual donor support, help to bring music education into the 21st century by creating more opportunities for young people to be exposed to their interest and develop their talents to the fullest. Please visit [www.ckme.org](http://www.ckme.org) to learn more about how you can help.

## **Actors’ Equity Association**

Actors and Stage Managers are members of Actors’ Equity Association. Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, is the labor union that represents more than 45,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans, for its members. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions.

# 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  
\*Keng Xin Tian  
\*Chai Mei Teng  
\*Leong Siong Quen

## SECOND VIOLIN

*Section Principal*  
\*Miroslav Daniš

Ionut Mazareanu  
Stefan Kocsis  
Yunzhi Ling  
\*Lisa Chia  
\*Izzywan Musib  
\*Joanna Ho May Sum

## VIOLA

Ong Lin Kern  
Thian Ai Wen  
Jebat Arjuna Kee Jia Liang  
\*Fan Ran  
\*Lau Yew Hann  
\*Phoon Zu Ying

## CELLO

*Section Principal*  
Csaba Körös

Elizabeth Tan Suyin  
Dylan Lee Mihn Tang  
Goh Wen Chih  
Wong Jun Yuan

## DOUBLE BASS

*Section Principal*  
Wolfgang Steike

Jun-Hee Chae  
Lin Yi Rou  
Lee Kar Yan

## FLUTE

*Co-Principal*  
Yukako Emes  
*Sub-Principal*  
\*Japheth Law Sze Cheng

## OBOE

*Sub-Principal*  
Lee Chun Howe

## COR ANGLAIS

*Principal*  
Niels Dittmann

## CLARINET

*Section Principal*  
Gonzalo Esteban  
*Sub-Principal*  
\*Emily Tiow Yu Xian

## BASS CLARINET

*Principal*  
Chris Bosco

## BASSOON

*Section Principal*  
Alexandar Lenkov  
*Sub-Principal*  
Stephen Mak Wai Soon

## CONTRABASSOON

*Principal*  
Vladimir Stoyanov

## HORN

*Section Principal*  
Grzegorz Curyła  
*Assistant Principal*  
Sim Chee Ghee  
*Sub-Principal*  
Eric Tiow Xian Liang

## TRUMPET

*Assistant Principal*  
Matthew Dempsey  
*Sub-Principals*  
Jeffrey Missal  
\*Khairul Anwar Zulkifly Tony

## TROMBONE

*Section Principal*  
Marques Young  
*Co-Principal*  
Fernando Borja  
*Sub-Principal*  
\*Wee Wei Peng

## BASS TROMBONE

*Principal*  
\*Chee Chow Ming

## TUBA

*Section Principal*  
Tan Shun Zhong

## TIMPANI

*Assistant Principal*  
Antti Olavi Ohenoja

## PERCUSSION

*Assistant Principal*  
Antti Olavi Ohenoja  
*Sub-Principals*  
Tee Ching Hong  
Yap Siu Yan  
\*Ng Lip Sheng

## HARP

*Principal*  
Tan Keng Hong

## PIANO

*Principal*  
Akiko Danis

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

# music that moves you



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Hassina Begam Abdul Gani

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Hisham Abdul Jalil  
Muhammad Farhan Aziz  
Zulfadli Mohd Zakarrudin

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Norsahida Mohd Salim  
Syazwan Arif  
Asmahan Abdullah  
Yayuk Yulianawati Rila

### **TECHNICAL SERVICES**

Firoz Khan Mohd Yunus  
Muhamad Hafiz Abdul Aziz

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Mohd Fahmi Md Radzi

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Nur Afiqah Shubhiah Kamarulzaman  
Nurfarah Farhana Hashimi  
Logiswary Raman  
Nor Afiadah Nordin

## MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA

### **CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Hassina Begam Abdul Gani

### **ARTISTIC MANAGEMENT**

Khor Chin Yang  
Sharon Francis Lihan  
Ong Li-Huey  
Muhammad Fikrizaki Zakaria

### **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  
Mohamad Fadhli Hamim  
Ameela Najihah Zulkifli  
Maizatul Ezza Masran

### **BUSINESS & STRATEGIC RELATIONS MANAGEMENT**

Yazmin Lim Abdullah  
Muhammad Nur Rasyid Abd Razak  
Norhaznita Husin  
Muhammad Zahir Opong


### **HEALTH, SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT**

Mohd Fahmi Md Radzi

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MALAYSIAN PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA – 199801007000



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Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra  
Brent Havens, conductor  
Rashidra Scott, vocals

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# RHAPSODIC RACHMANINOFF

SAT 21 OCT 2023 8:30PM

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra  
Michał Nesterowicz, conductor  
Lilya Zilberstein, piano

WAGNER Tannhäuser Overture  
RACHMANINOFF Rhapsody on a Theme of Paganini  
BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 7

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A stylized logo for the 25th anniversary, featuring the number '25' in a bold, outlined font with horizontal lines passing through it.

ANNIVERSARY  
SEASON 2023

The logo for the Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra, featuring a stylized white violin and bow against a dark background.

Malaysian  
Philharmonic  
Orchestra

A close-up photograph of a young male violinist with dark hair, wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt and tie. He is looking down at his violin, which is held in his hands. The background is a soft, out-of-focus teal and blue gradient with some light bokeh effects.

# SIBELIUS

## VIOLIN CONCERTO

SAT 25 NOV 2023 8:30PM

Malaysian Philharmonic Orchestra  
Gerard Salonga, conductor  
Low Zi Yang, violin

SIBELIUS Violin Concerto  
DVOŘÁK Symphony No.8

RM148 RM208 RM258 RM298  
Suite: RM328/seat & 358/seat

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A row of five social media icons: Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, Spotify, and TikTok.

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