

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

【LIMITED TICKETS AVAILABLE!】

**HKYAF's Original Musical Co-creation with World-renowned Artists
Starring 100 Multinational Young Hopefuls**

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation – Jockey Club

“MELODIA”

Theatrical Experience and Outreach Art Educational Programme

26 – 29 April, Queen Elizabeth Stadium

The Magical Journey of Self-discovery Begins!



High-resolution pictures can be downloaded here:

https://www.dropbox.com/sh/glp61dyinszhjfk/AADakwzWvdjhexc44H6Wr_5Qa?dl=0

This April, one hundred of Hong Kong's most promising young triple threats storm the stage to present an original musical *MELODIA* – a piece created by world-renowned composer and singer duo **Violaine Corradi** and **Rose Winebrenner** in collaboration with Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation founder **Lindsey McAlister**. Presented by Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation and funded by The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust, this one-of-a-kind performance with a powerful storyline, mesmerising songs, dynamic action and mixed art forms is a theatrical experience that will blow audiences away!

The peaceful planet of Zymbalia is suddenly struck by a huge, inexplicable explosion. Learning of a prophecy that states that only her innate powers can save the people of Zymbalia from the dark force that threatens them, Melodia embarks on a thrilling journey in search of the Enchanter – an evil force with a dark heart and two faces. On her quest, Melodia discovers a secret that changes her life forever.



Breaking usual musical traditions, this unique cross-genre theatrical experience mixes music, dance, aerial arts, puppetry, acrobatics, drumming and projected images. Early last fall, over 800 budding young stars aged 8 to 25 auditioned to secure a coveted spot in the show. The creative team selected a cast of 100 talented young performers from over 30 different local and international schools across Hong Kong, bringing together a rich multicultural group of youngsters of many nationalities, including Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Russian, Dutch, Slovakian, Italian, Turkish, British, Australian, Swedish, Filipino, Polish, American, Canadian, Venezuelan and more! The performance explores issues close to the youngsters' hearts, such as self-value, ethnic harmony, diversity, teamwork, and the importance of family values, as well as the concept of a warm, connected community.

Performing alongside the young cast are some of Hong Kong's most sought-after professional artists, including **Joe Lam**, renowned aerialist, who was the first to represent Hong Kong at the US Aerial Championships in 2016, and the acrobatic family **Corina Sucre and Daniel Sierralta**, who won the Champions of the world in Acro Dance Division of the World Championships of Performing Arts 2016, and their daughter **Ainara Mireya Sierralta Sucre**.

Lindsey McAlister, Director and Founder of Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation, has written and produced a number of youth musicals, including *'The Secret Garden'*, *'Sshhh'* and *'Matilda'*, which she has also toured to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. **Violaine Corradi**, one of the three composers behind Cirque du Soleil's unique musical signature, she also served as Musical Director for the soundtrack of the IMAX award-winning films *'Bears'* and *'Great North'*. Vocalist and musician **Rose Winebrenner** starred as one of the main characters in over 1,400 performances of the stellar Cirque du Soleil *'ZaiA'*.

Marsha Roddy, celebrated costume and set designer for YAF, has worked on award-winning films, children's TV shows (BBC, Discovery Channel) and West End theatre and opera productions. The production is co-choreographed by **Giselle Liu** (Studiosanz; *Canadian Dancer of the Year* and *Provincial Champion of Modern Dance*) and **Kirsten Ho** (DANCE Kho), with Musical Director **Scott Gibson** working with the cast to deliver the Tony Award-winning score and present some of theatre's best loved songs.

MELODIA Travelling Tent – Prelude to the Journey

Alongside the professional musical productions, *MELODIA* also presents an immersive community outreach art education programme with the support from The Hong Kong Jockey Club Charities Trust. Between March and April, a huge colourful travelling tent, full of theatrical surprises, set up at three different sites – Tsuen Wan Park, Aberdeen Promenade and the Nursery Park in the West Kowloon Cultural District. Inside, audiences of all ages experienced a giant puppet theatre, circus skills, percussion and rod puppet making workshops and an amazing cymatic art experience that makes sound waves visible! Visitors also had the chance to receive a copy of our limited-edition *MELODIA* illustrated book.



NOTES TO EDITOR

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation – Jockey Club “MELODIA” Theatrical Experience

School Performances

26 – 27 April 2017 11am

Public Performances

27 – 29 April 2017 7:30pm

29 April 2017 2:30pm



Venue: Queen Elizabeth Stadium
Price: \$160, \$120; Concessions \$80, \$60; Schools \$60
Box Office: Tickets on sale from 10 March 2017 through URB TIX
Duration: Approximately 100 minutes with no intermission
Language: Performed in English with Chinese subtitles. Suitable for ages 6 and above
Enquiries: christine@hkyaf.com / 2877 2595
Visit www.hkyaf.com for more details.

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation

Hong Kong Youth Arts Foundation (HKYAF) is a charity that provides access to high quality, non-competitive free-of-charge arts experiences for young people aged 5 to 25. Established in 1993 by Lindsey McAlister OBE, JP, HKYAF organizes inclusive and inspirational projects that reach out to youngsters of all cultures, backgrounds, languages and abilities, and actively creates opportunities for those who are disadvantaged and underprivileged. Each year, HKYAF reaches over 800,000 people through its projects, exhibitions and performances.

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