



Thailand Phil

Ecstatic Experiences

2022-2023 SEASON

OUR STORY



Since its founding in 2005 the Thailand Phil has been a significant force in Thailand's musical and cultural scene, always pushing forward to promote the appreciation of orchestral music and music education in Thai society. Under the musical leadership of Chief Conductor Alfonso Scarano the orchestra has earned worldwide recognition for its performances of orchestral masterworks as well as promoting new works, especially those of Thai composers.

The Thailand Phil has performed for audiences the world over. The orchestra recently embarked on their 2022 European Tour, the first-ever tour of Europe by a Thai orchestra. The orchestra received standing ovations in in Budapest, Hungary, Ljubljana, Slovenia, and Wrocław, Poland. The orchestra has toured throughout Thailand, Southeast Asia, Japan, and New Zealand.

The Thailand Phil operates in close partnership with the Mahidol University College of Music. This symbiotic relationship is central to the orchestra's primary mission: to be a model of excellence by providing world-class concert experiences and educational opportunities. Thailand Phil has performed with leading conductors and soloists including Kahchun Wong, Carl St.Clair, Calogero Palermo, Kristóf Baráti, Dimitri Ashkenazy, Stefano Bollani, Sergei Nakariakov, and Boston Brass. The Thailand Phil has cultivated an



international presence with concerts in Japan, New Zealand, Laos, Myanmar, Malaysia, and most recently a tour of major European cities.

The Thailand Phil makes its performing home at the state-of-the-art 2000-seat Prince Mahidol Hall on the campus of the College of Music, Mahidol University in western Bangkok. The hall is situated in lush green surroundings, away from the bustle of central Bangkok, where concertgoers can enjoy the quiet gardens and sculptures of the music campus. The orchestra performs over forty concerts a year in this hall and regularly performs special concerts in other locations throughout Bangkok.

Now in its 18th season, the Thailand Phil has become a musical leader in Thailand and Southeast Asia. For the first twelve seasons the orchestra was led by its Founding Chief Conductor, Maestro Gudni Emilsson, who shaped the Thailand Phil into the internationally-recognized ensemble it is today. In its thirteenth season Maestro Alfonso Scarano accepted the post of Chief Conductor and continues to build on the orchestra's strong foundation, traditions, and international reputation.

Moving into the future the Thailand Phil aims to be an orchestra in touch with its audience, with a core mission to promote the advancement of classical music in Thailand by offering world-class concert experiences to its audience, students, and the community.



Alfonso Scarano

Chief Conductor

Italian conductor Alfonso Scarano is currently in his sixth season as Chief Conductor of the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra after having served as Guest Conductor for six consecutive seasons since 2011/2012.

For 12 years Alfonso Scarano has shaped an unmistakable sound culture as conductor of the Thailand Phil culminated with the first acclaimed European tour held in August/September 2022, the CD recording for Albany Records USA and the praised live performances and recording of the Bruckner 9th.

His previous positions include Chief Conductor of the Severočeská Filharmonie Teplice (2013 – 2018), Principal Guest Conductor of the Virtuosi di Praga (2000 – 2010) and Music Director and Conductor of the Toscana Opera Festival in Italy (2006 – 2008).

Alfonso Scarano was the winner of the 1993 Bottega International Conducting Competition in Treviso, winner of the 1997 Franco Capuana European Community Conducting Competition in Rome, second prize (first and third not assigned) at 2005 Luigi Mancinelli International Conducting Competition in Orvieto and recipient of 2003 Young European Conductors scholarship for Daniele Gatti biennial conducting course at Scuola di Musica in Fiesole in Italy.

In addition to his position in Bangkok, Alfonso Scarano regularly conducts worldwide orchestras included the Jerusalem Symphony Orchestra in Israel, Orquestra Sinfonica de Porto Alegre in Brazil,

The New Russia State Symphony Orchestra in Moscow Tchaikovsky Hall, IDSO Istanbul State Symphony Orchestra in Turkey, Daejeon Philharmonic Orchestra in South Korea, Savaria Symphony Orchestra in Hungary, Kiev National Radio Television Symphony Orchestra, Orchestra del Teatro Regio di Parma in Italy, Helsingborg Symphony Orchestra in Sweden and PKF-Prague Philharmonia touring in Germany and Bulgaria.

His relationships with leading vocal and instrumental soloists have included collaborations with Mischa Maisky, Mario Brunello, Kristof Barati, Yu-Chien Tseng, Nikita Boriso-Glebsky, Anton Sorokow, Stefano Bollani, Nareh Arghamanyan, Francois-Joel Thiollier, Jorg Demus, Alexander Toradze, Calogero Palermo, Tatjana Masurenko, Daniela Dessi, Betty Garces, Krysty Swann, Simone Alaimo, Maria Jose' Siri, Dimitra Theodossiou, Kristjan Johannsson, Stefan Margita and many others.

Alfonso Scarano has conducted the mainstays of operatic repertoire including *La traviata*, *Nabucco*, *Rigoletto*, *Tosca*, *Madama Butterfly*, *La bohème*, *La sonnambula*, *Lucia di Lammermoor*, *Don Pasquale*, *Cavalleria rusticana*, *Pagliacci*, *Carmen*, *Il barbiere di Siviglia*, Gianni Schicchi and Gluck's opera *Le cinesi* in theatres such as Politeama Greco in Lecce, Teatro Sperimentale in Spoleto, Teatro Civico in Vercelli, Teatro Comunale in Treviso, Pompei Festival, Anfiteatro Romano di Ostia Antica in Roma, Teatro Nuovo Giovanni da Udine, Stagione Lirica in San Gimignano, Friedrichshafen Theater, Freiburg Theater, Roman Amphitheater in Plovdiv and Prince Mahidol Hall in Bangkok.

A supporter of the contemporary music, he has conducted several works (some in first world performance) by Aharon Harlap, Gerhard Kaufmann, Narong Prangcharoen, Piyawat Louilarpprasert, Simon Laks, Paolo Ugoletti, Roberto Di Marino, Renato Dionisi, Ede Terényi, Fredrik Osterling, Colin Riley and many others.

Besides the classic ballets (Swan Lake, Don Quixote and Raymonda), Alfonso Scarano has concentrated its attention on the historical twentieth century repertoire conducting La Giara by Alfredo Casella, Romeo and Juliet by Prokofiev and Apollon Musagete by Stravinsky. The international dance gala conducted at Mittelfest 2009, 2010 and 2011 was enthusiastically reviewed by the press. He has collaborated with the greatest dancers of the world and particularly with étoiles from Wiener Staatsoper, Ljubljana Ballet, Hamburg Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, New York City Ballet, Ballet du Capitole de Toulouse, Ballet de l'Opéra de Paris and Birmingham Royal Ballet. In 2011 he has conducted the first performance of the ballet The Death and the Maiden by Schubert in the version for orchestra by Gustav Mahler, new creation of the Balletto di Roma.

His discography includes recordings for Tactus (first world recording of the Suite for organ and orchestra by Respighi), Lupulus (works of Verdi, Puccini, Donizetti with Virtuosi di Praga), Triart (Menschheit op.28 by Erwin Schulhoff and Mahler's Kindertotenlieder) as well as several Thai music CD recorded with Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra.

Alfonso Scarano is graduated summa cum laude in Conducting (Conservatorio Umberto Giordano in Foggia), Opera Conducting (Accademia Musicale Pescarese) as well as in Choral Conducting (Conservatorio Niccolò Piccinni in Bari) and Trumpet (Conservatorio Tito Schipa in Lecce).



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5
NOV

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Boston Brass

Alfonso Scarano, conductor
Boston Brass, soloists

John WILLIAMS: Liberty Fanfare

Rick DE JONGE: The Sounds of Cinema

Astor PIAZZOLLA (arr. Shaw): Libertango

Astor PIAZZOLLA (arr. Shaw): Oblivion

Geroge GERSHWIN (arr. Nestico): Porgy and Bess Suite

— Intermission —

Nikolai RIMSKY-KORSAKOV: Capriccio espagnol, op. 34

Manuel de FALLA: The Three Cornered Hat, Suites 1 & 2

Thailand Phil opens it's 2022/23 season in ecstatic style with the world-renowned Boston Brass. Maestro Scarano leads the second half of Spanish flair with works by Rimsky-Korsakov and de Falla.



26
NOV

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

TITANS

Alfonso Scarano, conductor
Nareh Arghamanyan, piano

Thai Traditional Music

Sergei RACHMANINOFF: Piano Concerto No. 2 in C min, op. 18

— Intermission —

Gustav MAHLER: Symphony No. 1 in D major, "Titan"

From the Musikverein in Vienna to Lincoln Center in New York, Nareh Arghamanyan has dazzled audiences all over the world. She has won over 18 international top prizes and awards including first prize in the Montreal International Music Competition. Maestro Scarano will lead the performance of Rachmaninoff's powerful virtuosic Piano Concerto No. 2 and Mahler's powerful First Symphony. Please join us for this program of titanic works.



17-18
DEC

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Distant Worlds: Music from Final Fantasy Coral

Arnie Roth, conductor
Rikki, vocalist from Final Fantasy X
Emiko Shiratori, vocalist from Final Fantasy IX
Hitoshi Sakimoto, composer of Final Fantasy XII
Yoko Shimomura, composer of Final Fantasy XV

Specially curated by Nobuo Uematsu, this program is a monumental, retrospective celebration of the 35th anniversary of Final Fantasy. Conductor and GRAMMY-Award winner Arnie Roth leads the Thailand Phil and chorus of 100 musicians on stage, vocalists and composers from the original Final Fantasy soundtracks, and exclusive HD video direct from the creators at Square Enix.

This program is proudly presented by Five Four Records



24
DEC

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall



Christmas with the Thailand Phil

Olivier Ochanine, conductor
Fascinating Four, vocal quartet
Nitchakarn Kaewinithi, soprano
Chantat Neil Knight, baritone

Fanfare: Joy to the World – Randol Alan BASS
Bugler's Holiday – Leroy ANDERSON
O Holy Night – Adolph Charles ADAMS, arr. Custer
Sleigh Ride – Leroy ANDERSON
Nutcracker Suite – P. I. TCHAIKOVSKY, arr. Duke ELLINGTON
— Intermission —

Concert Suite from The Polar Express – Alan SILVESTRI, arr. Brubaker
Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Let it Snow! – CAHN & STYNE, arr. Hayes
Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas – MARTIN & BLANE arr Custer
The Christmas Song – Mel TORMÉ & Robert WELLS
Variations on Jingle Bells – John PIERPONT, arr. Hayes
The Many Moods of Christmas – SHAW & BENNETT

Christmas with the Thailand Phil is back, bigger and better than ever, and we can't wait! Make plans now to spend Christmas Eve with the Thailand Phil and our brilliant lineup of soloists. Don't forget to dress in your most festive Christmas outfit—anything red and green! Bring the whole family to make some wonderful holiday memories with us at Prince Mahidol Hall.

Join us before the concert for our Family Christmas Festival, a high-spirited event with live Christmas music, arts and crafts stations, delicious food, and other activities that are fun for all ages.



14
JAN

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Fantastic Festivals

Andrzej Kosendiak, conductor
Clarissa Bevilacqua, violin

Prin VAROJTECHA: Macrocosm (world premiere)

Johannes BRAHMS: Academic Festival Overture

Felix MENDELSSOHN: Violin Concerto in E minor, op. 64

— Intermission —

Ludwig van BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 7 in A major, op. 92

There is no work quite as joyful as Beethoven's Seventh Symphony. Mendelssohn's Violin Concerto is among the most performed concerto in the repertoire. Join Maestro Kosendiak and the young rising-star from Italy, Clarissa Bevilacqua in this fantastic program.



28
JAN

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall



Thailand International Jazz Conference 2023

Pamornpan Komolpamorn, conductor

Music 101

Delfeayo Marsalis, trombone
Javon Jackson, tenor saxophone
Jeremy Manasia, piano
David Williams, double bass
Willie Jones III, drums

Pomelo Town

Krit Buranavitayawut, alto saxophone
Darin Pantoomkomol, piano
Noppadol Tirataradol, double bass
Sarute Wijitwechakarn, drums

Featured Guest Soloists with Pomelo Town

Pekka Pylkkanen, saxophone
Sekpol Unsamran (Koh Mr. Saxman), saxophone

Alfie's Theme – Sonny ROLLINS, arr. Monti
Valse Hot – Sonny ROLLINS, arr. Tanpensuk
Playin' in the Yard – Hampton HAWES, arr. Chaichana
I'm an Old Cowhand – Johnny MERCER, arr. Jaiprasong
Believe Me – Darin PANTOOMKOMOL
The Everywhere Calypso – Sonny ROLLINS, arr. Wijitwechakarn
— Intermission —
Harlem Landscapes – David CHESKY
Doxy – Sonny ROLLINS, arr. Tanpensuk
Why Don't I – Sonny ROLLINS, arr. Jaiprasong
Chasin' the Bird – Charlie PARKER, arr. Jaiprasong
I Can't Get Started – Vernon DUKE, arr. Monti
Misterioso – Thelonious MONK, arr. Wijitwechakarn
St. Thomas – Sonny ROLLINS, arr. Monti

Javon Jackson and Delfayo Marsalis rank among the greatest living jazz artists. Join them, along with our own Pomelo Town and the Thailand Phil in what is sure to be a stunning show of artistry and ability, led by our own Maestra Pamornpan Komolpamorn.



11
FEB

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Bohemian Rhapsodies

Gudni Emilsson, conductor
Christoph Hartmann, oboe

Narongrit DHAMABUTRA: Maritime Empires

Bohuslav MARTINŮ: Oboe Concerto, H. 353

— Intermission —

Antonín DVORŽÁK: Symphony No. 8 in G major, op. 88

Thailand Phil's Founding Chief Conductor makes a long-awaited return to our podium, with none other than Berlin Philharmonic's oboist, Christoph Hartmann. Don't miss this program featuring Dvořák's Symphony No. 8 and the Martinů Oboe Concerto.



11-12
MAR

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Symphonic Anime

Thanapol Setabrahmana, conductor
Thailand Phil Chorus

Get ready to be mesmerized by a one-of-a-kind concert featuring music from your favorite anime! In a sequel to one of its most requested shows, the Thailand Philharmonic Orchestra and Choir will be performing the orchestral renderings of music from famous Japanese animations. The performances will be led by Thanapol Setabrahmana, one of Thailand's most prominent young conductors who initiated the anime concert phenomenon in the country.

We will bring to life the epic sounds of your favorite anime series, but that's not all! This exciting event will also feature special guest composers including Yasuharu Takanashi (composer for Naruto: Shippūden), Yuki Hayashi (composer for My Hero Academia), and Makoto Miyazaki (composer for One Punch Man and Spy x Family). Don't miss out on this unforgettable concert experience!



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Swiss
Cultural Fund
Thailand

25
MAR

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Shostakovich X

Claude Villaret, conductor
Patricia Pagny, piano

Renzo ROTA: Colour Frame

Edvard GRIEG: Piano Concerto in A minor, op. 16

— Intermission —

Jean-Luc DARBELLAY: Chant d'Adieux

Dmitri SHOSTAKOVICH: Symphony No. 10 in E minor, op. 93

The Thailand Phil is proud to welcome back to the podium Maestro Claude Villaret who will lead Shostakovich's monumental Tenth Symphony. Joining him will be acclaimed piano soloist Patricia Pagny performing Greig's iconic Piano Concerto.

This program is proudly sponsored by the Embassy of Switzerland.



13
MAY

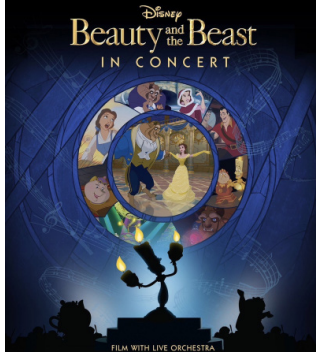
4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Romeo and Juliet

Alfonso Scarano, conductor
Darko Brlek, clarinet

Anak BAIHARN: Moon: Disfigured and Looped (world premiere)
Carl Maria von WEBER: Clarinet Concerto No. 1 in F minor, op. 73
— Intermission —
Sergei PROKOFIEV: Romeo and Juliet Suite

There is no story more full of passion and intrigue than Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet. Join Maestro Scarano and the Thailand Phil as they present the suite of music from Prokofiev's ballet. Joining the program will be Darko Brlek performing the popular Weber Clarinet Concerto.



20-21
MAY

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Disney's Beauty and the Beast™ in Concert

Thanapol Setabrahmana, conductor

Thailand Phil with Five Four Live present a screening of Disney's beloved animated classic, *Beauty and the Beast* with the Oscar®-winning score performed live to the film. Relive the timeless tale of *Beauty and the Beast* (1991) like never before, with a full-length featured film accompanied by a live orchestral performance. The movie will feature the original English voice track and Thai subtitles, providing a truly immersive experience.

Beauty and the Beast features an unforgettable score from eight-time Oscar®-winning composer Alan Menken, and original songs written by Menken and two-time Academy Award winner Howard Ashman.



3
JUN

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Goddesses and Emperors

Alfonso Scarano, conductor
Antonio Pompa-Baldi, piano

Gioacchino ROSSINI: Overture to William Tell

Ludwig van BEETHOVEN: Piano Concerto No. 5 in E-flat major,
op. 73 "Emperor"

— Intermission —

Morakot CHERDCHOO-NGARM: Mother Earth Squeezing Her Hair
(world premiere)

Ottorino RESPIGHI: Pines of Rome

Antonio Pompa-Baldi is the first-prize winner of the Cleveland International Piano Competition and silver-medalist of the prestigious Van Cliburn Competition. He joins the Thailand Phil in performance of Beethoven's impressive Emperor Concerto. Chief Conductor Scarano leads the orchestra in a majestic performance of Respighi's Pines of Rome and a world-premiere performance of work in horn of Buddhist goddess Phra Mae Thorani.



10
JUN

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Viola!

Pamornpan Komolpamorn, conductor

Ettore Causa, viola

Aibek Ashirmatov, viola

Robert SCHUMANN: Overture, Scherzo, & Finale, op. 52

Robert SCHUMANN (trans. Cause): Cello Concerto, transcribed for
viola, in A minor, op. 129

— Intermission —

Hector BERLIOZ: Harold in Italy

When Paganini, the famous violin virtuoso, wanted a piece for viola solo and orchestra, he turned to none other than Hector Berlioz. The result was Harold in Italy, a symphony with solo viola obbligato. Also featured on this program is Schumann's Cello Concerto re-envisioned for viola by Ettore Causa.

Thailand Phil is proud to present this program as part of the 48th International Viola Congress.



1
JUL

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Endless Wonders

Carl St.Clair, conductor
Alisa Jordheim, soprano

Maurice RAVEL: Mother Goose Suite

Narong PRANGCHAROEN: Endless Tears

— Intermission —

Gustav MAHLER: Symphony No. 4 in G major

Thailand Phil is very proud to welcome one of the best-regarded maestros to grace our podium, Carl St.Clair, and world-renowned soprano Alisa Jordheim to perform Mahler's masterful *Symphony No. 4*. Also on the program are Prangcharoen's haunting *Endless Wonders* and Ravel's endearing *Mother Goose Suite*. This is a truly world-class program that cannot be missed.



15-16

JUL

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Genshin Symphony

Thanapol Setabrahmana, conductor

Music from the video game Genshin Impact performed live with official videos!

This program is proudly presented by Five Four Records



18/22

JUL

7:00 pm

JUL

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

International Double Reed Conference

Gordon Hunt, conductor

Thailand Phil is proud to partner with the International Double Reed Society's 2023 Conference to present two programs featuring the best-known oboe and bassoon soloists led by oboe virtuoso and conductor Gordon Hunt.



**5
AUG**

6:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Side by Side with the Thailand Phil **Voices of the World**

Thanapol Setabrahmana, conductor
Hiroshi Matsushima, flute

Huanzhi LI: Spring Festival Overture

Cécile CHAMINADE: Flute Concertino in D major, op. 107

Thanapol SETABRAHMANA: Fanfare

Silvestre REVUELTAS: Sensemayá

— Intermission —

Giuseppe VERDI: Overture to Nabucco

Camille SAINT-SAËNS: Orient et Occident, op. 25

Piotr Ilyich TCHAIKOVSKY: *Finale* from Symphony No. 4, op. 36

In today's world, the old and the new co-exist together, various beliefs and values engage in conversations, and people of different cultures and ideas interact more intensely than ever before. The Thailand Phil embraces its role in this new world. While rooted in classical music traditions, we continually seek to expand our horizons and embrace a wide range of musical styles. We believe that our orchestra possesses the potential to contribute to a more connected global community. Thailand Phil takes great pride in inviting members of our community to join us on stage for a program that honors diversity, history, and contemporary expression: the voices of the world.



**THAILAND
INTERNATIONAL
COMPOSITION
FESTIVAL 2023**

**19
AUG**

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Thailand International Composition Festival 2023

The Thailand International Composition Festival has become one of the premier events for new classical music. It is artistically directed by our Music Director, Dr. Narong Prangcharoen, Thailand's most internationally-recognized composer. Join the Thailand Phil for an afternoon of fresh and exciting orchestra music composed by some of today's leading composers.



2
SEP

4:00 pm Prince Mahidol Hall

Season Finale

Alfonso Scarano, conductor

Anton BRUCKNER: Symphony No. 8 in C minor

Thailand Phil closes out its 2022/23 season with Bruckner's Symphony No. 8. Sometimes called "The Apocalyptic", it ranks among the most monumental symphonies ever composed. Join Maestro Scarano and the Thailand Phil for this powerful conclusion to an outstanding season!