<u>Legendary piano virtuoso Mikhail</u> <u>Pletnev returns to Hong Kong to give</u> <u>recital in June (with photos)</u>

Piano maestro Mikhail Pletnev is returning to Hong Kong after a decadelong hiatus to give a recital at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on June 17 with a curated selection of works. The recital marks the opening of this year's Great Music presented by the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD). This is a one-night-only event that music lovers will not want to miss.

This recital programme covers Beethoven's "Piano Sonata No. 8 in C minor, Op. 13, 'Pathétique'" and "Piano Sonata No. 14 in C-sharp minor, Op. 27, No. 2, 'Moonlight'", as well as a number of works from the "Lyric Pieces Book" by Grieg, including "Fedrelandssang (National Song)", "Berceuse (Cradle-Song)", "Bestemors menuett (Grandmother's Minuet)", "Notturno", and more.

Pletnev is one of the most respected and influential artists of our time. His prodigious talent as a pianist, conductor, and composer has earned widespread acclaim ever since the 1978 Tchaikovsky International Piano Competition, where he won First Prize at the age of 21. His recordings have earned numerous prizes, including a Grammy Award, a Diapason d'Or, an ECHO Klassik Award, a Choc du Monde de la Musique and a Gramophone Award. In 1990, Pletnev formed the Russian National Orchestra, the first independent orchestra in Russia's history. Over 30 years later, Pletnev has founded the Rachmaninoff International Orchestra, named after celebrated pianist, conductor and composer Rachmaninoff who devoted his lifelong career to inspire audiences from all corners of the globe.

"Piano Recital by Mikhail Pletnev" will be staged at 8pm on June 17 (Tuesday) at the Concert Hall of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Tickets priced at \$320, \$480, \$620, \$780 and \$920 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone bookings, please call 3166 1288. Package discounts will be available for purchasing tickets for the "Piano Recital by Mikhail Pletnev" and "Concert by The 12 Cellists of the Berliner Philharmoniker" (to be held on July 9). For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2268 7321 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/music/programs 1830.html.

A pre-concert talk entitled "Pletnev: The Piano Maverick" (in Cantonese) will be held at 6.45pm on June 17 at Level 4 Foyer Reception Area, Auditoria Building, the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. The speaker will be music critic Savio Lau. Admission is free, with limited seats available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The "Great Music 2025", presented by the LCSD, returns this year with star-studded performances running from June to November. Renowned musicians

and ensembles from all over the world will come to Hong Kong to perform an array of programmes, showcasing the city as an East-meets-West centre for international cultural exchange. For more details, please visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/CE/CulturalService/Programme/en/music/groups_1840.html.



