

Arts



Hong Kong Sinfonietta's McDull Music Project 3 Olympic Duel

INSPIRED by the Olympic Games motto, 'Quicker, Higher, Stronger' local a cappella group Gay Singers believe they can become more musically adept by competing with the Hong Kong Sinfonietta (HKS). And as cartoon character McDull feels the same way, we should all be curious as to who may win, writes **Gigi Lam**.

TO begin with, let's look at the 'competition' participants. The Gay Singers are all graduates of The Chinese University of Hong Kong. Their interest in a cappella (unaccompanied) singing continued after leaving university and soon became a **uniting** force for these **alumni**, both as hobbyists and public performers.

The Hong Kong Sinfonietta has renowned conductor Yip Wing-sie as their music

director. The group pioneered special educational concerts for different age groups. In the most recent McDull music project, the orchestra joined hands with McDull matriarch, Mrs McBing, to teach concert manners and eliminate performers' **anxieties**.

The official Olympic motto, Citius, Altius, Fortius, means, as stated above, Quicker, Higher, Stronger. In this concert, the two institutions have picked music related to the Olympics.

For example the *Olympic Fanfare and Theme* was composed by renowned musician, John Williams. He wrote this short, official work for the Los Angeles Olympic Games in 1984. Another version of the fanfare, adopted for the Atlanta Games in 1996, is often considered the most memorable Olympic

theme so far employed.

Another fantastic piece the two 'competitors' are due to play is the *Chariots of Fire* tune by Vangelis. This was the theme song for the 1981 film of the same name. The movie is based on the true story of British athletes preparing for and competing in the 1924 Summer Olympics. The song has since been adopted by **numerous** performers and used as theme music and for various television programmes and sporting events.

Concertgoers next month should also enjoy the Young Person's Guide to the Orchestra by the late, great Benjamin Britten (1913-1976), and an excerpt from Mozart's Clarinet Concerto in A, K622. And last but not least, The Gay Singers will bring you favourites from McDull's movie hits.

Your concert tour should truly be **enriched** with the surroundings and trappings of Olympic Games history. So follow McDull and enjoy the excitement and feel of the Olympic spirit brought about by this **uplifting** musical experience.

HKS McDull Music Project 3 Olympic Fanfare



Date and time: August 6-10, 7.30pm and August 9-10, 3pm.

Organiser: Hong Kong Sinfonietta

Programme: www.hksinfonietta.org

Tickets: \$280, \$200 and \$140
(half price for students and seniors).

≈ The Gay Singers, enthusiasts of a cappella.



« Conductor Yip Wing-sie and the Hong Kong Sinfonietta.

Exercise your vocal talent ... and become a singer

Are you interested in singing a cappella? Then why not try to join the Hong Kong Melody Makers (HKMM) founded by The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups. Their members are all young people from secondary school age to college freshmen and graduates. HKMM members make radio and television appearances and frequently give members each season community performances. Unlike other choirs around town, HKMM training is free. The group, which recruits, has just finished putting together its July intake. But why not call 2395 5753 or email hkmm@hkfyg.org.hk for more information and guidance. To get ready for next season's HKMM recruitment, why not act now and record your own solo performance for their reference.

Glossary

1. motto (n. 格言)
2. uniting (adj. 團結)
3. alumnus (n. 校友)
4. anxiety (n. 焦慮)
5. numerous (adj. 許多的)
6. enrich (v. 豐富)
7. uplifting (adj. 令人振奮的)

*Big word(s) and Amazing phrase(s) are published on ES15.