



Silpakorn
Summer
Music
School
SSMS

The Siam Society Under Royal Patronage and Faculty of Music, Silpakorn University
With the participation of
Fund for Classical Music Promotion Under the Patronage of HRH Princess Galyani Vadhana

Present

“Still on Our Minds”:
A Concert in Remembrance of His Late Majesty

Wednesday 22, February 2017 at 7:00 p.m.
At the Siam Society



Admission: Siam Society members: 500 baht
Non-Members: 600 baht
Student: 100 baht

Wine and homemade sandwiches will be on sale.

For reservation, please contact:

The Siam Society, 131 Asoke Montri Road (Sukhumvit 21) Bkk. 10110

Tel: 02-661-6470-3 Fax. 02-258-3491 E-mail info@siam-society.org , www.siam-society.org

Silpakorn University String Orchestra

Directed by Tasana Nagavajara

Programme

Johann Sebastian Bach: Concerto for 2 violins in D minor, BWV 1043

Benjamin Britten: Simple Symphony Op. 4

-- Intermission --

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej: (arr. M.L. Usni Pramoj)

Echo

Love in spring

Near Dawn

Old Fashioned Melody

Alexandra

Royal Marines March

His Majesty the King's Musical Compositions

His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej is a world renowned musician, composer, arranger, and performer. He also excels in other art forms as is evident in his photography, painting and sculpture.

HM the King took his first music lesson at the age of 13 when he was in Switzerland. Mr. Weybrecht, a native of Alsace was his teacher. He taught His Majesty to play the saxophone together with musical theory in the traditions of classical music. However, it was jazz and contemporary music that caught HM the King's fancy. So he began playing alto and soprano saxophones to the recordings of jazz musicians such as Johnny Hodges and Sydney Bechet. When he became proficient enough, he began jamming with these musicians in their records. Among the jazz repertoire, Dixieland jazz became his favourite.

Apart from alto and soprano saxophones, HM the King also played tenor and baritone saxophones, as well as the clarinet and the trumpet. In later years, His Majesty added the piano and the guitar to his repertoire of musical instruments to assist him in composing and in his own musical band.

HM the King began composing when he was 18. His first work was "Saeng Tien" in the style of the blues and hence the name "Candlelight Blues". To date he has written 48 songs. The melodies and lyrics to his compositions with their "singable" tunes and meaningful words weave into the hearts of the Thai people.

HM the King's songs became a part of every Thai's repertoire of songs. They are played and sung everywhere...at grand concerts, in dance halls, and in the homes. It is indeed "From Heart to Heart the King and His People".

Whether it was good times or bad times, HM the King always had music for his people. There came a time in the 70s when the country was vulnerable to outside disturbances, HM the King gave his people songs of "encouragement". The music and the words to these songs encouraged his subjects, be they soldiers or civilians, to be conscientious of one's role and duty in the upholding of our values and our country. His musical gifts to his people did not stop at writing songs, he also set up a radio station, "Aw Saw", to broadcast music, news and matters of relevance.

HM the King used music to communicate with people, his young subjects, especially students. He used music to overcome international barriers and strengthen diplomatic ties. His musical prowess was world acclaimed such that in 1964, The Academy for Music and Performing Arts in Vienna made him an Honorary Member of the academy, ranking 23rd among Bruno Walter, Paul Hindemith, Pablo Casals, and Yehudi Menuhin. To commemorate the occasion, HM the King was presented with a citation certificate and his name was engraved on the academy's marble plaque. HM the King was lauded for the quality of his musical compositions and especially for "having helped to build a bridge of musical tradition between East and West". He was the youngest and the first Asian musician to have been bestowed the honour.