



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

## "What does the conductor actually do?"

A panel discussion with  
Hikotaro Yazaki and Prof. Dr. Chetana Nagavajara  
And a performance of Tchaikovsky Serenade for strings  
by Pro Musica Orchestra

Friday 31, March 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](mailto:info@siam-society.org) , [www.siam-society.org](http://www.siam-society.org)

## **Programme**

### **Topic of panel discussion**

- Have you ever wondered whether music conductors actually influence their orchestras?
- What is the point of conductors for orchestras? Don't the musicians know the music?
- Do orchestras really need someone flapping their arms on a podium?
- Is a conductor no more than a combination of timekeeper and showman, emoting like mad for the crowds?

After the discussion, there will be a performance of Tchaikovsky Serenade for strings by Pro Musica Orchestra conducted by the participants of the Pro Musica conducting workshop.

### **Hikotaro Yazaki, conductor**

Born in Tokyo in 1947, Mr. Yazaki studied mathematics at the Sophia University, Tokyo before graduating from the Tokyo National University of Fine Arts and Music as a conductor. For two years from 1970 he was Assistant Conductor of the Japan Philharmonic Orchestra under its Musical Director, Seiji Ozawa. In 1972, he gave a concert tour of Switzerland conducting the Tokyo Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Mr. Yazaki then moved to Europe to continue his musical training in Europe under the tutelage of some of the great conducting teachers: Franco Ferrara, Sergiu Celibidache, Zdenek Kosler, Hans Swarowsky and Pierre Dervaux. During this time, he was a laureate at numerous competitions, such as) the 1st John Player International Conductors Award (1974), the Concours International de Besançon (1975) and at the Concorso Internazionale 'Gino Marinuzzi' (1976).

Mr. Yazaki is much in demand both in his native Japan and in Europe, where he appears with orchestras including the Royal Philharmonic, the BBC Orchestras, the Oslo Philharmonic Orchestra, Orchestre de la Suisse Romande, Orchestre Philharmonique de Radio France, Orchestre National de Lyon, Orchestre du Capitole de Toulouse, Orchestre Philharmonique de Monte-Carlo, and the orchestras of the Opera de Paris and Opera Royal de Wallonie.

In 1994, Mr. Yazaki became Principal Guest Conductor of the Orchestre de Chamber National de Toulouse, and in 2000, was appointed Honorary Guest Conductor of the Bangkok Symphony Orchestra. Since 2002, he has been Principal Guest Conductor of the Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra. He has held posts with the Tokyo Symphony Orchestra, Norwegian Radio Orchestra and as Music Director of the Hofer Symphoniker.

For his continued contribution to French music and culture, Mr. Yazaki was awarded the 'Chevalier dans l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres' in 2000 and the 'Officier dans l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres' in 2008 by the French Government.

In 2011 Mr. Yazaki was awarded an Honorary degree of Doctor for Music from Silpakorn University.