

## **Bel Canto Singers**

Artistic Director: David Quah

Founded by a group of vocal music graduates from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts in 1997, Bel Canto Singers aims at creating more performing opportunities for all vocal music graduates, as well as introducing a wider range of vocal music to the public. Initially registered as a Society, Bel Canto Singers has already been winning critical acclaims for its innovative programming. To further carry out its missions and expand its scope of activities to better benefit the community, Bel Canto Singers has, since 2013, been incorporated into Bel Canto Singers Foundation Ltd. with a charitable status.

Bel Canto Singers' events encompass a wide range of activities. Under the leadership of Artistic Director and tenor David Quah, Bel Canto Singers has been presenting regular concerts to create more beautiful "moments" to the Hong Kong audiences, featuring works from the vocal repertoire running the gamut from baroque to the contemporary, classical to jazz, western to Chinese. In addition to all-time favourites, Bel Canto Singers also strives to pick out gems from lesser-known repertoire and showcase works by local composers, exploring the wealth of the vocal genre. In the end, Bel Canto Singers hopes to present quality vocal concerts by our very own Hong Kong composers and artists, introduce them to local and international audiences while at the same time elevate the standard of the Hong Kong vocal music scene as a whole.

Besides concerts, Bel Canto Singers is also keen on organizing workshops and school tours for educational purposes. Essentially, Bel Canto Singers hopes to expand its programmes to include recording projects in collaboration with local and overseas composers and artists, educational workshops and lectures, fully-staged productions in musical theatre and opera, as well as overseas concert tours, showcasing homegrown talents and promoting the "Voices of Hong Kong".

In recent years, Bel Canto Singers has staged the original pop operas "When Mozart Meets Da Ponte" and "My Beloved", giving new meanings to opera, as well as the very successful original musicals "The Happy Prince & The Other Wise Man" and "Esther". "The Happy Prince" was subsequently extracted from the staged musical and adapted into an online programme for LCSD's WeWeWebWeb Carnival this past summer, while "The Other Wise Man"'s online programme is in production for WeWeWebWeb Carnival this summer.

Bel Canto Singers has been a grantee of ADC's Matching Grant since 2017.