



藝術總監兼總指揮：艾度·迪華特  
Artistic Director & Chief Conductor : Edo de Waart

21<sup>st</sup> December 2007

The Hon. Alan Leong, S.C.  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on West Kowloon Cultural  
Legislative Council Building  
8 Jackson Road  
Central, Hong Kong

Dear Mr Leong

**West Kowloon Cultural District**

On behalf of the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, I wish to express the strongest possible support for the proposed West Kowloon Cultural District.

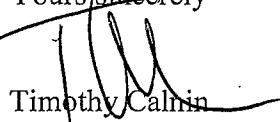
During the consultation period, I was fortunate to be a member of the Performing Arts and Tourism Advisory Group. Over a period of many months, PATAG met to ascertain the current and future needs of the professional performing arts sector in Hong Kong. A great deal of consideration was given to the quality and quantity of performing venues and the need, shared by all of the major performing companies, to improve the quality of the venues, the manner in which they are managed and the sheer number of performing arts venues to enable Hong Kong to grow into a culturally rich and mature city.

The vision of the West Kowloon Cultural District formed as a result of this consultation process is one which will inspire the entire performing arts sector to reach for the highest artistic standards, to inform and expand our audiences and provide the life-blood of an arts precinct which will redefine international perceptions of our city.

It is by no means easy to built up this broad consensus in the arts and cultural sector on the facilities to be built. In order to achieve this visionary project, we believe that it is essential that the Government's one-off funding proposal be approved by the Legislative Council to enable the project to have the full green light from the outset.

Naturally, I would be very pleased to meet with you should you require any further input from the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra.

Thank you for your attention.  
Yours sincerely



Timothy Calmin  
Chief Executive