



The Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra (TKWO)

# SOSL Premieres Concert on October 9

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It is said that patronizing classical music theatre is more of a fashion in Sri Lanka. Most men and women go to see classical music played by famed classical orchestras and conductors so that they get a chance to forge their export of prominence in high society by discussing whom they saw at the concert and their acme as classical performers in the international sphere.

Going to Western classical music concerts by most folks is as fashionable as keeping a grand piano in the middle of a big house. It is an act to display one's prestige more than anything else.

The presence of the grand piano does not mean that the inmates of the house are musicians or they know their music. They might probably know the brand name of the piano.

Nevertheless, trying to explain what music is like with written language or verbal articulation of words is not going to be easy, because expression of a musical sentence or patterns of musical building

blocks, which could also be described as consonant intervals of music has always been a difficult task even for best of musicians.

Sri Lanka has a vast clientele for South Indian classical music and a few but a very discerning clientele for Western classical music. It is in this context that the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka (SOSL) made a new beginning by becoming a bridge to connect the two traditions by having a cross cultural program featuring two prominent Indian classical based vocalists Victor Ratnayaka and Nanda Malmi to sing with the orchestra as they held a concert titled "Classics in Harmony" at the Ladies' College Hall, Colombo 7, recently.

As SOSL President Prof. Ajith Abeysekera said in an interview with the IN Tune that the concert had been a novel experience for both Sinhala and Western classical music lovers. It was not a concert of fusion of oriental classical and western classical music, instead it was an experience of the two traditions complementing each other.



Keiko Kobayashi

The oriental songs had been arranged for voice and orchestra by internationally acclaimed violinist Ananda Dabare. "They were received with upbeat applause from a very conscious and an enthusiastic audience," said Prof. Abeysekera, "The most of the audience were new to a Western classical orchestra."

Keiko Kobayashi has conducted the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, The Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra, The Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra and the Siena Wind Orchestra

Since her debut she has conducted the Tokyo Philharmonic Orchestra, The Tokyo City Philharmonic Orchestra, The Nagoya Philharmonic Orchestra, Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra and the Siena Wind Orchestra. She was an assistant conductor at the Hallwyl Opera Festival in Switzerland, had her European debut with Bizet's "The Fair Maid of Perth" at this festival. A CD and a DVD of her performances at All Japan Band Competition 2010 with Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra will be released in January next year.

The Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra (TKWO) was established in 1960 under the aegis of the Japan-based Buddhist organization Rissho Kosei-kai. Originally known as the Tokyo Kosei Symphonic Band, it was renamed in 1973 to reflect its growing professionalism and scale of activities.

In 1984 the late Maestro Frederick Fennell was named as its Principal Conductor. Educated at

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the Eastman School of Music, he was the founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble. In 1991 he and TKWO received the first Bandmasters Academic Society of Japan Award for outstanding performance. Maestro Fennell served as its Conductor Laureate from 1996 until his death in 2004. TKWO undertook its first European tour in

1989, performing to acclaim in Austria, Britain, France, the Netherlands, and Switzerland and in 1993 it made a nine-concert tour of Switzerland. The Millennium Concert Tour in Taiwan at the end of 1999 was its first step elsewhere in Asia. The orchestra then made an Asian tour of Taiwan, Singapore and Macao in April

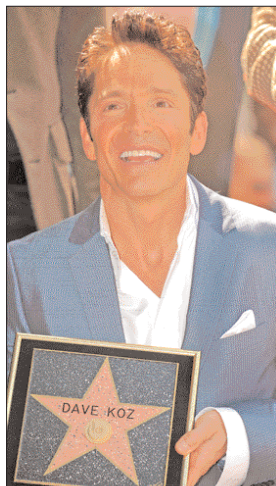
2002. In December 2002, TKWO for the first time visited the United States and appeared in two concerts at the 56th annual Midwest Clinic in Chicago, which were warmly received. Maestro Douglas Bostock was named as TKWO's Principal Conductor in 2000 and Principal Guest Conductor since

2006. He and TKWO have been moving in a new direction with wind music by taking a fresh look at works from Europe. The Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra appeared at the 12th World Association for Symphonic Bands and Ensembles (WASBE) International Conference to be held in Singapore in July, in Switzerland (Bern and Lucerne), and at the 15th World Music Contest in the Netherlands.

## Star for Dave



Jazz musician Dave Koz performs after being honoured by a star Hollywood. Dave performs after being honoured by a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Hollywood, California.



Dave posing after being honoured with a Star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame in Hollywood, California on September 22, 2009. AFP



## This is it!

Five-year-old Victor Chupina wears a Michael Jackson outfit as he begins a three-day wait with his family at the front of a line to purchase tickets for the Michael Jackson film at the LA Live theatre in Los Angeles on September 24, 2009.

The movie titled "This is It" will open in most countries around the world on October 28 for a limited two-week run. The film is being culled from more than 100 hours of rehearsal footage. AFP



## Aquarius to play additional Stand at Margarita Blue

Compelled by the rising demand of the crowds, the management of Hotel Galadari have asked Benji and his band Aquarius to play an additional night at the hotel's most happening place the Margarita Blue. Aquarius will now perform every Wednesday, Thursday, Friday & Saturdays.

The band will start off the new dates with two female vocalists, Wathasa & Merlina. Wathasa and Merlina are back in Sri Lanka after performing overseas. They

will be playing with "Aquarius" at the Margarita Blue of Galadari Hotel. Aquarius line up consists bassist and leader Benji Ranabaha, drummer vocalist Shiran Munasinghe, lead guitarist and vocalist Dhanushka Jayasekera, Keyboardist and vocalist Ray De Silva and Saxophonist Mano.

These guys have turned things around at Margarita Blue with record crowds and various promotions. It probably is the best place to listen to some good music either to get relaxed or lively up oneself. CW



Aquarius

## Celebration by Madonna

Em F#m Bm Bm (but fast...)

I think you wanna come over  
Yeah I heard it thru the grapevine  
Are you drunk? Are you sober?  
(Think about it)  
Doesn't matter  
And if it makes you feel good then I say do it  
I don't know what you're waiting for

Feel my temperature rising  
It's too much heat  
I'm gonna lose control  
Do you want to go higher?  
Get closer to the fire  
I don't want you're waiting for

Chorus  
I'm gonna party  
(Yeah)  
Cause anybody just won't do  
Let's get this started  
(Yeah)  
Cause everybody wants to party with you

Boy you got a reputation  
But you're gonna have to prove it  
I see a little hesitation  
Am I gonna have to show ya  
That if it feels right  
Get on your mark  
Step to the beat boy  
that's what its for

Put your arms around me  
When it gets too hot we can go outside  
but for now just come here  
let me whisper in your ear  
an invitation to the dance of life

I'm gonna party  
(It's a celebration)  
Cause anybody just won't do  
Let's get this started  
(No more hesitation)  
Cause everybody wants to party with you

(Spoken)  
Haven't I seen you somewhere before?  
You look familiar  
You wanna dance?  
Yeah

I guess I just don't recognize you with your clothes  
on What are you waiting for?

I'm gonna party  
(It's a celebration)  
Cause anybody just won't do  
Let's get this started  
(No more hesitation)  
Cause everybody wants to party with you

Come join the party  
(It's a celebration)  
Cause anybody just won't do  
Let's get this started  
(No more hesitation)  
Cause everybody wants to party with you

Boy you got it  
Cause anybody just won't do