



# Werner CHAN

## *Saraphina violin concerto*

Born in Hong Kong, Werner Chan started to learn piano at the age of 5. At the age of 11, he had his first piano recital in the local church and became the accompanist for the Don Bosco Choir for 7 consecutive years. He secured a place to study music at the Hong Kong Academy for the Performing Arts (HKAPA) and obtained a Diploma of Music in 2001. In September of the same year, Werner received the Conservatory Ovation Award and the International Chancellor's Award, to study music at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, USA. He graduated with distinction with a Master's degree in Music in 2007.

*Saraphina Violin Concerto* was commissioned by Music Director Maestro Kristian Alexander for the Kindred Spirit Orchestra and was written during the Covid-19 pandemic. Dedicated to the solo violinist Sarah (Saraphina Violin) Davidson-Gurney, the concerto is structured in two instead of the traditional three movements. The musical ideas evolved from Saraphina Violin's composition 'Retrospect', written in 2019 brought to esoteric climax in the 2<sup>nd</sup> movement of the concerto by exploring the effects of physical distancing in the composer's writing for winds and brass instruments.