



Press Release

**SJM Presents Macao Orchestra x Hong Kong Ballet: “The Butterfly Lovers,”
Concludes with Great Success**

*A Fusion of Classic and Contemporary Elements Showcasing Greater Bay Area and
International Artistic Collaboration*

(Macau, 10 November 2024) SJM Resorts, S.A. (“SJM”) places great importance on the development of Macau’s cultural and creative arts, striving to enrich the city’s artistic landscape and lay a strong foundation for the integration of “Tourism + Cultural Arts.” In collaboration with the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government and the Macao Orchestra Company, Limited, SJM proudly presented the *Macao Orchestra x Hong Kong Ballet* production of “*The Butterfly Lovers*.” The Macau performances were concluded yesterday at the Macao Cultural Centre Grand Auditorium, offering close to 1,200 ballet and music enthusiasts two shows of unforgettable, immersive, and visually stunning experience. By blending elements of East and West, ancient and modern, the ballet celebrated the creative power emerging from collaborations among artists across the Greater Bay Area and the world.

Following its acclaimed global premiere in Hong Kong, “*The Butterfly Lovers*” ballet received a full house and enthusiastic applause at its Macau performances. Ms. Daisy Ho, Managing Director of SJM, stated, “*The Butterfly Lovers* is brilliantly brought to stage as a ballet by a distinguished ensemble of artists and musicians from Macau, Hong Kong, mainland China and around the globe. SJM is honoured to present this unprecedented collaboration among the artistic luminaries of the Greater Bay Area and the world, who boldly overcame obstacles in combining traditional Chinese dance elements with ballet. We hope this will catalyse fresh opportunities and spotlight Macau’s status as a ‘City of Performing Arts.’”

On 9 November, Ms. Daisy Ho, Managing Director of SJM, joined a ceremonial toast to celebrate the premiere of “*The Butterfly Lovers*” with several esteemed guests. They are, Ms. Leong Wai Man, President of the Cultural Affairs Bureau of the Macao SAR Government and President of Macao Orchestra Company, Limited; Ms. Bai Bing, Deputy Director of the Department of Publicity and Culture of the Liaison Office of the Central People’s Government in the Macao SAR; Mr. Chan Ka Io and Mr. Jimson Hoi, Board of Directors Member of Macao Orchestra Company, Limited; Mr. Septime Webre, Artistic Director of Hong Kong Ballet; Mr. Lio Kuokman, Music Director and Principal Conductor of Macao Orchestra; Ms. Heidi Lee, Executive Director of Hong Kong Ballet, and Mr. Xu Zhiyu, Managing Director of Bank of China Macau Branch.

“*The Butterfly Lovers*” ballet is a collaborative project between the Macao Orchestra and the Hong Kong Ballet, with its global premiere held earlier in Hong Kong. The production boasts a distinguished creative team, led by Hong Kong Ballet’s Artistic Director Septime Webre, and features its Choreographer-in-Residence Hu Song Wei Ricky and his wife, Mai Jingwen, Associate Choreographer, who crafted the choreography and libretto. Oscar-winning designer Tim Yip contributed his vision to the stage and costume design, while the Macao Orchestra, conducted by Lio Kuokman, delivered a moving live performance of an original score by Tian Mi, inspired by “*The Butterfly Lovers Violin Concerto*.” This production exemplifies a perfect teamwork



among artists from the Greater Bay Area and beyond, expertly interweaving traditional and contemporary elements to reimagine a timeless love story and immerse audiences in a captivating artistic world.

Following the performance, a member of the audience remarked, “The choreography was strikingly original, beautifully capturing the essence of the classic love story. The stage and costume designs, rich in Chinese cultural elements, combined with the sensational performance by dancers and signature tunes, made the ballet exceptionally moving.” A ballet student also expressed she was inspired by the programme with the hope of one day performing in a production of such calibre.

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“The Butterfly Lovers” ballet immerses audiences in a touching classic love story.



Ms. Daisy Ho, Managing Director of SJM, and esteemed guests led a toast prior to the premiere on 9 November.



Performing artists from “*The Butterfly Lovers*” engage with guests following the first performance in Macau.