



## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC

*Finland is celebrating 100 years of independence this year. Widely known as Finland's national composer, Jean Sibelius (1865–1957) has had a profound impact on Finnish culture and the image of Finland.*

*The Sibelius-Society of Finland, established in 1957, upholds and promotes the musical heritage of Finland's greatest composer, Jean Sibelius. In June 2017, the Sibelius-Society of Finland and China Symphony Development Foundation reached an important milestone by signing a cooperation agreement to promote Chinese - Finnish cultural relationships in the area of classical music. All 73 symphony orchestras in China are members of this Foundation.*

*This cultural cooperation will begin with a series of nine concerts to be held from Nov 6<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> 2017 in Shanghai, Wuxi, Changzhou, Hefei and Ningbo. These "Music of Finland" events are part of the China Shanghai International Arts Festival and a part of the Finland 100 years celebration.*

*The series of concerts is based on a selection of Sibelius piano pieces and chamber orchestra works to give Chinese music lovers an opportunity to discover the enchanting music of Sibelius. Furthermore, a Sibelius Seminar and piano master classes will be held in the Shanghai Conservatory of Music and in Ningbo International Institute.*

*I wish these concerts, the Sibelius Seminar and piano master classes every success and I hope that the audiences will enjoy the wonderful concert evenings ahead.*

### 芬兰共和国总统贺函

今年是芬兰获得独立的一百周年纪念。在这百年里，芬兰国宝级作曲家西贝柳斯（1865-1957）作品中的精神深深地影响着芬兰的文化和国家形象。

芬兰西贝柳斯学会成立于1957年，致力于宣传推广芬兰最伟大的作曲家西贝柳斯的音乐遗产。2017年6月，西贝柳斯学会与中国交响乐发展基金会签署了一项具有里程碑意义的协议，共同促进中芬两国在古典音乐领域里的文化交流与合作。中国现有的73个交响乐团均是中国交响乐发展基金会的成员。

双方间的文化交流将以9场系列音乐会开始，11月6日 - 18日，分别在上海、无锡、常州、合肥和宁波举办。其中包括以《音乐芬兰》为主题参加“上海国际艺术节”的演出。这个主题也是芬兰一百周年庆典活动之一。

这些音乐会均以西贝柳斯的钢琴和室内乐作品为主，为热爱音乐的中国听众演绎西贝柳斯音乐的迷人魅力。此外还有有关西贝柳斯及其音乐的讲座和大师课将同期在上海音乐学院和宁波国际学院举行。

我祝愿这些音乐会和有关西贝柳斯的讲座及大师课的圆满成功，并希望中国的音乐爱好者尽情享受每场音乐会。

Sauli Niinistö  
The President of the Republic of Finland

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