

A white mug filled with dark coffee sits on a wooden surface. Below it, a white smartphone is visible, showing a dark screen. The text 'HR4's Pick' is overlaid on the coffee.

HR4's Pick

The Musical Month of December!

Merry Christmas!

The musical season has returned. Four professional singers will introduce to us numerous carols and works related to Nativity on Sunday at noon in “The Singers’ Christmas” (in Cantonese). In addition, Radio 4’s full-time colleagues will each be sharing their favorite Christmas works in “Looking 4ward” and “R4 This Week” (in Cantonese).

While some believe that Jesus Christ was not actually born on 25 December, Beethoven’s birthday is also in question. It may have been 16 or 17 December. In either case, in his birthday month this year, Radio 4 has prepared a very special treat for you. From 1 December, every day at 1:15 pm, you can tune in to “Beethoven 32” and listen to the sonatas one by one, each played by a Hong Kong pianist. The cycle will complete on New Year’s Day! On the same day at 1 pm, for 13 weeks, the TV version will be broadcast.

While marking birthdays, we also remember three musicians.



A top-down photograph of a white ceramic mug filled with dark coffee, sitting on a light brown wooden surface. Below the mug, a white smartphone is lying horizontally, its screen turned off. The text 'HR4's Pick' is overlaid in white on the coffee in the mug.

HR4's Pick

Camille Saint-Saëns died on 16 December (apparently Beethoven's birthday?) in 1921. One hundred years later, Timothy Kwok, who has a fervent interest in his music will present a 4-part series on Sunday mornings at 10 am to pay tribute to the great French composer.

Last month, Brazilian pianist Nelson Freire passed away. We have prepared for you a compilation from three live recordings of his solo and concerto performances. That's 11 December's edition of "Live on 4". Academic, conductor, and performer on many instruments Michael Ryan also left us last month. Head of Music Department Johnny Poon spoke to Stacey Rodda in "Morning Call" on 16 November about his dear colleague. Listen back to this programme on rthk.hk/radio4.

More music on Radio 4 in this musical month includes the continuation of the new series – "GBA Concert Hall" broadcast on Tuesdays at 8 pm. Lastly, the "International Rostrum of Composers" will return on Monday at 8 pm. This longstanding annual event took a break last year due to the pandemic.

With new music, we wish you a happy and healthy New Year!



台長之選

聖誕節少不了音樂，四位專業演唱家將於週日中午主持「聖誕四把聲」並帶來多套聖誕聲樂精選作品，而第四台全職同事亦會在「四台情報站」和「東張4望」(英語)節目，分享他們心愛的聖誕音樂。

有人說耶穌基督並非在12月25日出生。貝多芬的生辰同樣存疑，有說是12月16日，有說是17日。無論如何，在他生日的這個月份，我們為你作出精心安排。由12月1日起，每天下午1時15分，你可以聽到「貝多芬鋼琴奏鳴曲全集」，每集皆由一位本地鋼琴家彈奏。三十二首作品將會在新年日完成。另外，你亦可以在同日的下午1時，一連十三個星期在港台電視31觀賞全套作品。

除慶賀生日之外，我們也紀念三位音樂家。

聖桑在12月16日(與貝多芬生辰同一天?)離世，那年是1921年。一百年後，有熱愛聖桑作品的鋼琴家郭家豪，在星期日早上10時主持四集「暢談聖桑」，向這位法國作曲家致敬。



A top-down photograph of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with dark coffee, sitting on a light brown wooden surface. Below the cup, a white smartphone is lying horizontally, its screen turned off. The text '台長之選' is overlaid in white on the coffee cup.

台長之選

鋼琴家費迪亦於上月離世。在12月11日的「四台音樂廳」中，我們為你精選幾場他的音樂會錄音，其中有獨奏，亦有協奏曲演出，以紀念這位巴西偉大鋼琴家。身兼學者、指揮，並能演奏多件樂器的米高·賴恩同於上月離世。在上月16日的「清晨妙韻」，浸會大學音樂系系主任潘明倫與主持盧迪思懷念他的好同事，。聽眾可於rthk.hk/radio4重溫這集節目。

在充滿音樂感覺的12月，第四台還有更多精彩節目，包括第二個月推出的「大灣區音樂廳」(逢星期二晚8時播出)，以及因疫情，去年曾停辦一屆的「國際作曲家交流會議」(逢星期一晚8時播出)。

以新音樂，祝你新年快樂，身體健康!

