

## Rotary Royal Club Hua Hin

The attendance of Stefan Sanchez at the start of the second half year meeting on 09.01.2018 was a wonderful experience, especially listening to his excellent singing voice. Stefan gave an overview of his life, underlining some important stages that shaped his career. He also explained how the physical aspects of a body are linked to singing, and finished by giving a superb rendition of a number of opera classics.

Stefan is British and regularly visited Thailand over the last 20 years to help train young opera singers. He studied singing and piano at the Royal Academy of Music in London, graduating with distinction. He also studied at The Guildhall School of Music and Drama and Escuela Superior de Canto in Madrid and proud of having been a student of International Voice Teacher Peter Harrison for many years.

He is CEO of, The Grand Opera (Thailand), set up in 2011 to provide a platform for young Thai opera singers to perform in Thailand and the region, and launch them into international careers. He is also CEO of the European Chamber Opera, which he formed in 1992, and a board member of Nonesuch History and Dance. Stefan is also an active supporter of Baan Gerda Home for Children with HIV, and in his spare time enjoys cooking, walking and spending time at his home in Seville.

Stefan maintains a balanced career as an international opera singer, producer, director and teacher and has toured most of the Western and Eastern world, and in 1998 was made an **Associate of the Royal Academy of Music** for his work with opera singers.

Since our formation in 2012, we have already produced more than 40 concerts and musical engagements to private and public audiences throughout Bangkok and Southeast Asia involving the Grand Opera. Their annual visit to Hua Hin is a wonderful night, with large audiences set in the beautiful Chom Dong Villa.