

Zurich Film Festival - Screening of “Sons of the Neon Night”

(26 September 2025)

Speech by DBL

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening, and a warm welcome to all our distinguished guests and friends joining us for tonight’s screening.

2. Movies are timeless treasures and shining pearls in the flow of history. They are also powerful cultural ambassadors that bridge distances, playing an important role in fostering cultural exchange between Hong Kong and the international community. Hong Kong, celebrated for its unique East-meets-West culture, embodies a harmonious blend of tradition and modernity. This spirit of openness and diversity inspires our filmmakers to craft extraordinary stories, offering fresh and distinctive perspectives to the world.

3. This year, we are thrilled to share two outstanding Hong Kong films with the Zurich Film Festival audience. Tonight’s feature, Sons of the Neon Night, is a testament to the creativity and courage of Hong Kong filmmaker Juno Mak. Filmed in a dark and mysterious, the story unfolds a version of Hong Kong in the 1990s, featuring crumbling skyscrapers and flickering neon lights. This gripping crime thriller begins with an explosion in the city center, igniting a conflict between the legitimate and criminal worlds.

4. Another acclaimed Hong Kong film, Another World, an animation directed by Tommy Kai Chung Ng, will also be showcased during the festival. This animation explores a fantastical realm known as ‘Another World,’ where souls would travel after death and before rebirth. Gudo, a

spirit tasked with guiding these souls, encounters a young soul named Yuri. Together, they must confront her unresolved anger to prevent a hidden curse from destroying the world. We hope you will also support this film, which will be screened in the coming week.

5. Hong Kong's openness and diversity inspires our filmmakers to craft extraordinary stories, offering fresh and distinctive perspectives to the world. Through the support of the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency and the Film Development Fund, we are dedicated to increasing the overseas exposure of Hong Kong movies. Zurich Film Festival stands as one of Europe's most prestigious film events. Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin is happy to continue our sponsorship for the festival, and also shine bright the work of Hong Kong filmmakers on the international stage.

6. Once again, thank you for joining us this evening. Please sit back, relax, and enjoy the film!

– Ends –

(~380 words; ~4 minutes)