

Filmasia - Screening of “The Last Dance”
(4 December 2025)

Speech by DBL

Karla, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening, and a very warm welcome to the opening of the 21st Filmasia Asian Film Festival. With the funding support of the Cultural and Creative Industries Development Agency of the Hong Kong Government and Film Development Fund, the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin is pleased to continue its support for the festival.

2. Films have the unique ability to transcend geographical and societal boundaries, showcasing the depth and diversity of human experiences. We are delighted to bring the exceptional narratives of Hong Kong cinema to Prague, offering Czech audiences fresh and distinctive perspectives.

3. With great pride, Hong Kong celebrates its vibrant popular culture, which provides a unique lens into our dynamic lifestyle and rich heritage. The Hong Kong Government is committed to enhancing the city's cultural influence, particularly by promoting Hong Kong films globally and actively participating in international festivals like Filmasia. These efforts not only increase the visibility of Hong Kong but also highlight the creativity and exceptional craftsmanship of our filmmakers.

4. Tonight's opening film “The Last Dance” (破·地獄) is directed, produced and co-written by Hong Kong director, Anselm Chan (陳茂賢). The movie was Hong Kong's blockbuster hit last year, and was submitted for the Best International Feature Film category at the Academy Awards. The film

delves into themes of life and death through the story of a debt-ridden wedding planner who inadvertently becomes a funeral planner.

5. I also encourage you to explore the diverse categories of Hong Kong films featured at the Festival. On Saturday night, a romantic film “Someone Like Me” (像我這樣的愛情) will be screened. Next Thursday and Friday, four iconic classics by the world-renowned Wong Kar-Wai, namely “Chungking Express” (重慶森林), “Fallen Angels “ (墮落天使), “Happy Together”(春光乍洩), and ”In the Mood For Love” (花樣年華), will be screened and audiences can revisit the timeless masterpiece of the world renowned director.

6. Thank you once again for joining us tonight to celebrate Hong Kong cinema. I extend my best wishes for the continued success of this 21st edition of Filmasia and to all of you.

7. As we come to a close, I would like to invite everyone to join us in a moment of silence to honour the victims of the devastating fire in Hong Kong last week. Let us take this moment to remember those who lost their lives, to hold their families and loved ones in our thoughts.

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