

**Opening Ceremony of the Festival Film and of the film section  
“Hong Kong Heroines”  
at the Five Flavours Asian Film Festival  
(15 November 2023)**

**Speech by Acting DBL**

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening and welcome to the opening ceremony of the *Five Flavours Asian Film Festival 2023*. I am honoured to join you all tonight as this is not only the opening of the festival but also the opening of the *Hong Kong Heroines* section, which is one of the main parts of this year’s festival.

2023 marks the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the Five Flavours Asian Film Festival and I am glad to share that the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin has been a partner of the festival for over ten years now. The Five Flavours Asian Film Festival has always been a unique stage for outstanding films from East and Southeast Asia for the Polish audience. I would like to thank the festival organiser for their great collaboration over the years and I look forward to more adventures in the years to come.

This year’s edition will include a fascinating journey through film productions dedicated to *Hong Kong Heroines*: get a chance to experience their struggles and stories on the big screens. Let’s kick start the journey with *An Autumn’s Tale* tonight, an award-winning classic of the Hong Kong cinema directed by Mabel Cheung. This lovingly told film is an iconic romantic drama, and a modern day fable that captures the notions of diasporic identity and myth of the American Dream. It captures a unique perspective on what it

means to be a Hongkonger in a distant land and illustrates very well what makes Hong Kong so special.

Hong Kong has always been a melting pot where East meets West, connecting people from different cultures. We are also establishing ourselves as an international cultural exchange hub. Next year in October, we will be hosting the first Hong Kong Performing Arts Expo to connect industry players from around the world. There will be a fruitful five-day programme of performances, international showcases, pitch sessions, leadership talks, artist sharings etc. so don't miss out if you are also a fan of performing arts!

Thank you once again for joining us tonight to discover Hong Kong and our culture through the eyes of Director Cheung. Please sit back and enjoy!

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