

Preservation  
Acquisition  
Restoration  
Promotion & Education  
Research & Publication  
Conservation of Cultural Heritage  
Community Involvement

## Capturing the Past

The recent years saw rising calls for the safeguarding of Hong Kong's cultural heritage  
Ever since its inauguration, the Hong Kong Film Archive has been making every effort  
to promote the preservation of Hong Kong cinematic culture  
Film is not only a medium of mass entertainment but also a witness to societal changes  
On the film strip are myriad faces of our society  
such as our history, economic environment, people's lifestyle  
social trends and political events

Throughout the years, the Film Archive has maintained a close rapport with the film industry  
Together, we make concerted efforts to preserve and conserve Hong Kong film culture

## A Torch Carrier

Every frame on the film captures the moment as it is  
The Film Archive is significant in that  
it records people's everyday lives and makes these records readily available for others  
As selfish as it may sound, I, as a filmmaker  
think film is at the forefront of our culture and our daily lives  
The Film Archive is always aware of film's role as a carrier of culture  
The acquisition, preservation and restoration of film prints are three important aspects of  
our work

We have a team of conservation professionals and

the latest equipment capable of a wide range of restoration work  
Through an elaborate process of inspection, cleaning and restoration  
A damaged film is given a new lease of life and brought to audiences once again

Over the past decade, the Film Archive has restored many films  
The most precious and significant title is director Fei Mu's 1940 film Confucius

The unearthing and restoring of Confucius  
has not only filled a void in the history of Chinese cinema  
it has also opened up new perspectives for film research  
in terms of history, culture, music and aesthetics  
Being able to showcase once again this long-lost classic is a major achievement of the Film  
Archive

Also central to our work are acquisition, preservation and research

The Film Archive obtains collection items mainly through two ways - donations and  
voluntary deposits

Over the years, the Film Archive has been blessed by the enthusiastic support from  
filmmakers who share our goals  
they have generously contributed thousands of film-related items  
Members of our staff categorise, index, and file every item carefully before they are put into  
storage

At the same time, our researchers conduct in-depth studies using the archival holdings  
Their findings are presented in publications  
to afford local and overseas researchers a deeper, fuller view of Hong Kong cinema

Our Programming Unit curates a variety of activities  
including screenings, exhibitions, seminars and talks  
Our ultimate goal is to promote film culture  
by involving the public and deepening their understanding of film art

## **Cultivating Public Enthusiasm**

In order to draw more people to the Archive and to broaden film culture

the Archive building has such facilities as an exhibition hall, a cinema, and a resource centre

We strive to make the Archive experience a light-hearted, enjoyable one  
in hopes of arousing more interest in film and culture among the general public

It is also our hope that through dazzling moving images  
audiences would be inspired to contemplate the changes  
in our society throughout the years

## Into the Future

The Film Archive should be granted independence  
in position and action above everything else  
Its work is solemn  
as it should be  
So the Archive should obtain a greater degree of authority  
That would be wiser, I think  
Closely connected with the cultural lives of Hong Kong people  
the Film Archive is actively planning ahead for the future  
in order to provide more comprehensive and diversified services

Now into another decade  
the Film Archive will continue with its mission of promoting and preserving Hong Kong film  
culture

while forging ahead in new directions