

Hong Kong Film Archive Film List and Introduction of Special Film Shows

Director and Scriptwriter: Mok Hong-si
Cast: Ting Ying, Cheung Ying-choi, Lam Yim, Cheung Yee, Helena Law Lan
Production: Lan Kwong Film Company
1963 / Black & White / In Cantonese / 92 minutes

As Hong Kong's economy took off in the 1960s, the city was in sudden of low-tech labour. Many women joined the assembly lines and worked as so-called 'factory girls', becoming an integral part of Hong Kong's own industrial revolution. Shoe factory labourer Wai-fong (Ting Ying) is kind, energetic and beloved by many, but she's looked down upon because of her profession. This is why she tells wealthy horse owner, Wai-lun (Cheung Ying-choi), that she's a rich heiress. Little does she know that Wai-lun is actually a driver who is also pretending to be loaded. Will the two drop their façades and learn that honesty is the key to true love?

Three Love Affairs



Three Stages of Love



Director: Tso Kea
Original Story: Ba Jin's "Fog", "Rain" and "Lightning"
Cast: Ng Cho-fan, Pak Yin, Yung Siu-yi, Mui Yee
Production: International Films Distributing Agency
1955 / Black & White / In Cantonese / 125 minutes

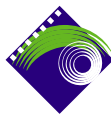
After his "Turbulent Stream" trilogy, novelist Ba Jin's "Love Trilogy" novels have also been adapted for the screen and combined into a single film by director Tso Kea. Through the portrayal of one man's relationships with three women, the film explores an eternal conflict that is faced by all young people: What happens when reality doesn't meet your ideals? In 'Fog', the man falls for a woman who is often vague and indecisive. In 'Rain', he meets a woman who is brash and impulsive. In 'Lightning', he finally meets a woman with the nearly perfect personality. Which woman do you think you'll relate to the most?

Director: Poon Bing-kuen
Scriptwriter: Ng Dan, Ko Tin
Cast: Wong Cho-shan, Lee Pang-fei, Lau Kwai-hong, To Sam-ku, Cheng Kwan-min, Patrick Tse Yin
Production: Dihua Film Company
1954 / Black & White / In Cantonese / 93 minutes

From the 1950s to the early 80s, Hong Kong often had to ration water because of dry spell and limited supply. If someone downstairs turned the faucet on high, their upstairs neighbours wouldn't be able to get water. In this grassroots comedy, water rationing threatens the business and livelihood Congee Man (Wong Cho-shan). Unbeknownst to him, his downstairs neighbour (Lee Pang-fei) has been storing water for profit. Fortunately, Paint Bucket (Lau Kwai-hong), is there to lend Congee Man a much-needed helping hand. The film may show the harshness of living in poverty in Hong Kong, but it also shows everyday people embodying the 'Lion Rock spirit' through acts of generosity and kindness.

Taps Off, Downstairs!





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Love Lingers On



Director: Tso Kea
Original Story: Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*
Cast: Cheung Ying, Mui Yee, Chow Kwun-ling, Cheung Ching, Wong Man-lei
Production: Motion Picture & General Investment Co. Ltd.
1957 / Black & White / In Cantonese / 119 min

Published in the mid 19th century, Emily Brontë's tale of profound passion, thwarted love and bitter vengefulness has seen multiple translations published over the past 100 years. Named after the Chinese title of the 1945 translated version, this Chinese film adaptation successfully transposes the Victorian England setting to turn of the century China. Cheung Ying stars as the mistreated stepson who is slowly driven to take vengeance against his foster family, with Mui Yee co-starring as the stepsister that he can't love. Director Tso Kea concentrates on the lead characters' simmering mental troubles, taking a delicate and intricate approach to the flawed characters and the provocative love story at its core.

Director: Chor Yuen
Cast: Connie Chan Po-chu, Lui Kei
Production: Hao Hao
1968 / Black & White / In Cantonese with Chinese and English
Subtitles / 98 minutes

How far will parents go to stop their children from marrying the "wrong" person? In the case of the Mui family from this comedy classic, the patriarch not only stops his eldest daughter from marrying her poor boyfriend, he also forces his younger daughter (Connie Chan Po-chu) to date a wealthy friend's son (Lui Kei). Neither side wants to be in an arranged relationship, so they both do all they can to put on their worst side for each other - that is, until they fall in love for real. Meanwhile, when the eldest daughter discovers that she's pregnant, the younger sister decides to step up with another crazy plan...

The Pregnant Maiden



A Respectable Tutor



Director and Scriptwriter: Chiang Wai-kwong
Original Story and Librettist: Tong Tik-sang
Cast: Yam Kim-fai, Pak Suet-sin, Poon Yat-on, Lam Kar-sing, Yam Bing-ye
Production: Tao Yuen Motion Picture Development Company
1959 / Black & White / In Cantonese / 105 min

Yeuk-mui (Pak Suet-sin), the prime minister's daughter, falls in love at first sight with stately scholar Yuk-pui (Yam Kim-fai). Ignoring her father's disapproval, Yeuk-mui cuts ties with her family, living an impoverished life waiting for her husband's return from the imperial exam. Based on the Cantonese opera by Tong Tik-sang, the film's portrayal of a strong-willed woman who gives up everything for love was considered to be ahead of its time. Equally strong-willed were the films' stars, who established their own opera troupe in 1956 - with Tang as its artistic director - in hopes of elevating the relatively populist art form to a new level.



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Director: Yi Wen
Cast: Huang Ho, Ma Li, Li Lihua, Chang Yi-ming
Production: Hsin Hwa Motion Picture Company
1956 / Black & White / In Cantonese(Dubbed)* / 95 minutes

The story of the tragic romance between a Japanese courtesan and an American naval officer, John Luther Long's short story has been adapted into a stage play, an iconic opera and multiple films, including two produced in Hong Kong. In Evan Yang's Mandarin-language adaptation, the courtesan is now a singer, played by Li Lihua, and the naval officer is a young man from Hong Kong, played by Huang He. Screenwriter Chen Die-yi also changed the story's ending, giving the lovers a happy ending. Filmed on location in Japan, the film offers a look at post-war Japan through Hong Kong eyes.

Madame Butterfly



* The film was produced in Mandarin, but the copy held by HKFA is in Cantonese.

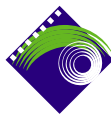
The Dividing Wall



Director: Chu Shek-lung
Scriptwriter: Wen Bai
Cast: Han-fei, Li Qing, Kwong Wa
Production: Dragon-Horse (Loon-Ma)
1952 / Black & White / In Cantonese (Dubbed)* / 93 minutes

As Hong Kong property prices skyrocket in recent years, those who can't afford their own homes are forced to live in subdivided flats. Limited living space has actually been a serious problem in Hong Kong for more than half a century. In the 1950s and 60s, it was very common to see one flat divided into multiple rooms. With so many people living together in such tight spaces, conflicts are unavoidable. Separated by only a board, typist Youqing (Han-fei) and teacher Qiang (Li Qing) fight like oil and water. However, with the help of the flat's new lady tenant (Kwong Wa), the two men eventually settle their differences and learn to be good neighbours.

* The film was produced in Mandarin, but the copy held by HKFA is in Cantonese



Hong Kong Film Archive Film List and Introduction of Special Film Shows

Director: Lee Sun-fung
Original Story: Au Yeung-tin
Screenwriter: Ng Cho-fan
Cast: Ng Cho-fan, Pak Ying, Bruce Lee, Fung Fung
Production: Hualian Film Enterprise Ltd
1960 / Colour / In Cantonese with English subtitles / 104 minutes

Despite great economic growth in the 1960s, Hong Kong society also saw chaos that drove some young men to join street gangs. This film, based on a newspaper serial novel by Au Yeung Tin, follows the story of Ah-sam (Bruce Lee), a pickpocket who is taken in by an orphanage. However, Ah-sam is unable to resist returning to his criminal ways, eventually forced by a gangster to join a kidnapping heist. Made long before he became a martial arts legend, 20-year-old Lee makes the best of his natural bad boy appearance as the defiant rebel in this thought-provoking look at those left behind by Hong Kong's rapid modernisation.

* Some scenes contain coarse language. Teachers are advised to offer guidance to students.

The Orphan

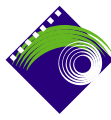


A Chinese Ghost Story: The Tsui Hark Animation



Director: Andrew Chan
Original Story and Scriptwriter: Tsui Hark
Character Animation Director: Tetsuya Endo
Character Design: Frankie Chung
Voice Cast: Jan Lamb, Tsui Hark, Anita Yuen, Kelly Chan, James Wong
Production: Film Workshop Co. Ltd., PolyGram K.K.,
Win's Entertainment Ltd., Cathay Asia Films Pte. Ltd.
1997 / Colour / In Cantonese with Chinese and English Subtitles /
84 minutes

Pu Songling's timeless story of a star-crossed romance between a human and a ghost has been told numerous times, most famously on-screen in *A Chinese Ghost Story* (1987). A decade later, producer Tsui Hark retells the story in another form - animation. While working a rent collector, Ning Choi-sun enters a ghost town by mistake. A young ghost, Shine, has her mind set on taking Ning back to her mistress as her meal, but she ends up falling in love with him. Featuring a star-studded voice cast and spectacular animation, Andrew Chan's take on the beloved story is one of the most interesting to date.



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Director: Honda Toshiyuki, Choi Ming-yum
Scriptwriter: Alfonso Wong Chak, Fung Yuen-chee
Voice Cast: Ding Yue
Production: Hong Kong Film Services
1983 / Colour / In Cantonese with Chinese and English Subtitles /
70 minutes

Drawing under the pen name Wong Chak, Alfonso Wong began the Master Q comic strip in 1962 and Master Q has since become a Hong Kong cultural icon, beloved by young readers of all generations. In the series' third animated film adaptation - inspired by Steven Spielberg's E.T. - Old Master Q (cute) who is working in an amusement park encounters an alien creature. When an evil land magnate leaves a bomb in the park to scare the owner into selling it, the alien helps Master Q and his friends find the bomb and punish the bad guy. Despite being made more than three decades ago, the film's theme of developer hegemony feels more relevant than ever.

Older Master Cute Part III



McDull, Kungfu Ding Ding Dong



Director and Scriptwriter: Brian Tse
Original Story: Brian Tse, Alice Mak
Voice Cast: Kwok Kwan-yin, Sandra Ng Kwun-yu, Anthony Wong Chau-sang, Jim Chim, The Pancakes
Production: Bliss Distribution Ltd.
2009 / Colour / In Cantonese with Chinese and English Subtitles /
80 minutes

Since 2001, the McDull film series has been shining a light on the stories of everyday Hongkongers. The series' fourth film sees Mrs. Mak (Sandra Ng Kwun Yu) trying to find success up north in the mainland. With high hopes for her son, she sends McDull to the famous Wudang Mountain for martial arts training. Despite being the first film in the series to be set outside of Hong Kong, Brian Tse's script is still filled with plenty of Cantonese language humour. Like its predecessors, the film also uses its irreverent humour to explore serious social issues that affect Hong Kong people of all ages.