

World premiere of Cantonese Opera Film "The Legend of The White Snake" at 4th Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival in November (with photos)

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department and the Foshan Cantonese Opera Inheritance Institute (Foshan Cantonese Opera Troupe) will present the world premiere of Cantonese Opera film "The Legend of The White Snake" at the Grand Theatre of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre on November 2 and 3, as one of the highlight events of the 4th Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival. Li Shuqin, director of the Foshan Cantonese Opera Troupe and a winner of the China Theatre Plum Blossom Award and the Best Lead Actor at the Shanghai White Magnolia Awards for Theatrical Art, will perform alongside renowned Hong Kong Cantonese opera artist Law Ka-ying in this film, which aims to revive the well-known folk legend by blending cinematic presentation techniques with opera performance. Through this cultural exchange and collaboration in the form of Cantonese opera filming, it seeks to further promote in-depth co-operation between the Mainland and Hong Kong in content creation, production and promotion, and to jointly develop a cultural Bay Area.

The Cantonese opera play "The Legend of The White Snake" is one of the classic repertoires of the Foshan Cantonese Opera Troupe and has remained popular over the years. Starring Li Shuqin (as Bai Suzhen) and Law Ka-ying (as Xu Xian), the Troupe brings the play to the big screen, and uses location shooting for some scenes that blend traditional Cantonese opera with modern cinematic elements to create a new form of classic heritage. It also marks Law Ka-ying's first role in a Cantonese opera film. By interpreting Cantonese opera in an innovative way, it enables the younger generation to learn more about its artistic and cultural essence.

The Cantonese opera film "The Legend of The White Snake" boasts a strong production team: the film is directed by national first-class director Yin Dawei, and the script is adapted by Li Jianglin, a talented protégée of Cantonese opera master Law Ka-bo. Apart from Li Shuqin and Law Ka-ying, the main cast also includes seasoned performers from the Troupe, including Wai Guo (as Abbott Fahai), Yang Yan (as Xiao Qing), and more. The film won the Best Musical Feature Film Award at the 21st Universe Multicultural Film Festival. It also received multiple nominations at the 2nd Hong Kong Bauhinia International Film Festival, including Best Film and Best Art Direction. Li's outstanding performance earned her the Best Actress Award at the Film Festival, while Law was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Foshan Cantonese Opera Troupe was established in 1957. It aims at

training Cantonese opera talents, preserving excellent Cantonese opera repertoires, as well as promoting its development. In recent years, the troupe has actively explored the integration of Cantonese opera and modern culture, and has launched cross-border collaborative film works such as "Empress Zhou the Lesser", "Xiaofengxian" and "The Legend of The White Snake". While preserving the traditional artistic characteristics, it has also attracted more young audiences to engage with Cantonese opera.

The Cantonese Opera Film "The Legend of The White Snake" will be held at 7.30pm on November 2 (Saturday) and 2.30pm on November 3 (Sunday) at the Grand Theatre of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. Lyrics and dialogue are with traditional Chinese and English subtitles. Tickets priced at \$70 are available at URB TIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone bookings, please call 3166 1288. For programme enquiries and concessionary schemes, please call 2734 2960 or visit www.gbaxlo.gov.hk/en/programmes/the-legend-of-the-white-snake.

The programme will also feature two post screening talks to be held at 9pm on November 2 and 4pm on November 3 at the Grand Theatre of the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. The speakers will include Law Ka-ying, Li Shuqin and Yin Dawei, while Chinese opera researcher Ip Sai-hung will be the moderator. Members of the audience are welcome to stay behind to join.

Hong Kong is the host city of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area Culture and Arts Festival for the first time this year. It organises and co-ordinates over 260 performances and exchange activities to be held across the "9+2" cities of the Greater Bay Area. The festival aims to showcase the vibrant and diverse cultural richness of the region and foster cultural exchange and co-operation among the cities. For detailed information about the festival, please visit www.gbaxlo.gov.hk.



[Bus Parade cum Exhibition for Celebrating 75th Anniversary of](#)

Founding of People's Republic of China – additional bus exhibition sessions on October 19 and 20

The Transport Department (TD) today (October 3) announced that, following an overwhelming response to the Bus Parade cum Exhibition for Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the Founding of the People's Republic of China, featuring buses from the past and present, a number of bus exhibition sessions have been fully booked.

A spokesman for the TD said that free admission tickets for the bus exhibition were open for registration from 11am on September 20 through Cityline (www.cityline.com). In view of the overwhelming response, the TD will introduce additional evening exhibition sessions for October 19 and 20 for more members of the public to join the celebration. Registration for the additional sessions will start from noon tomorrow (October 4).

Admission is free for the bus exhibition. Members of the public may register and pre-book the date and time slot of their visits via Cityline. Quotas are limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis. Upon successful registration, visitors can visit the exhibition with a QR code at the selected time slot. Each visitor can obtain one commemorative ticket on-site.

The bus exhibition will be held from October 19 to 22 at the soccer pitches of Victoria Park in Causeway Bay, featuring a number of retired and in-service buses (including the newly introduced new-energy buses), as well as various kinds of bus service-related memorabilia.

The public may refer to the TD's website (www.td.gov.hk), Agent T Facebook page (www.facebook.com/AgentT.hk) and Cityline's website or mobile application for the latest updates.

Japanese-style beef hamburger steak restaurant opens first store in Hong Kong (with photos)

Invest Hong Kong announced that Japanese restaurant chain operator Monogatari Corporation officially opened its first Japanese-style beef burger restaurant, Niku Niku Oh! Kome, in Hong Kong today (October 3) as part of its overseas expansion plan in the Asia region.

Associate Director-General of Investment Promotion Dr Jimmy Chiang congratulated the opening of Niku Niku Oh! Kome in Hong Kong. He said, "It offers customers in Hong Kong more choices of Japanese-style beef hamburger steak. We wish the brand every success in Hong Kong and beyond."

The new restaurant is located in Sha Tin and provides around 40 bar seats with an open kitchen. It offers wagyu hamburgers made from a blend of Kyushu black wagyu beef and US beef. The rice served is "Niji no Kirameki" from Tohoku. The restaurant specialises in freshly handmade wagyu hamburgers seared on hot plates or served on rice with egg yolk for a classic Japanese experience, according to Senior Executive Officer of Monogatari Corporation Mr Makoto Hori.

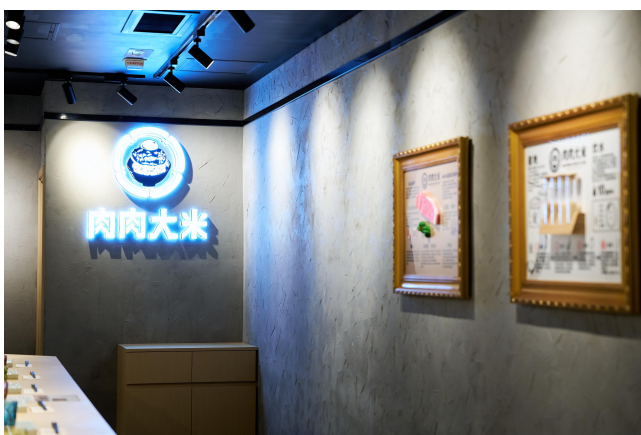
He said, "Hong Kong people love Japanese food and culture. Meat and rice are staples in our diet. As Japanese-style beef hamburger steak becomes more popular in the region, we want to seize the opportunity to further expand our overseas business via Hong Kong."

He added, "We have already opened 16 restaurants in Mainland China since November 2022, and our food has been well received by local customers. As an international city, Hong Kong is close to the Mainland and offers us an excellent platform to raise our brand awareness in the Asia region."

Established in 1949, Monogatari Corporation has more than 700 restaurants in Japan and overseas with 15 restaurant brands, including yakiniku, ramen, okonomiyaki, sushi and shabu-shabu.

For more information about Monogatari Corporation, please visit www.monogatari.co.jp/english.

To get a copy of the photos, please visit www.flickr.com/photos/investhk/albums/72177720320778881.





Red flags hoisted at several beaches

Attention TV/radio announcers:

Please broadcast the following as soon as possible:

Here is an item of interest to swimmers.

The Leisure and Cultural Services Department announced today (October 3) that due to big waves, red flags have been hoisted at Deep Water Bay Beach, Stanley Main Beach, Shek O Beach and Big Wave Bay Beach in Southern District, Hong Kong Island; Cheung Chau Tung Wan Beach and Pui O Beach in Islands District; and Hap Mun Bay Beach, Silverstrand Beach, Clear Water Bay First Beach and Clear Water Bay Second Beach in Sai Kung District. Beachgoers are advised not to swim at these beaches.

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