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HONG KONG: A SPECIAL REPORT

SATURDAY REVIEW

Artists, business people, philanthropists and others from Hong Kong have made culturally enriching contributions that touch every field of endeavor

powerful impact

Sun Asia Pacific Reporter Some are highly visible, others anonymous, but Hong Kong immi-grants have contributed immensely to Canadian business, real estate, arts after day nfold and culture, politics and philanthropy. British Columbians can indirectly thank political upheaval in China and Hong Kong in the late 1960s for, among other things, the Aberdeen Centre and other Asian-style malls, David Lam Park, Sun Yat-sen Classical

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David Lam Park, Sun Yat-sen Classical Gardens, the International Dragon Boat Festival, the Sunbrite Chinese New Year's Fair and Chinatown's Night Market, patterned after Hong Kong's famous Temple Street. And for every Aberdeen Centre, there is a C.K. Choi Building for the In-stitute of Asian Research, or the Uni-versity of B.C.'s Chan Centre for the Performing Arts, all of them built with huge donations from Hong Kong busi-ness people and philanthropists. The best known is David Lam, who immigrated here in 1967 and went on to become B.C.'s most-respected lieu-tenant governor.

In Hong Kong that year, there were riots and bombings that had spilled over from China's Cultural Revolution. "Quite a lot of people decided to leave and settle down in Canada," re-

leave and settle down in Canada," re-calls Peter Eng, another entrepreneur who came the same year. "It was the first wave of emigration from Hong Kong, Those who left seek-ing safety and security [in Canada] have grown to enjoy the quality of life they find here, and many have opted to stay, Now instead of one-way flow, there's a two-way flow of people com-

eight Asian malls.

Kong roots.

In recent years, famous Hong Kong entertainers have immigrated to Van-couver, including Elly Leung, Leslie Cheung and Paul Chiang, and com-

poser Joseph Koo. Hong Kong mega-star Jackie Chan's



Jackie Chan's Rumble in the Bronx started a flood of Asian productions



veloper has been hired by the City of Vancouver as a consultant to create a plan for the development of a 17.4-hectare city-owned site on southeast False Creek. Kwok, chair of Amara In-ternational Investment Corp., is also architect and developer of a \$200-mil-ling multi use performed a Durphyle

architect and developer of a \$200-mil-lion multi-use project in Burnaby's Metrotown area. Ukler Kwok, whose Hong Kong family's real estate holdings exceed \$10 billion. Their Canadian sub-sidiary, Aspac Developments, in part-nership with Marathon Realty, is re-developing 18.6 hectares of water-front land at Coal Harbour. David Ho, the Hong Kong Tobac-co heir, owns the University Golf Club, MCL Motor Cars luxury automobile dealership, and Gray Beverage. He operates the Seymour Creek Golf Cen-tre in North Vancouver, in partnership

operates the Seymour Creek Golf Cen-tre in North Vancouver, in partnership with the Seyuamish Indian Band. Caleb Chan, who built office tow-ers and hotels in San Francisco before coming to B.C., where he has devel-oped a golf course and residential complex near Whistler, and combina-tion golf and housing projects in Kelowna and Duncan. In Vancouver, his Burrard International group owns the downtown Burrard Building. When Concord Pacific Place is com-pleted in 10 to 15 years, it will consist

pleted in 10 to 15 years, it will consist of more than 12.5 million square feet of mixed residential, office and retail space, including 8,500 condominiums

and townhomes, on less than half of the 82.5 hectare site. The property also will have more than 20 hectares of parks, three kilo-metres of waterfront walkways, two community incentors, use observation community centres, two elementary

community centres, two elementary schools, eight day-care facilities and an \$8-million public art program – all paid for by Concord. The company estimates the entire False Creek project will generate 28,000 person-years of employment and about \$9 billion in spin-off bene-fits to the local and re gional economies, as well as revenue for the city and province through property, business, sales and income taxes. business sales and income taxes.

business, sales and income taxes. Concord makes corporate donations to dozens of charities, including B.C. Children's Hospital, Vancouver Public Library, Science World, B.C. Para-plegic Foundation, Vancouver Art Gallery, Alzheimer Society of B.C., Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation and Vancouver Symphony Orchestra. Meanwhile, Lam's philanthropy has resulted in: a management research

resulted in: a management research centre, a library and Asian gardens at UBC, the David Lam Centre for Inter-national Communication at Simon Fraser University's Harbour Centre campus, auditoriums at the Chinese

backing the Queen's young head bauhinia waiting there to blossom everywhere: Government House, Kowloon clock tower, harbour, Narrowed tub of bobbing toys, Legco Building, echoing with new voices, and Victoria, surrounded by

penile monuments well-oiled with wealth.

Black characters dance across the sheet and I'm back on the tram to

Central, haring up Pedder into Queen's for coffee and Danish at DeliFrance

with you and your friends from Pokfulam

now the old Hilton and its coffee shop have collapsed, rubble of demolished memories.

Over the page I'm with you again in Theatre Lane planning a jaunt to Wan Chai's neon galaxies where life spills its seeds in alleys and streets.

Alone in soft West Coast rain holding an airmail in my hand I hear the roar of racing crowds I make my solemn vows:

fly wife and parachute kids to passport-land, fly back, astronaut, coming in above love hotels of Kowloon tong for a Kai Tak

splash down Rent a flat again in Happy Valley with a view of the races, whatever the cost per square inch to my karaoke soul!

Here is Laurence Wong's translation of the poem :

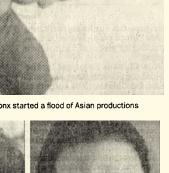
太空人

學童和上班的父母 丢下這讓淨的西岸郊區。 我和生活之間的聯繫—— 街角的郵筒一 街角的郵筒—— 在我靈魂的灰色空無裡 一日復一日地滴著雨。

to stay. Now instead of one-way flow, there's a two-way flow of people com-ing and going back. It's good to see; it creates activity and change." Other 1967 emigrants included Fung King Hey, co-founder of Sun Hung Kai, one of Hong Kong's largest companies. His son, Thomas Fung, is the property and Chinese media ty-coon who developed Aberdeen Cen-tre – the best-known of Richmond's eight Asian malls.

Since the first wave, many others have flooded in, including investors, movie stars and the rank and file, and

Movie stars and the rank and the, and become an integral part of Canada's multicultural mosiac. Some, like New Democratic Party MLA Jenny Kwan, have won political office. Several others running in the June 2 federal election have Hong



| | sinasii movie, Rumble in the biolog, | | | Guidatal Genare and at the Oniversity |
|---------------------|--|---|---|---|
| 我剖開航空郵簡,打開 | was filmed here in the summer of | Jenny Kwan: Making a political mark | Thomas Fung: Real estate and media | of Victoria, the David Lam campus of |
| 女王年輕的過顱所枕的藍底。 | 1995. Since then, the city has attract- | | | Douglas College and David Lam Park |
| 藍底上,紫荊到處 | ed other Asian producers, turning the | dences costing over \$1 million - they | in three stages. | on the former Expo site. |
| 在含苞待放;總督府; | Lower Mainland into one of the largest | jump to more than 70 per cent. | Business immigrants or investors | UBC established the Sing Tao |
| 九龍的鐘樓;海港 | movie production centres in North | As well, an A.C. Nielsen study con- | from Hong Kong who have made ma- | School of Journalism last year with a |
| 壤窄了的浴缸,上面浮動著玩具; | America. | firms the huge spending power of | jor impacts on B.C., particularly the | substantial donation from the Sing |
| 立法局大權迴盪著新聲: | Last year, United Film and Video, | Lower Mainland Chinese-Canadians. | Lower Mainland, include: | Tao Foundation, the philanthropic |
| 維多利亞港・叫陰莖般的碑石包圖: | headed by Hong Kong business immi- | Research showed the typical con- | Thomas Fung, who first came to | arm of Sing Tao, a Hong Kong-based |
| 藓石叫财富抹得油亮光鲜。 | grant Danny Hui, shot a 20-episode | sumer to be an affluent, educated per- | Canada with his late father. The prodi- | international media group. |
| | television series here, called New York | son under 40, who pays cash for ex- | gious son – whose Chinese name | UBC's \$24-million Chan Centre for |
| 黑字舞過紙上。 | Tempest, featuring several of Asia's top | pensive automobiles, owns a resi- | means "forever prosperous" - heads | the Performing Arts was largely fund- |
| 我再度登上往中環的電車, | stars, including Ray Lui Leung Wai | dence, enjoys dining out and is a fre- | the Vancouver-based Fairchild Group, | ed by a \$10-million gift from the Chan |
| 奔過舉打街奔上皇后大道中, | and Isabelle Chen Hong. | quent traveller. | which has developed commercial or | Foundation of Canada. |
| 和你,也和你的薄扶林朋友 | Since Hong Kong billionaire Li Ka- | The highest-profile real estate pro- | residential projects around the Lower | The centre features the 1,400-seat |
| 到法爾西餐廳喝咖啡、吃曲奇。 | shing led a consortium that purchased | ject is Concord Pacific Developments | Mainland and in the Toronto area. His | Chan Shun Auditorium, named for |
| 此刻,古老的希爾頓酒店和咖啡室 | the former Expo site in 1988, two | Corp.'s \$3-billion residential-com- | media operations include television or | the father of Caleb and Tom Chan. |
| 已經坍塌――記憶被拆・成了碎磚。 | years after the world's fair put Van- | mercial remake of the former Expo | radio stations in Vancouver, Calgary | The C.K. Choi Building houses re- |
| 翻到背面,我又和你一起 | couver on the international map, oth- | site on the north shore of False Creek. | and Toronto. | search centres focusing on China, |
| 在戲院里商量,想去 | ers from among Hong Kong's business | The major player is Li Ka-shing, who | Terry Hui, whose father K.M. Hui | Japan, Korea, Southeast Asia, India |
| 带 仔的霓虹燈海中逛逛。 | elite have poured money into Canada. | still holds controlling interest. He | made his fortune in Hong Kong's real | and South Asia. Choi's son David is |
| 那裡,生命把精種灌落大街小巷。 | The Immigrant Investor Fund, start- | heeded the advice of his son, Victor, | estate and taxi industry. The Hui fam- | president of Royal Pacific Real Estate |
| | ed by the federal government in 1986, | when he decided to band with other | ily is among the major shareholders of | Group, which specializes in Asian |
| 掇自在西岸的細雨中, | has attracted close to \$4 billion from | Asian tycoons to buy the False Creek | Concord Pacific, of which the younger | clientele. |
| 手中拿著一封航空郵簡 , | foreign investors, many of them from | property, outbidding local developers. | Hui is chair and CEO, responsible for | Hong Kong immigrants appear to be |
| 我聽見人群疾走的喧鬧湧過。 | Hong Kong. About 25 per cent of peo- | Although Victor Li and his younger | overseeing the \$3-billion development | following the advice given by David |
| 我莊嚴地許下諾言: | ple from Hong Kong come here as | brother, Richard, have both moved | of Concord Pacific Place. | Lam in his recently published biogra- |
| | business immigrants, compared with | back to Hong Kong to help run the Li | Terry Hui and Victor Li own Grand | phy. He urged Chinese people here to |
| 把妻子和降藩傘孩子空運到護照之國 | only six per cent from other countries. | family's business empire, both are | Adex Developments, which is in the | "demystify" themselves and partici- |
| 再最间张;回时最通 | Their investments are abundantly | Canadian citizens. | process of finalizing a contract to ac- | pate in the Canadian community in |
| 九龍塘愛憎洲墅的上空, | evident on the Lower Mainland, par- | One of Li's original Concord part- | quire and develop 18.2 hectares of | which they now live. |
| 向呼徳機場潰落。 | ticularly in real estate. Chinese-Cana- | ners, fellow Hong Kong tycoon Lee | federally owned land near Skydome | Lam also advised contributing fi- |
| 在跑馬地再租一層權。 | dians - the majority of whom have | Shau Kee, bought an eight-hectare | in downtown Toronto. | nancially to good causes, and encour- |
| 可以看到賽馬的 | Hong Kong roots - make up about half | chunk of the property at the north | Stanley Kwok, the Li family's orig- | aged servince in voluntary organiza- |
| 不管我的卡拉 OK 心靈 | of all home purchasers in Greater Van- | end, where his Henderson Develop- | inal point man in Vancouver for the | tions whose work was useful to soci- |
| 每方寸要付多少錢! | couver. In the high-end market - resi- | ments is building International Village | Concord project. The architect and de- | ety.◊ |
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