

Citations

讚辭



Mr Michael Hui Koon-man
許冠文先生

Doctor of Social Science *honoris causa*
榮譽社會科學博士

Nicknamed the “Poker-Faced Comedian” (冷面笑匠), Mr Michael Hui is a true icon of Hong Kong cinema. Mr Hui’s remarkable career in directing, acting and screenwriting spans over five decades. His recent film, *The Last Dance* (《破·地獄》, 2024), once again set box office records, further solidifying his status as a cinematic legend.

A sociology graduate from The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Mr Hui credits his academic background for shaping his understanding of human behaviour and societal dynamics, which he masterfully weaves into his films. Despite initially lacking a strong interest in sociology, he discovered its relevance to his storytelling, which deeply resonates with audiences. He believes that cinema has the power to inspire hope and foster a sense of community.

Mr Hui is not only a celebrated filmmaker but also an accomplished actor, whose career is adorned with numerous accolades, including the Best Actor award at the inaugural Hong Kong Film Awards; the Best Performance Actor by the American Film Institute; and the Golden Mulberry Award for Lifetime Achievement at the 13th Far East Film Festival, honouring his

lasting influence and legacy in the industry. Alongside entertaining audiences, his films have sparked vital conversations within society. His favourite works such as *The Private Eyes* (《半斤八兩》, 1976), *Chicken and Duck Talk* (《雞同鴨講》, 1988), and *The Last Dance* (《破·地獄》, 2024) reflect the spirit of their times, skilfully blending humour with social commentary.

Mr Hui’s remarkable journey, filled with achievements and unwavering commitment to the arts has inspired us. His experiences teach us that while we cannot avoid the end of our journey, we can choose how to experience it and make every moment count by making our own way filled with laughter, resilience, and a profound appreciation for the beauty of life.

He also inspires us to cherish every moment, whether in success or adversity. Reflecting on his own experiences, he recalls winning the Best Actor award in the Hong Kong Film Awards for *Security Unlimited* (《摩登保鏢》, 1981) but missing the ceremony due to other commitments, and at that time he thought another win would come soon. Little did he know, it would take over 40 years to receive

another award, for *Where the Wind Blows* (《風再起時》, 2023).

His perseverance and dedication remind us to appreciate the journey and the people we share it with, as he eloquently states, “No matter the peaks or valleys, we must learn to enjoy the scenery along the way.” Mr Hui also emphasises the significance of expressing our feelings to family and friends, urging us not to wait until it’s too late to show our love and appreciation. He reminds us not to be like “Hello Man” (哈囉文), the character he portrayed in *The Last Dance* (《破•地獄》, 2024), or our parents’ generation, who often fail to express their feelings until it’s too late.

To the younger generation, Mr Hui offers invaluable advice, emphasising that life is unpredictable and what suits you may not be clear at first. Therefore, he encourages younger generation to try everything while they are young, as it is only through exploration that they can discover their true passions and talents. His own path was shaped by unexpected opportunities: as a university student, he applied for a part-time news anchor position at a TV station, but was finally assigned to organise variety shows instead. This twist led him from his journalistic aspirations to a beloved comedic filmmaker. He firmly believes that with perseverance and dedication, anyone can achieve greatness.

Reflecting on the ever-changing landscape of cinema, Mr Hui underscores the importance of innovation for young filmmakers. In an age

where streaming platforms and social media provide easily accessible content, he urges emerging artistes to return to the basics — embrace creativity, take risks, and craft fresh narratives that captivate audiences. He believes that the true essence of film lies in its ability to engage viewers in a shared experience, encouraging them to return to the theatre.

Chairman, in recognition of his extraordinary contributions of sociological significance to the cultural landscape of Hong Kong, and his dedication to inspiring people from all walks of life, especially future generations, I am honoured to present Mr Michael Hui to you for the conferment of Doctor of Social Science, *honoris causa*.

Citation written and delivered by
Professor Joshua Mok
Provost and Vice-President
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許冠文先生，綽號「冷面笑匠」，堪稱香港電影界的代表人物，廣涉導演、演戲、編劇三大領域五十餘載，成就斐然。他近期參演的作品《破·地獄》（2024）再創票房紀錄，進一步奠定其影壇殿堂地位。

許先生畢業於香港中文大學社會學系，認為其學術訓練有助深刻理解人類行為與社會動態，並將之巧妙融入電影之中。儘管初時對社會學興趣不大，後來他卻發現此學問與敘事藝術密不可分，作品因而深深引起觀眾共鳴。他相信，電影具有激發希望、凝聚社群的力量。

許冠文先生不僅是備受推崇的電影製作人，亦是成就卓著的演員，演藝生涯中榮獲多項殊榮，包括首屆香港電影金像獎最佳男主角獎、美國電影學院最佳演員獎，而第十三屆烏甸尼遠東電影節亦向他頒授金桑樹終身成就獎，以表彰他對電影業的深遠影響與不朽貢獻。其電影除娛樂觀眾外，亦引發社會大眾討論關鍵議題。《半斤八兩》（1976）、《雞同鴨講》（1988）、《破·地獄》（2024）等許先生鍾愛之作皆能融幽默筆觸於時事評論之中，反映時代精神。

許先生成就輝煌，對藝術堅定不移，非凡的演藝之旅令人深受啟發。其經歷教誨世人：人生旅程總有終點，無可避免，我們卻能選擇如何體驗過程，憑歡笑、堅毅，憑洞見生命之美，令每刻皆饒有意義。

他還激勵我們珍惜當下，無論順逆皆然。他回顧自身經歷，憶及當年憑《摩登保鏢》（1981）獲香港電影金像獎最佳男主角獎，卻因事忙缺席頒獎典禮，當時以為下次獲獎應為期不遠。殊不知，時隔四十餘年，才再憑《風再起時》（2023）獲獎。

這份堅持與熱忱，提醒我們要珍視整個旅程與同行的人。恰如許先生所言：「無論是高峰抑或低谷、逆境順境，重點都是要懂得欣賞沿途風景。」許先生亦強調向家人朋友傳達感情至為重

要，敦促我們莫待為時已晚才表達情意和謝意。他提醒大家，不要成為他在《破·地獄》（2024）中飾演的「哈囉文」，或像我們父母一代那樣，慣於隱忍真情，以至後悔莫及。

對年輕一代，許先生贈以金石良言，強調世事難料，甚麼適合自己，一開始未必清楚分明。他因而鼓勵年輕人趁年少勇於多作嘗試，唯有不住探索方能發現真正的熱忱與天賦所在。許先生自身的經歷也是不期然而然的明證：大學時期，他申請當電視台兼職新聞主播，最終卻被分派到綜藝節目製作組。從事新聞本為他志向所在，此機緣卻令他成為廣受愛戴的喜劇電影製作人。他堅信，只要持之以恆、專注投入，任何人皆能成就非凡。

影視行業不斷推陳出新，許先生強調創新為年輕電影製作人的要務。串流平台與社交媒體製作的內容現可便捷盡覽，他敦促新晉藝術創作人回歸最基本——力求創意、敢於冒險、創作能吸引觀眾並讓他們耳目一新的故事。他相信，電影的真諦在於能引起觀眾共鳴，吸引他們重返戲院。

主席閣下，許冠文先生對香港文化界貢獻殊深，其影響有重要的社會學意義，他亦堅持啟發社會各界，尤以年輕一代為目標。為表彰其卓越貢獻，本人謹恭請 閣下頒授榮譽社會科學博士學位予許冠文先生。

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