

President Simon S. M. Ho

Opening Remarks at the HSUHK Global Humanities Initiative - Public Lecture: “Phenomenology of Music” cum Inauguration of UNESCO Co-Chair on Global Asia

3 March 2023

Lee Ping Yuen Chamber, Lee Quo Wei Academic Building, Yuen Campus, HSUHK

Prof. Philip Buckley, Prof. Saulius Geniusas, Prof. PC Hsiung, Prof. Gilbert Fong, Prof. Desmond Hui, ladies and gentlemen,

Good afternoon. It is my great pleasure to be here with this distinguished team of scholars and academics today. This public lecture and inauguration are organized by the Global Humanities Initiative (GHI) of The Hang Seng University of Hong Kong, together with Chair of the International Council for Philosophy and Human Sciences (CIPSH), McGill UNESCO Chair in Global Asia and Humanities, and Asia New Humanities Network (ANHN). I would like to give a warm welcome to all of you who are here at the venue or online. I know some of you are joining us from different time zones.

The HSUHK GHI was established as part of our commitment as a liberal arts-oriented university. The university is now offering 40 undergraduate and postgraduate programmes from five Schools. The GHI has been one of the University’s major initiatives that actively promote interdisciplinary research and studies, especially advocating the power of humanities and humanity qualities via our unique “Liberal + Professional” education model.

The GHI helps connect HSUHK to the world, having collaborations with CIPSH under UNESCO on innovative research projects, and examining humanities issues from different and innovative perspectives. I am very honored to witness the inauguration of UNESCO Co-chairs on Global Asia at the HSUHK campus today. The establishment of UNESCO Co-chairs was no easy task. I am sure Prof Buckley and Prof Hsiung will lead the network of scholars and institutions to address pressing challenges especially in Asia and contribute to wellbeing of global societies.

The event today is a warm-up for the Tokyo Conference in August 2023, which will be held in the Mita Campus of Keio University, on the 23rd and 24th of August 2023, in connection to the CIPSH General Assembly to be held prior to that. Humanities have been studied since ancient times and have contributed to the advancement of human life and society. It is worth recognizing the lasting value of the research tradition for a sustainable human society in contemporary contexts. The CIPSH Tokyo Conference will offer forums to discuss humanities issues relating especially to the global age and the digital age contexts.

Today, we are very glad to have Prof. Saulius Geniusas sharing with us on the “Phenomenology of Music”. I am interested to learn about the generation of a more precise conception of the ideality of musical works. I look forward to being enlightened by your ideas and the discussions later.

Thank you.