The Legend Endures –
The Life and Works of Eileen Chang

The launch of *The Fall of the Pagoda* 《雷峰塔》, the English-language precursor to the semi-autobiographical novel *Little Reunion* 《小滿開》, has reignited the legend of Eileen Chang (1920-1995) who is now recognised as one of the greatest modern Chinese writers, with her English and Chinese stories focusing on human frailties.

The life and works of Eileen Chang have sparked much interest since Ang Lee’s film *Lust, Caution* was released on September 22, 2007. The Project for Public Culture of Journalism and Media Studies Centre, HKU launched the Eileen Chang Project in the same month. Through the project, original research has been published and rare manuscripts uncovered, positioning HKU as a top candidate to host the Eileen Chang Archive – a treasure trove for researchers in years to come.

2010 would have been Eileen Chang’s 90th birthday and is the 15th anniversary of her death. Dr Roland Soong disclosed at the book launch of *The Fall of the Pagoda* that some more “new” books will be released later in September, when a number of commemorative events will be held.

“Hong Kong University Press will be releasing *The Book of Change* 《易經}, the second and final novel in this series. This will be about Eileen Chang’s life in Hong Kong during the early 1940s. More precisely, it covers her time as a Hong Kong University student during the time of the Japanese invasion in December 1941.” Dr Soong continued, “Also in September, Crown Press will be releasing the Chinese translations of both *The Fall of the Pagoda* and *The Book of Change*.”

He also said, “There is a book about the friendship between Eileen Chang and my parents, titled 《張愛玲私語錄》 (The collected private sayings from Eileen Chang). Next year, I hope to be presenting the full set of correspondence among Eileen Chang, my parents and other persons. But that will be a grand project requiring much time and effort.”
At the Launch of *The Fall of the Pagoda*

"The Fall of the Pagoda will provide new insight into her life and body of literature, and should be welcomed by fans and researchers."

Dr Roland Soong 宋以朗  
Executor, Eileen Chang’s Estate

"She upped sticks and left her favourite country and hometown, Shanghai, amid vehement rebukes by her traitorous husband, Hu Landeng, who betrayed her. That’s why traces of psychosis can be seen in the book."

Perry Lam 林沛理  
(BScSc. 1984)  
Editorial Director, Muse Magazine

“A key phrase in Chang’s works is the ‘city memory’, from both Shanghai and Hong Kong. Memories of a city are part of a person’s life, even part of the person."

Xue Junyuan 萧琚元  
(BA, Year 1)  
First recipient of the Eileen Chang Memorial Scholarship

Project for Public Culture – Eileen Chang Project

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<td>September 22, 2007</td>
<td>“Lust, Caution”《色·戒》Film Gala</td>
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| October - November 2007 | Eileen Chang: Hong Kong Legend Public Exhibit  
                        | 張愛玲的香港傳奇(1939-41)展覽                                           |
| October 22, 2007      | Eileen Chang Reading Class: *From the Ashes*                           |
| November 5, 2007      | Talk on Reading Eileen Chang with her thirty treasures                |
| October 22, 2007      | Talk on Reading Eileen Chang with her thirty treasures                |
| February 26, 2009     | Book Launch on *Little Reunion*                                       |
| February 2009         | Dr Roland Soong 宋以朗, executor of Eileen Chang’s estate,  
                        | set up the HK$1 million “Eileen Chang Memorial Scholarship”          |
| March 22, 2009        | Eileen Chang Forum                                                    |
| April 15, 2010        | Book Launch: Eileen Chang’s *The Fall of the Pagoda*                  |

September 2010  
Eileen Chang month  
A Chinese publication by JMSC’s The Project for Public Culture “The Eileen Chang Uncovered”

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Echoes of the Rainbow
A DIALOGUE WITH ALEX LAW & MABEL CHEUNG

With wooden hawker stalls on stage, Loke Yew Hall was filled with oldies music, *I Wanna be Free* and *Try to Remember*, at a dialogue with alumni-directors Alexander Law 麥政銳 (*BA 1976*) and Mabel Cheung 張婉婷 (*BA 1973*) who shared their experiences filming the award-winning movie *Echoes of the Rainbow* (《歲月神偷》) with the HKU Family members. Alex encouraged students to trust their creative minds even though it may bring a more difficult life:

“投身創作未必可享安逸生活，但放膽投入創作，可能會賺得更多金錢”.

The audience was thrilled when traditional snacks, such as marinated olives (飛機榄) and red bean pudding (砵仔糕), were handed out during the Dialogue evoking memories of the 1960s, the time depicted in the movie.

Alex and Mabel, joined by moderators Dr C H Ng 吳俊雄 (*BSocSc 1980; MPhil 1983*), Department of Sociology; Dr Gina Marchetti 馬蘭濟, Department of Comparative Literature; Wong Chi-Chung 黃志鏜 (*MPhil 1997*) and three HKU students: Alfred Hui 許廷錦 (*BDS, Year 3*),

Jacky Chan 陳駿傑 and Alan Ng 吳霆鋒 (*both BBA, Year 1*), shared the joy of winning the Crystal Bear Award at The 60th Berlin International Film Festival by giving away souvenir bears to the audience.

www.hku.hk/hkuf/culturefund/alex_mabel