LCSD's "Sound of Film" to showcase interaction of moving images from "Metropolis" with live sounds (with photos)

The Film Programmes Office of the Leisure and Cultural Services Department will present the programme "Sound of Film" on February 22 and 23 at the Cultural Activities Hall of Tsuen Wan Town Hall. A selection of excerpts from the classic silent film "Metropolis" (1927) will be screened, accompanied by live music from local musicians Gill Mok, ZiTi, and Maka, as well as live sound effects by foley (sound effects) artists MAEL and hirsk. The presentation aims to help audiences appreciate the pivotal role that sounds play in the narrative and viewing experience of films.

German film maestro Fritz Lang's "Metropolis", with its extraordinary imagery, is hailed as one of the most iconic films in cinema history. With his boundless imagination in the 1920s, Lang envisioned a future metropolis in the film, which has since influenced many science fiction films and forms of urban architecture. He also expressed his doubts and concerns over the ever-evolving technological advancements through the film. The programme will feature six selected excerpts from the film, accompanied by musicians and foley artists who will perform newly composed live music and create live sound effects in sync with the visuals and narrative. During the screening, the audience will have the opportunity to observe the process of music and sound effects production by the musicians and foley artists at a close distance, experiencing how sound shapes the emotional expression and overall atmosphere of a film.

After the screening, the programme director, Willis Wong, and the music director and foley artist MAEL will share their insights and experiences in an interactive session regarding sound effects and music in film production with the audience alongside other performers. The music and sound effects of the film as it was screened in early 20th century will also be played during the session, allowing the audience to compare the versions of the music and sound effects, and gain a better understanding of the relationship between sound design and the viewing experience.

The programme will run for about one hour and 30 minutes without an intermission. "Metropolis" is a silent film, featuring German intertitles along with Chinese and English subtitles. The post-screening interactive session will be conducted in Cantonese. There will not be any assigned seating arrangements. Audience members are welcome to walk around the performance area or sit on the floor during the programme. Comfortable clothing is recommended. Tickets priced at \$150 are now available at URBTIX (www.urbtix.hk). For telephone bookings, please call 3166 1288. For programme enquiries, please call 2734 2900 or visit www.lcsd.gov.hk/fp/en/listing.html?id=73.









