London ETO partners with Chinese Visual Festival for new film festival Focus Hong Kong

The Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office, London (London ETO) is partnering with the Chinese Visual Festival to launch Focus Hong Kong – a brand new UK film festival dedicated to celebrating the amazing cinema and filmmakers of Hong Kong. The first edition of the festival will run online on February 9 – 15, giving audiences across the UK an opportunity to celebrate Chinese New Year with a selection of new and classic Hong Kong films.

Five UK online premieres have been selected for the seven-day festival, including a brand new 2K restoration of Tsui Hark's wuxia classic "Zu Warriors from the Magic Mountain" and an offbeat award-winning murder mystery directed by Andrew Fung, "A witness out of the blue". A selection of short films from the Hong Kong Fresh Wave competition is also featured, showcasing future talents in Hong Kong's film industry.

The Director-General of London ETO, Miss Winky So, said, "Our office is delighted to sponsor the Focus Hong Kong, a brand new film festival that showcases the dynamic film industry of Hong Kong in the UK during the festive season of the Chinese New Year."

The HKSAR is committed to providing multi-pronged support for the Hong Kong film industry. Around HK\$260 million (GBP26 million) has been earmarked under the Film Development Fund to increase local film productions and nurture young talents, as announced last July.

"We look forward to bringing more Hong Kong films to the UK audiences," said Miss So.

For further details, please visit the Festival website: <u>focushk.chinesevisualfestival.org</u>.