

“Hong Kong Pop 60+” Exhibition

Audio Tour Script

Leaflet for the stand-up comedies by Dayo Wong, and souvenir cup of his last show 1990 and 2018

These exhibits comprise a leaflet for the first stand-up comedy by Dayo Wong in 1990, and a souvenir cup for his last show in 2018.

In 1984, Dayo Wong, who had studied in Canada, returned to Hong Kong after graduating from university. He originally wanted to be an actor. Unfortunately, Television Broadcasts Limited cancelled the artists training course, so he joined the screenwriting training class. After six years of hard work in the entertainment industry, Wong decided to create a one-man comedy show, based on his own experiences, as a way of celebrating his intended departure from the performing arts industry.

Wong gained a vivid Cantonese name for his stage routine – *Dung Duk Siu*, which means telling jokes while standing up. His routine was similar to stand-up comedy in Britain and America. Unexpectedly, his first show in 1990 was greatly appreciated by the audience, which made him popular and brought him fame and career opportunities. As Dayo Wong became more and more popular, apart from stand-up comedies, he also appeared in TV dramas, stage dramas and films.

Between 1990 and 2018, Dayo Wong created more than ten stand-up comedy routines. These not only featured the humorous elements of Western performances, but also had an intellectual mission. The contents often focused on social issues of the time, such as the 1997 financial crisis, and the SARS epidemic in 2003. Each scene brought tears of the laughter to the audience. With Wong, Hong Kong people could face difficulties and worries together with a smile.

Wong’s comedy routines were with Hong Kong people for nearly 30 years. However, in 2018, he stepped down, and gave his farewell show, officially announcing his retirement from stand-up comedy. Wong had created a unique style of stand-up comedy in Hong Kong. Watching his shows was not only a cultural trend during his stage career, but Wong’s classic sayings also became bittersweet memories of several generations of Hong Kong people.