

editor's note

Over the Rainbow

Films can be more than just a form of everyday entertainment, think how students rallying to defend Choi Yuen Village were inspired by the alternative peaceful life depicted in 3D Hollywood blockbuster *Avatar*; think of the role home-grown hit *Echoes of the Rainbow* played in the preservation of Wing Lee Street. They also represent the visions and dreams of filmmakers and find resonance with audiences. In *Periscope*, *Varsity* takes a look at aspects of film and cinema in Hong Kong today.

The cinema-going experience has changed over time, with added comfort and technical improvements but some still miss the old, crowded theatres.

For their part, film-makers have to modify their stories to cater to different audiences and financial and political considerations - after all, film-making is a business as well as an art. But if cultural values and creativity are entirely missing, the losers will be local film fans.

Some producers insist on making local movies, like *Echoes of the Rainbow*, and some apply to the Hong Kong Film Development Fund. But some interviewees say it is hard to get funding and promotional and advertising costs are excluded.

Their passion for what they believe in is what keeps them going. It is a spirit exemplified by veteran democrat Szeto Wah. *Varsity* is so glad Wah Suk gives us an interview despite his poor health. His motto in life "accept all and be great; be selfless and be indomitable" can be applied to so many things in life.

This is the last issue of *Varsity* this semester. It is a golden opportunity for me to express our gratitude to *Varsity's* readers and extend my appreciation to my colleagues. Thanks for your constant support!

Varsity will see you again in the next academic year with a new editorial team.

Happy reading; happy summer holidays!



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