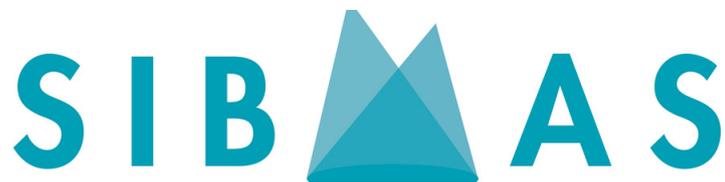


BERNICE KWOK-WAI CHAN

Creating New Memories with Historical Theatre Photography – A Reflection on the Exhibition of “A Snap beyond Borders”

“A Snap beyond Borders” was an online archive and education project of Hong Kong theatre and performance photography organized and curated by the International Association of Theatre Critics (Hong Kong) (IATC(HK)). The project has documented stage images taken by six important Hong Kong stage photographers, YUEN Hon-wai, Ringo CHAN†, CHEUNG Chi-wai, TSANG Man-tung, TSE Ming-chong, and KWAN Pun-leung. (<https://asnap-beyondborders.hk/en/>). This two-year project includes a bilingual digital database, which is the first to combine Hong Kong stage images which outlined theatre history and oral history of stage photography, talks, a mentorship scheme, an exhibition and a photobook. Taking the perspective and memory of photographers as the subject matter, and through their eyes and aesthetics under the camera lens, this project writes out the history of Hong Kong stage performance over the past 40 years. The challenge is: how such stage photos could build connections with young theatre audiences or with those who do not attend theatrical performances? In this difficult time of COVID-19 under anti-pandemic measures of Hong Kong, the one-month finale exhibition received nearly 200 members of the audience per day, and presented 16 guided tours, which reached out people from secondary school and university students, to senior citizens and visually impaired participants. The paper is a reflective sharing on creating a theatrical journey for finding new audiences with a strategic collection of historical theatre photos, which invite them to establish new memories and extend imagination of theatre and Hong Kong.

Online Tour of "A Snap beyond Borders: Hong Kong Theatre and Performance Photography":
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=my8IE-Ck0a0>



Bio: Bernice Kwok-wai Chan is currently the General Manager of the International Association of Theatre Critics (Hong Kong). Chan has curated and edited over 50 publishing projects about performing arts. Her recent editorial projects have included *Ten Years of A City: Selected Hong Kong Plays* (2003–12), which was awarded the 11th Hong Kong Book Prize in 2018.