Africa’s Premier Diva
Angélique Kidjo @ HKU

African Studies, Talk, 30 Oct 2015

Angélique Kidjo made a high profile visit to the University of Hong Kong on October 30, 2015, giving a talk to around 100 members of the HKU community (Faculty members, students and invited guests). The President and Vice-Chancellor of HKU, Prof. Peter Mathieson, and the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Prof. Derek Collins, who attended the event, met and greeted her on her arrival at the University.

Mrs. Kidjo who is currently considered as one of the most influential women in the world, was in town for her debut concert at the Hong Kong Cultural Center on October 30th as a guest of the World Culture Festival. She accepted to speak to the HKU community in the framework of the Africa@HKU series of the African Studies Programme, a day after her successful show.

Her talk focused on her rich and diverse artistic life, her political engagement towards the underprivileged and her advocacy for girls’ education and empowerment in Africa. She also commented on issues related to Africa’s influence in the world of arts; the power of music; the constant negative portrayal of Africa in the media as well as her recent collaboration with composer Philip Glass and the Philharmonic Orchestra of Paris.

Mrs Kidjo impressed the audience present in the historic convocation room of HKU with her engagement, charisma and energy. We were very much honored to have her as our guest and benefit from her very rich international and personal experience.
Everyday Life in the North Korea: A Photo Exhibition

KE event, East Studies Division, 2-10 Dec 2015

In conjunction with a newly formed NGO, the DPRK Observatory and with the support of the Korean Studies Program and the Common Core Curriculum Office, our School organized a Knowledge Exchange Exhibition entitled “Everyday Life in North Korea: A Photo Exhibition” at the Chi Wah Learning Commons from the 2nd of December to the 10th of December. The exhibits were photos taken by an Experiential Learning delegation led by Dr Victor Teo to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea during the reading week in the first semester of this academic year. Selected from a heavily oversubscribed list, a group of 24 staff and student members from the SMLC, the Korean Studies program, in particular those who registered for elective KORE2028 “The Other Korea – North Korea”, as well as a number of other students drawn from the Common Core Curriculum, participated in the delegation. For the exhibition, more than 50 students from the Faculties of Arts, Social Sciences, Law, Business and Economics, Sciences and Engineering participated in either putting up the photos and/or taking part to write the captions as part of their coursework. The exhibition was hugely successful, receiving an average of over 250 visitors per day over the nine-day exhibition period. HKU students who were studying in Chi Wah Learning Commons for their exams found the exhibition providing a measure of much welcomed relief from their studies. Additionally, graduates and their parents who were on campus to attend the Convocation also found the exhibition very interesting. It is estimated that the exhibition attracted over 2,500 visitors, and the organizers also received much encouragement for this project to be continued in other venues in Hong Kong as part of HKU and SMLC’s Knowledge Exchange outreach efforts. Special thanks goes to Common Core Office, Samuel Wong, CK Lee, Zena Cheung, Evelyn Lo, Angel Wong, Georgina Challen, Cyrus Chan, Hana Yeung for their assistance in the project.
MothSutra (& matters of migration, love, and identity) A Visual Poetry Reading and Talk

American Studies, 23 Nov 2015 (Mon)

"Entering this city of luster and ash

A moth unfolds his wings,

Crossing from East to West

He throws his body to the light"

Russell C. Leong "Moth"

American Book Award recipient, PEN award-winning poet and short story writer Russell C. Leong of UCLA and Hunter College presented his newest visual work, MothSutra, in the intimate setting of HKU’s Black Box Theatre. After having lived in New York City’s Chinatown for several years, Leong wanted to give back to the community, which he did through a meditation on the neighborhood’s Chinese food deliverymen. His homage to the marginalized group of bike delivery workers was at times moving, at times funny but always engaging and entertaining. Premiered in New York City at the Bowery Poetry Club, this was the MothSutra’s première in Asia. The reading was accompanied by a slide show of Leong’s sketches that he created during his residence in NYC. The images added to and complemented the mood of his poetry. The audience enjoyed a rare treat and would certainly concur with poet activist Bob Holman who said of MothSutra that “the hopes and dreams of humans who are generally invisible in the swirl of the street appear as humans scaling to heaven through work.”

"Like a river of energy, like an electric current of compassion, MothSutra is a unique book. Mothsutra delivers." (Bob Holman, Columbia University).
The Global Creative Industries Forum - From Culture to Business: A Crossover

Global Creative Industries, 26 Nov 2015 (Thu)

The Global Creative Industries Programme organized the event to further enhance the knowledge exchange between the academia and the creative industries and the communication between the practitioners and the students. The forum featured two book launches showcasing the latest findings on the fashion and film industries by Prof. Brian Moeran (Global Creative Industries Programme, The University of Hong Kong) and Prof. Ding Yaping (The Film and Television Art Research Institute, Chinese National Academy of Arts) respectively. The event also celebrated the establishment of ‘Creative Push’, a student-led organization which aims at boosting competitiveness and professionalism of students who wish to work in creative industries.

Award Ceremony

26 Oct 2015 (Mon)

The School of Modern Languages and Cultures Award Ceremony 2015 was held on Monday, October 26, 2015 at Rayson Huang Theatre. This year, 30 separate prizes in 11 disciplines were given out to 97 students who have distinguished themselves in their studies.

It was a great pleasure to share the students’ precious moment with all the prizes’ donors, teachers, parents and friends. The School would like to once again congratulate all the award recipients and thank every guest for coming to celebrate the awardees’ remarkable achievement!
Academic Talks

**American Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 09 Sep 2015 (Wed)

*Book Launch and New Talk: From Mark Twain to Langston Hughes in China*

By Dr. Selina Lai-Henderson

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SMLC Seminar; 08 Oct 2015 (Thu)

*Reflections on the Historical Study of Asians in the United States*

By Prof. David K. YOO

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SMLC Seminar; 28 Oct 2015 (Wed)

*Tea Politics and Propaganda in the American Revolution, 1773-1776*

By Dr. James FICHTER

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SMLC Seminar; 18 Nov 2015 (Wed)

*The “National Question” and the Stories of Hong Kong*

By Dr. Leo K. SHI N

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**Korean Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 24 Sep 2015 (Wed)

*Global Talent: Foreign Students in Korea as Transnational Bridges*

By Dr. Joon Nak CHOI

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**China Studies**

19 Nov 2015 (Thu)

*Making religion, making local society: private life of a Chinese Catholic village*

By Dr. Ji LI

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**Japanese Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 07 Oct 2015 (Wed)

*Reconsidering Japan's Decision to Surrender, 1945*

By Dr. Jeremy A. YELLEN

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**European Studies**

20 Nov 2015 (Fri)

*Israel and Germany: From Enmity to Friendship*

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**Hong Kong Studies**

SMLC Seminar; 18 Nov 2015 (Wed)

*The “National Question” and the Stories of Hong Kong*

By Dr. Leo K. SHI N
Publications

MOERAN, Brian Dermot
Magic of Fashion: Ritual, Commodity, Glamour (Anthropology and Business)
Walnut Creek, CA: Left Coast Press, 2015.

Fascinating, edgy, witty, and fun, here is a book that any intelligent reader can enjoy. Its pages will captivate almost every woman in the world, whether she likes fashion or hates it, and charm her into understanding why she feels the way she does. This is the spellbinding allure of The Magic of Fashion.

AUER, Stefan
“The Limits Of Transnational Solidarity And The Eurozone Crisis In Germany, Ireland And Slovakia”
The Effects of the Eurozone Sovereign Debt Crisis: Differentiated Integration between the Centre and the New Peripheries of the EU. Eds. Schweiger, C & Magone, JM

CHU, Stephen Yiu-wai
“Commentary: Critical Geographies”
A Companion to Hong Kong Cinema

CRISTAUDO, Wayne, LEUTZSCH, Andreas & Norman Fiering (Eds.)
Special Issue: Culture, Theory and Critique, 56,1
London/New York: Routledge, 2015
LEE, Pui Tak
“Linking global and local networks of credit and remittances: Ma Tsui Chiu’s financial operations in Hong Kong, 1900s-1950s.”
Commodities, Ports and Asian Maritime Trade Since 1750. Eds. BOSMA, Ulbe & WEBSTER, Anthony

LEUTZSCH, Andreas
“Eugen Rosenstock-Huessy (1888-1973)”
Außenseiter der Geschichtswissenschaft. Ed. Helmut Reinalter

TESFAYE, Facil & WINTERBOTTOM, Anna (Eds.)
Histories of Medicine and Healing in the Indian Ocean World, Volume One - The Medieval and Early Modern Period
United Kingdom: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015

TESFAYE, Facil & WINTERBOTTOM, Anna (Eds.)
Histories of Medicine and Healing in the Indian Ocean World, Volume Two - The Modern Period
United Kingdom: Palgrave Macmillan, 2015

TRAMBAIOLO, Daniel
“Ancient Texts and New Medical Ideas in Eighteenth-Century Japan.”

WONG, Dixon HW
“Japanese Adult Videos in Taiwan and Hong Kong”
Routledge Handbook of Sexuality Studies in East Asia. Eds. Mark McLelland & Vera Mackie
In the Media

European Studies

Dr. Stefan AUER
財源匱乏拒減福利 希臘妄想別國買單 (The Referendum in Greece)
Hong Kong Economic Journal
04 Jul 2015

Reconciliation: Europe's impossible and necessary task
New Eastern Europe, No 5 (XVIII)/2015
Sep 01, 2015

‘Greece's Tsipras still faces massive challenges’,
CNBC, Capital Connection
21 Sep, 2015

Mr. Thomas STIEGLER
Boomtown Hongkong
(Folge 2: Wirtschaft und Bildung)
N-TV
09 sep 2015

Dr. Roland VOGT
Syrian refugee who fled more than 7,000km to Hong Kong applies for asylum seeker status
South China Morning Post
8 Sep 2015

European Migrant Crisis
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat
10 Sep 2015

A royal welcome for China's Xi Jinping as he brings US$46 billion in deals to Britain
South China Morning Post
24 Sep 2015

Greeks show, when push comes to shove, national unity wins out
South China Morning Post
7 July 2015

Greece needs a ‘velvet divorce’ from eurozone
Financial Times
21 Jul, 2015

Greece's Tsipras still faces massive challenges
Ming Pao
21 Sep, 2015

風雲人物默克爾 難解歐洲困局 (Merkel's intractable dilemma)
Ming Pao
Dec 28, 2015
European Studies

Dr. Roland VOGT

Xi's U.K. State Visit: a Look at His Agenda
Bloomberg TV
20 Oct 2015

A royal welcome for China's Xi Jinping as he brings US$46 billion in deals to Britain
South China Morning Post
20 Oct 2015

Help us out: European Union's man in Hong Kong wants wealthy Asian countries to ease burden of Syrian refugee crisis
South China Morning Post
26 Oct 2015

After Xi Jinping's visit to Britain, German Chancellor Angela Merkel keen to show she 'knows China best'
South China Morning Post
27 Oct 2015

Paris Terror Attack and ISIS
Radio 3, RTHK; Backchat
17 Nov 2015

Refugees in Hong Kong Face Legal Limbo
Voice of America
17 Dec 2015

Office envy - bosses silenced at end of day
South China Morning Post
18 Dec 2015

Global Creative Industries

Dr. Dixon Wong

王向華（日本文化研究學者）
今日VIP, TVB
24 Sep 2015

Hong Kong Studies

Prof. Stephen CHU

詞評人朱耀偉：語言配合主題最重要
Ming Pao
06 Jan 2016

Japanese Studies

Dr. Victor TEO

China confirms arrest of two suspected Japanese spies – one caught near North Korean border
South China Morning Post
30 Sep 2015

Robotics, food imports, 'green' factories: China and South Korea sign series of deals ahead of trilateral meeting with Japan
South China Morning Post
01 Nov 2015

Refugees in Hong Kong Face Legal Limbo
Voice of America
17 Dec 2015

Office envy - bosses silenced at end of day
South China Morning Post
18 Dec 2015

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詞評人朱耀偉：語言配合主題最重要
Ming Pao
06 Jan 2016

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Dr. Victor TEO

China confirms arrest of two suspected Japanese spies – one caught near North Korean border
South China Morning Post
30 Sep 2015

Robotics, food imports, 'green' factories: China and South Korea sign series of deals ahead of trilateral meeting with Japan
South China Morning Post
01 Nov 2015
Cultural and Other Events

Spanish

15 Jul 2015
Latin American Writers Reading the World: Alejo Carpentier and Octavio Paz
Hong Kong Book Fair

By Ms. Mercedes Vázquez

European Studies

30 Sep 2015 (Wed)
Moral Anxiety - Polish Cinema Screening-cum-Discussion

By Dr. Andreas Leutzsch

American Studies

29 Oct 2015 (Thu)
Electoral Dysfunction: Documentary Screening and Discussion With Filmmaker Bennett Singer

American Studies

20 Oct 2015 (Tue)
Poetry Reading: The Nanjing Massacre with Wing Tek Lum

By Mr. Wing Tek LUM

Hong Kong Studies

17 Jul 2015
從粵語流行曲歌詞細看香港
Hong Kong Book Fair

By Prof. Stephen CHU

Korean Studies

23 Oct 2015 (Fri)
A Warm Family: Conversation with a poet Kim Hu-ran

By Ms. Hu-ran KI M

German

05-30 Oct 2015
German October

SMLC

07 Nov 2015 (Sat)
Information Day
20 Nov 2015 (Fri)
Loy Krathong Night

24 Nov 2015 (Tue)
Coming to Terms with the Holocaust: Restitution, Responsibility, and Justice
By Ms. Hannah LESSING

26 Nov 2015 (Thu)
China Remix: Guangzhou’s African Hip-Hop Scene

27-28 Nov 2015
EUAP Annual Conference 2015: Distant Neighbours or Active Stakeholders? EU Policy Responses to Challenges in EU-China Relations

03 Nov – 06 Dec 2015
Twentieth Century Japan: History, State and Society (Exhibition)

10, 20 Nov 2015
Argentine Movie Days
Introduction by Mr. Juan Antonio BARRETO

10, 20 Nov 2015
Argentine Movie Days
Introduction by Mr. Juan Antonio BARRETO
Staff News

New Staff

Professor Scott LADERMAN
Fulbright Visiting Professor
(American Studies)

Dr. Ji LI
Assistant Professor
(China Studies & HKIHSS)

Dr. Max WONG
Assistant Professor
(Global Creative Industries)

Dr. Daniel TRAMBAIOLO
Assistant Professor
(Japanese Studies)

Dr. Paul CHA
Assistant Professor
(Korean Studies)

Ms. Mi Kyoung MUN
Visiting Lecturer
(Korean Studies)

Leaving Staff

Ms Jiyoung Kim
Visiting Lecturer
(Korean Studies)

Staff with new positions

Dr. Samuel Wong
Assistant Lecturer
(China Studies)

Staff Christmas Party

09 Dec 2015 (Wed)