



A visual representation of "Lines of Nostalgia" by Colin Rampton

Mok Ming Hei
Buddhist Wong Wan Tin College



Hong Kong is regarded as the 'Pearl of the Orient' and an international financial city. While economic prosperity plays a key role in the development of the city, it is also important to appreciate the valuable local culture.

My digital painting captures the essence of Hong Kong's language and culture. For example, we can find Chinese proverbs such as 'heaven has eyes' and 'such a big clam jumps along the street'; and some slang phrases such as 'siu hok gai' (小學雞), 'sou haa' (蘇蝦) and 'dak go gat' (得個桔). My work also features iconic items and cultural activities such as 'trams', 'sampan boats', 'villain hitting', and 'playing mahjong'. These elements reflect the nostalgia for our past and allow us to appreciate the lifestyle and wisdom of our ancestors.

I adopted a rather surrealistic way to present those precious cultural images of Hong Kong. It is fun to incorporate all the special and fun elements about Hong Kong's rich and colourful history in the drawing.

Positive value(s) and attitude(s):

Appreciation and respect

Positive message(s):

We should appreciate the beauty of our life and the richness of our culture. We should also honour and cherish the hard work and wisdom of our ancestors.

Lines of Nostalgia Colin Rampton

I hope it won't be very long
Till I return to old Hong Kong,
The streets of commerce, rarely calm
The industrious folk who'll do no harm.

I'll stand by the aging ferry piers
And watch "Star" boats which have plied for years.
I'll hear the bells at Wong Tai Sin,
Find Stanley Temple's tiger skin.

I'll take the rail to the top of the Peak,
And hear the vibrant Cantonese-speak.
I will drink some tea and taste dim sum,
And listen to the lion-dance drum.

I'll ride the rickety rattling trams,
Which slowly avoid the traffic jams.
I will sit up top to watch them all –
The old and the young, the short and the tall

I'll stretch my legs by the Sai Kung sea,
From the Spirit House to the banyan tree,
Watch sampan ladies gut their catch,
Then set off to fish for another batch.

I'll wander along the Maclehoze Track,
And admire the views from the Dragon's Back,
The Lion Rock and Needle Hill –
I'll hike and ramble as I will.

Then when I reach the Kowloon shore
I will gaze across as I have done before
At the ever-changing panorama –
A multi-levelled human drama.

And then before the skies go dark
I'll check the flamingos in Kowloon Park.
And climb upstairs on bus number nine,
And take in every neon sign.

The bustling squares, the milling throng –
There is nowhere like my dear Hong Kong,
And though it's had some recent blows
It will bounce back, as History shows.

The streets of commerce, rarely calm,
The industrious folk who'll do no harm,
I hope it won't be very long,
Till I return to old Hong Kong

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