



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

Chow Man Yu
Fukien Secondary School



The painting aims to create a sense of nostalgia by contrasting old Hong Kong on the left with modern-day Hong Kong on the right. The use of a curved line shows a seamless transition from the past to the present. Although the portion of old Hong Kong may seem smaller compared to that of modern-day Hong Kong, it still forms a significant part of the painting, reflecting that Hong Kong's past remains important to the city today.

The use of two-point perspective highlights the temple entrance, which symbolises a gateway to Hong Kong culture. Furthermore, in order to flesh out the positive change caused by rapid development of Hong Kong, I used a mild cool palette on the left to show a close connection to nature and a fresh warm palette on the right to depict a bustling city. This painting attempts to encapsulate images of nostalgia illustrated in the poem while expressing hope for the city's future.



Positive value(s) and attitude(s):

Hope

Positive message(s):

Through this drawing, I hope to remind everyone about how culture, nature and history have shaped modern Hong Kong, and to showcase the beauty and development of Hong Kong.

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 Maclehoose 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

"Lines of Nostalgia" was first published in *Mingled Voices 5* edited by Gillian Bickley and Verner Bickley, pp.157-158. Copyrights © 2021 by Proverse Hong Kong. Reprinted by permission of Proverse Hong Kong. Please approach Proverse Hong Kong by email (proverse@netvigator.com) for permission to use this poem or others in the collection.