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Perspectives from Hong Kong: East Asian Cinema and its Dynamics

This panel brings together Hong Kong researchers working in the field of cultural studies, using films as an analytical tool to explore current phenomena of community building and bonding, alienation, estrangement and communication, and the pathos of city lives, postmodernity, and globalization. The panel focuses on observations found in the East Asian region—an area in which unique imageries and imaginations can be traced that go beyond the local-global nexus. Whereas some filmic constructions to be discussed in the panel are locally specific on its surface, universality is also at work in several instances, as if echoing the very nature of interdisciplinarity of cultural studies in essence. Through this panel, we aim at calling upon scholars to revisit East Asia as a new academic hub and cultural reservoir where a wide range of idiosyncratic films can be employed to decipher the complex yet nuanced relationship between the self, family, memory, identity, and urbanity.