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The Movies of Stephen Chow

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Traditional Chinese

星爺電影

每次我心情唔好，想搵部電影娛樂自己嘅時候，星爺嘅作品肯定係首選。一啲都唔誇張咁講，我係睇住佢嘅電影大概——佢同我老豆同年。有人話佢係中國嘅Jim Carey，我話，Jim Carey係外國嘅周星馳。

我鍾意嘅星爺作品有好多，如果一定要揀一部，我會揀《大話西遊》。唔單止因為佢夠膽顛覆中國傳統嘅尊師重道、儒家思想，仲因為佢令到所有人都唔敢挑剔嘅聖人平民化、生活化。譬如電影入面嘅唐僧，係一個囉唆到連綁架佢嘅妖怪都頂唔順嘅口水佬；譬如觀音，喺電影入面係一個普通到同我哋一樣會發脾氣發爛渣嘅女人，當遇到唐僧囉唆到令人髮指嘅時候，都會忍唔住想殺死佢。星爺提醒我哋，中國嘅神話缺乏人性，傳統神話入面嘅神仙好少會犯錯誤，好神仙就係好神仙，妖怪就係妖怪，黑就係黑，白就係白，唔會好似希臘神話入面嘅宙斯咁花心，或者好似宙斯老婆咁小氣。

星爺最令我感動嘅，應該係佢作品入面描述嘅愛情，簡單，執著，雖然故事套路八九不離十，永遠都係社會底層小人物為咗爭取幸福而努力，就算違背天意（譬如《大話西遊》裏面嘅紫霞仙子同孫悟空嘅愛情），就算身份懸殊（譬如《喜劇之王》入面嘅妓女同臨記），都不顧一切只為愛。星爺想講，無論天意幾咁弄人，無論人生幾咁荒謬，我哋至少仲有愛。

Jyutping

sing1 je4 din6 jing2

mui5 ci3 ngo5 sam1 cing4 m4 hou2 , soeng2 wan2 bou6 din6 jing2 jyu4 lok6 zi6 gei2 ge3 si4 hau6 , sing1 je4 ge3 zok3 ban2 hang2 ding6 hai6 sau2 syun2 。 jat1 di1 dou1 m4 kwaa1 zoeng1 gam2 gong2 , ngo5 hai6 tai2 zyu6 keoi5 ge3 din6 jing2 daai6 ge3 — — keoi5 tung4 ngo5 lou5 dau2 tung4 nin4 。 jau5 jan4 waa6 keoi5 hai6 zung1 gwok3 ge3 Jim Carey , ngo5 waa6 , Jim Carey hai6 ngoi6 gwok3 ge3 zau1 sing1 ci4 。

ngo5 zung1 ji3 ge3 sing1 je4 zok3 ban2 jau5 hou2 do1 , jyu4 gwo2 jat1 ding6 jiu3 gaan2 jat1 bou6 , ngo5 wui5 gaan2 《 daai6 waa6 sai1 jau4 》。 m4 daan1 zi2 jan1 wai6 keoi5 gau3 daam2 din1 fuk1 zung1 gwok3 cyun4 tung2 ge3 zyun1 si1 zung6 dou6 、 jyu4 gaa1 si1 soeng2 , zung6 jan1 wai6 keoi5 ling6 dou2 so2 jau5 jan4 dou1 m4 gam2 tiu1 tik1 ge3 sing3 jan4 ping4 man4 faa3 、 sang1 wut6 faa3 。 pei3 jyu4 din6 jing2 jap6 min6 ge3 tong4 zang1 , hai6 jat1 go3 lo1 so1 dou3 lin4 bong2 gaa3 keoi5 ge3 jiu2 gwaai3 dou1 ding2 m4 seon6 ge3 hau2 sei2 lou2 - pei3 jyu4 gun1 jam1 , hai2 din6 jing2 jap6 min6 hai6 jat1 go3 pou2 tung1 dou3 tung4

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ngo5 dei6 jat1 joeng6 wui5 faat3 pei4 hei3 faat3 laan6 zaa2 ge3 nei5 jan2 ,
dong1 jyu6 dou3 tong4 zang1 lo1 so1 dou3 ling6 jan4 faat3 zi2 ge3 si4 hau6 , dou1
wui5 jan2 m4 zyu6 soeng2 saat3 sei2 keoi5 。 sing1 je4 tai4 seng2 ngo5 dei6
, zung1 gwok3 ge3 san4 waa2 kyut3 fat6 jan4 sing3 , cyun4 tung2 san4 waa2
jap6 min6 ge3 san4 sin1 hou2 siu2 wui5 faan6 co3 ng6 , hou2 san4 sin1 zau6 hai6
hou2 san4 sin1 , jiu2 gwaai3 zau6 hai6 jiu2 gwaai3 , haak1 zau6 hai6 haak1
, baak6 zau6 hai6 baak6 , ng4 wui5 hou2 ci5 hei1 laap6 san4 waa2 jap6 min6
ge3
zau6 si1 gam3 faa1 sam1 , waak6 ze2 hou2 ci5 zau6 si1 lou5 po4 gam3 siu2 hei3
。
sing1 je4 zeoi3 ling6 ngo5 gam2 dung6 ge3 , jing1 goi1 hai6 keoi5 zok3 ban2 jap6
min6 miu4 seot6 ge3 oi3 cing4 , gaan2 daan1 , zap1 zoek6 , sei1 jin4
gu3 si6 tou3 lou6 baat3 gau2 bat1 lei4 sap6 , wing5 jyun5 dou1 hai6 se5 wui2 dai1
cang4 siu2 jan4 mat6 wai6 zo2 zang1 ceoi2 hang6 fuk1 ji4 nou5 lik6 , zau6 syun3
wai4 bui3 tin1 ji3 (pei3 jyu4 《 daai6 waa2 sai1 jau4 》 lei5 min6 ge3 zi2 haa4
sin1 zi2 tung4 syu1 ng6 hung1 ge3 oi3 cing4) , zau6 syun3 san1 fan2 jyun4 syu4
(pei3 jyu4 《 hei2 kek6 zi1 wong4 》 jap6 bin6 ge3 gei6 nei5 tung4 lam4 gei3
) , dou1 bat1 gu3 jat1 cai3 zi2 wai6 oi3 。 sing1 je4 soeng2 gong2 , mou4 leon6
tin1 ji3 gei2 gam3 nung6 jan4 , mou4 leon6 jan4 sang1 gei2 gam3 fong1 mau6
, ngo5 dei6 zi3 siu2 zung6 jau5 oi3 。

English

Stephen Chow's film

Whenever I'm upset, I want to watch a movie to entertain me. When this happens, Stephen Chow's films become the first priority.

I've been watching Stephen Chow's movies since I was a kid and it's no exaggeration. Stephen Chow is as old as my father is.

Someone said Stephen Chow is "the Chinese Jim Carey," but I think Jim Carey is "the foreign Stephen Chow."

I enjoy all of Stephen Chow's movies, but if you made me choose my favorite, I'd pick "A Chinese Odyssey Part One - Pandora's Box" (Sai yau gei - Dai yat baak ling yat wui ji - Yut gwong bou haap).

He was also brave enough to cast aside Chinese traditions. For example, in his

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movies, not everyone has to honor the teacher or respect the teachings of Confucius, nor do they have to follow the Confucian ideals. He civilizes the faultless saint, while humanizing the character and bringing him down to life.

For example, in the film, the character Tang Monk is an extremely annoying person. He talks so much that the monster that kidnapped him can't stand him anymore and lets him go. Another character, the Goddess of Mercy, is a very normal woman that loses her temper just as everyone does. Even she wants to kill Tang Monk when he talks too much.

Stephen Chow reminds us that China's mentality of "deepen the reform" lack's humanity. Most of the celestial beings in China's traditional myth seldom make mistakes. A good person is a good person, and a monster is a monster - with black and white sharply contrasted. In Greek mythology, the gods have human tendencies. Zeus is a "playboy," and Hera is a stingy woman.

The most touching part in Stephen's movies are the love stories that are presented. The content is all the same - simple, clinging, and fighting for happiness from the lowest part of society. The characters won't stop even if they have to go against the gods' wills. An example would be, in the movie "A Chinese Odyssey Part One - Pandora's Box," the love between the 'monkey king' and 'the faerie of purple light'. Another example is in the movie "Kings of Comedy," the love story between the prostitute and the extra.

Stephen Chow wants us to know that no matter how hard our life is, how ridiculous the sequence of events, we still have LOVE.

Vocabulary

Traditional	Jyutping	English
星爺	sing1 je4	Steven Chow
首選	sau2 syun2	first choice
生活化	sang1 wut6 faa3	lifelike
平民化	ping4 man4 faa3	common
發爛渣	faat3 laan6 zaa2	to throw a tantrum
大話西遊	daai6 waa2 sai1 jau4	A Chinese Odyssey
無論	mou4 leon6	no matter
夠膽	gau3 daam2	to be brave
荒謬	fong1 mau6	preposterous

Vocabulary Sample Sentences

星爺嘅嘢好值得睇。	sing1 je4 ge3 je5 hou2 zik6 dak1 tai2 。	Steven Chow's films are really worth seeing.
呢個牌子係我嘅首選，但是仲有其它嘅選擇。	ni1 go3 paai4 zi2 hai6 ngo5 ge3 sau2 syun2 daan6 si6 zung6 jau5 kei4 taa1 ge3 syun2 zaak6。	This brand is my first choice, but there are other choices.
我鍾意睇生活化啲嘅小說，讓我覺得好輕鬆。	ngo5 zung1 ji3 tai2 sang1 wut6l faa3 di1 ge3 siu2 syut3 , joeng6 ngo5 gok3 dak1 hou2 hing1 sung1 。	I like seeing more lifelike novels, they make me feel more relaxed.
而家嘅明星都好平民化，經常出入超市，唔再大牌。	ji4 gaa1 ge3 ming4 sing1 dou1 hou2 ping4 man4 faa3 , ging1 soeng4 ceot1 jap6 ciu1 si5 , m4 zoi3 daai6 paai2 。	All of the stars these days are really common; they often go to supermarkets like ordinary people.
一日到黑就係發爛渣，咩都學唔到。	jat1 jat6 dou3 haak1 zau6 hai6 faat3 laan6 zaa2 , me1 dou1 hok6 m4 dou2 。	(He) does nothing but throwing tantrum all day, that's why (he) is not able to learn anything.
大話西遊係我最鍾意睇嘅電影，缺少咗星爺，就唔係喜劇。	daai6 waa2 sai1 jau4 hai2 ngo5 zeoi3 zung1 ji3 tai2 ge3 din6 jing2 , kyut3 siu2 zo2 sing1 je4 , zau6 m4 hai6 hei2 kek6。	A Chinese Odyssey is my favorite film. But without Steven Chow, it wouldn't be funny.
無論你行到天涯海角，我都會跟住你。	mou4 leon6 nei5 haang4 dou3 tin1 ngaai4 hoi2 gok3 , ngo5 dou1 wui5 gan1 zyu6 nei5 。	I'll follow you, even if you go to the ends of the earth.
夠膽就同我打，你個廢柴學埋啲三腳貓功夫。	gau3 daam2 zau6 tung4 ngo5 daa2 , nei5 go3 fai3 caai4 hok6 maai4 di1 saam1 goek3 mau1 gung1 fu1 。	If you're brave, hit me. You're just a useless person with shoddy kung fu.
世界就係咁荒謬，冇人知道下一秒會點。	sai3 gai3 zau6 hai6 gam3 fong1 mau6 , mou5 jan4 zi1 dou3 haa6 jat1 miu5 wui5 dim2 。	The world is preposterous. No one knows what will happen the next second.

Cultural Insight

The Movies of Stephen Chow

Stephen Chow's movies are always on people's minds. At the beginning of his career, Stephen Chow's movies were all low-cost productions, but they were really popular because he was idealizing tones of the underclass with inspirational stories. Many people, however, said that Stephen Chow was only making movies for money. They claimed his movies were becoming more and more commercialized while losing quality. But no matter the opinion, Stephen Chow stands as the foundation of contemporary Hong Kong cinema.

His non-logical stories along with nervous acting have created a "nonsense" culture. This is a big part of Hong Kong culture. His films keep breaking box office records, and the most important thing is that he helps bring Hong Kong comedy to a wider audience.

星爺電影

周星馳的電影一直都是深入民心的,在香港,每一個人香港人都知道他是誰,周星馳早期的電影都是一些低成本制作,但卻大受歡迎,因為他把很多低下階層的故事理想化,非常勵志,但很多人說他後期的電影為了賺錢,慢慢變得商業化,並沒有以前那麼好看了,但是周星馳一直是香港電影票房的紀錄和保證。

他那非邏輯性和帶有神經質的演技,開創了"無厘頭"文化,成為香港文化的重要一環,因而他擔綱演出的電影更屢破票房記錄,為香港喜劇帶來另一出路和高峰。