

“Our Time Will Come” Wins 5 Trophies at Hong Kong Film Awards

The 37th Hong Kong Film Awards ceremony took place on 15 April at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre. The star-studded event this year was broadcast live on ViuTV, which had produced a series of film awards-themed programmes to usher in the big day, including reality shows on the nominees of Best New Director and Best New Performer.

Ann Hui’s wartime epic “Our Time Will Come”, based on the heroics of a resistance group fighting Japanese occupation in Hong Kong, was the big winner bagging five awards. Wilson Yip’s action film “Paradox” received three nods while upcoming director Chan Tai Lee’s “Tomorrow Is Another Day” snatched two. “Tomorrow is Another Day” is a social drama that puts autism on the big screen.

Veteran actor Louis Koo continued his awards-winning streak by picking up his first Best Actor honour at the Hong Kong Film Awards. Koo also won Best Actor, the first major acting prize in his career, at the Asian Film Awards in March this year.

“I have been thinking how we can all make Hong Kong film thrive,” Koo said in a heartfelt speech. “Hongkongers must be united... the industry needs your support.”

Reflecting on inspirational moments encountered in the industry over the last 20 years, Koo paid tribute to the Lifetime Achievement Award winner Chor Yuen, “When I was filming with Uncle Chor Yuen years ago on the set of a TVB show, his advice influenced me until today. He said that we should never give up on any scene, and any line of dialogue. Go over it once and again and yet again because you can’t give up on making a good film.”

Teresa Mo took home Best Actress for her outstanding role in “Tomorrow is Another Day”, portraying a mother who lives in government housing with her autistic son. The coveted prize was her first Hong Kong Film Awards Best Actress in her 40-plus years of acting career.

“It’s like a dream for me. Thank you God!” Teresa thanked Pegasus Entertainment for producing a film that deviates so much from Chairman Raymond Wong’s style. She confessed that “Tomorrow is Another Day” would not have been possible if her good friend Winnie Tsang, the founder of Golden Scene, had not agreed to participate in the production.

Legendary director and actor Chor Yuen was honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award. He recalled his decades-long film career in his acceptance speech. By the late 1980s, Chor’s films were no longer filling cinemas and he had turned out several box-office flops. The day before he was to begin shooting a Jin Yong martial arts series, “Demi-Gods and Semi-Devils”, Mona Fong Yat-wah, the late wife of Sir Run Run Shaw, tore up the production notice and banned him from shooting. “Life will always be made up of laughter and tears, and whatever life throws your way, you simply laugh it off,” said Chor. He ended the uplifting speech with a message from Soviet Union literature “How the Steel Was Tempered”, “Man’s dearest possession is life. It is given to him but once, and he must live it so as to feel no torturing regrets for wasted years, never know the burning shame of a mean and petty past”.

Full winner list of the 37th Hong Kong Film Awards:

Best Film

“Our Time Will Come”

Production: Bona Film Group, Shanghai Tencent Penguin Pictures, Shanghai Entertainment Team Media Group, Next Digital Limited, Shanghai Bona Cultural Media Company.

Producer: Roger Lee, Stephen Lam, Ann Hui.

Best Director

Ann Hui — “Our Time Will Come”

Best Screenplay

Sylvia Chang, You Xiaoying — “Love Education”

Best Actor

Louis Koo — “Paradox”

Best Actress

Teresa Mo — “Tomorrow Is Another Day”

Best Supporting Actor

Philip Keung — “Shock Wave”

Best Supporting Actress

Deanie Ip — “Our Time Will Come”

Best New Performer

Ling Man-lung — “Tomorrow Is Another Day”

Best Cinematography

Jason Kwan — “Chasing the Dragon”

Best Film Editing

Li Ka-wing — “Chasing the Dragon”

Best Art Direction

Man Lim-chung, Billy Li — “Our Time Will Come”

Best Costume & Make Up Design

Bruce Yu, Lee Pik-kwan — “Journey to the West: The Demons Strike Back”

Best Action Choreography

Sammo Hung — “Paradox”

Best Visual Effects

Henri Wong, Eric Xu — “Wu Kong”

Best Original Film Song
An Unheard Melody — “Concerto of the Bully”
Composer: Peter Kam
Lyrics: Keith Chan Siu-kei
Performer: Ronald Cheng

Best New Director
Kearen Pang — “29+1”

Best Film from Mainland and Taiwan
“The Great Buddha” (Director: Huang Hsin-yao)

Professional Achievement Award
Pauline Yeung (tea lady)

Lifetime Achievement Award
Chor Yuen