Five Flavours Asian Film Festival Screening of "Time Still Turns the Pages" (13 November 2024) <u>Speech by DDBL</u>

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good evening. Thank you for joining the screening tonight supported by the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in Berlin. It is a pleasure for us to support the Five Flavours Asian Film Festival for the 9th year.

2. We treasure the opportunity to raise the international visibility of Hong Kong films and talents in Central and Eastern Europe markets. Five Flavours Asian Film Festival has been an important partner of our office to promote cultural exchanges between Hong Kong and Poland. In this regard, we have been actively presenting outstanding film productions, and encouraging talented filmmakers to participate in the festival. We are happy to see a total of 10 Hong Kong movies would be shown in cinemas and online platform during the festival.

3. Tonight's opening film, *"Time Still Turns the Pages"*, is the directorial debut by young director Nick Cheuk. The movie tells the story of a student facing academic pressure contemplating ending his life. The exceptional performance of actors in the movie connects the audiences with the realities of school and family education in Asia.

4. Apart from "*Time Still Turns the Pages*", the festival organiser has also selected a number of recent Hong Kong films that spread across different genres and invited our filmmakers to join the festival. Just to name a few. The highest-grossing film in Hong Kong this year, "*Twilight of the Warriors: Walled In*", which is a testament to Hong Kong's martial arts and action choreographic excellence, will be screened on 15 and 20 November in cinema. Sasha Chuk, the director of the movie "*Fly Me to The Moon*", will join the screening of the movie on Friday and Sunday and share with audiences her inspirations behind the story of two sisters facing with poverty and family issues in the movie.

5. Hong Kong film productions directed or produced by the acclaimed director Stanley Kwan will also be featured in the section "PORTRAIT: STANLEY KWAN" during the festival. Kwan's career began in the mid-1980s and he is recognised as one of the most important figures of the Hong Kong New Wave. Some of his influential and outstanding films, including *"Women"* and *"Rouge"* will be shown in the cinema during the festival. A number of his films, and a recent interview with Stanley Kwan in October can later be viewed online on the Festival's VOD platform from November 13 to December 1st.

6. Thank you once again for joining us tonight. I hope you will all enjoy the movie!

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