

Selected Events of 2021

**Compiled by Choi Kai-kwong and
Ng Ngok-ching**

4 January 2021

Lee Heung-kam passed away.

1 March 2021

Launch Ceremony of “Barwo Channel: Cantonese Opera Classes” at Yau Ma Tei Theatre

10 March 2021

Performance of Cantonese opera “The Cosmic Mirror” (Five Generations on Stage)
Re-run of the excellent “The Cosmic Mirror” with five generations of Cantonese opera performers. There were four performances in total (10 and 11 March 2021 at the Hong Kong Cultural Centre; 23 and 24 March 2021 at Tuen Mun Town Hall). This was the last stage performance of Yau Sing-po before he passed away.

18 March 2021

Liza Wang, chair of the Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong (Barwo), sent an open letter to Chief Executive Carrie Lam, urging the government to save “Cantonese opera performances to appease the gods” from disappearing due to prolonged interruption during the pandemic.

16 April 2021

Lau Shun and Leung So-kam were awarded honorary fellowships by the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

- 17 April 2021
- To commemorate the 30th anniversary of Tang Bik-wan’s death, RTHK’s Radio 5 programme *World of Cantonese Opera* (戲曲天地) produced a special series of audio programmes (碧海雲天念芍芙) that had five episodes. It premiered on 17 April.
- 23 April 2021
- The Exhibition of Artist-in-Residence Programme: Dr Liza Wang, Legendary Diva—Cantonese Opera: Beyond Tradition opened at Hong Kong Polytechnic University. The exhibition introduces the effort of Liza Wang, Chair of Barwo, in inheriting and promoting Cantonese opera both on and off stage over the years.
- 29 April 2021
- Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and uncertainties in business travel arrangements, the Leisure and Cultural Services Department (LCSD) announced the cancellation of the “Chinese Opera Festival 2021,” originally scheduled to be held from June to August 2021.
- 17 May 2021
- Yau Sing-po passed away.
- 22-23 May 2021
- “Multi-Voices One Heart” Cantonese opera Charity Concert
- 22 May - 13 June 2021
- 25 performances of the Cantonese opera musical *Heung Kong* were presented.
- 30 May 2021
- Loong Koon-tin won Artist of the Year (Xiqu), and Chan Ting-pong won Award for Young Artist (Xiqu) at the 15th Hong Kong Arts Development Awards.
- 15 June 2021
- The online interactive Cantonese opera *Rebirth of Zhao Feiyan* (重生趙飛燕) was launched, breaking the traditional mode of one-way viewing, and bringing popular online elements such as “rebirth” and “role-playing games” into Cantonese opera.

23 July 2021

Chan Ho-kau passed away.

17 October 2021

A Tribute to Leung Hon-wai, commemorating the 10th Anniversary of his passing.

22 October 2021

Choo Heng Cheong was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

15 November 2021

The Second Cantonese Opera Golden Bauhinia Awards ceremony was held.

Selected Events of 2022

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6 January 2022

The 65th Anniversary performance of *Floral Princess*, presented by Utopia Cantonese Opera Workshop, was originally scheduled for fifteen performances. Only one performance was staged because the venue was closed starting the following day due to pandemic-prevention measures.

7 January 2022

In response to the fifth wave of the pandemic, the government mandated the suspension of all cultural and recreational activities, including the closure of performance venues. (Performance venues reopened on April 21, with a maximum audience capacity of 50%.)

9 March 2022

Chinese Artists Association of Hong Kong, The Cantonese Opera Academy of Hong Kong, and the University of Nottingham Malaysia signed a memorandum of understanding during a ceremony held online.

23 March 2022

Experimental Cantonese opera *Farewell My Concubine* (New Adaptation) produced by West Kowloon Cultural District's Xiqu Centre, was on the "List of the Most Influential Chinese Contemporary Experimental Theatre Works in the Past 40 Years". It was the only Cantonese opera work amongst a total of 40 awarded productions on the list.

- 13 May 2022 Launch Ceremony of “The Hong Kong Jockey Club Mao Chun Fai Innovative Works in Theatre Scheme”. The scheme was a three-year project.
- 21 May 2022 Yam Bing-yi passed away.
- 22 May 2022 Artist of the Year (Xiqu) and Award for Young Artist (Xiqu) were not presented at the 16th Hong Kong Arts Development Award.
- 23 May 2022 The Hong Kong Metropolitan University Li Ka Shing School of Professional and Continuing Education and the Hong Kong Association of Cantonese Opera Scholars signed a memorandum of understanding on launching a Postgraduate Diploma Programme in Teaching Cantonese Operatic Singing.
- 31 May 2022 The Education University of Hong Kong's Research Centre for Transmission of Cantonese Opera and West Kowloon Cultural District's Xiqu Centre announced to co-present the inaugural “Cantonese Opera Teaching Awards for Hong Kong Music Teachers 2022”.
- 27 June 2022 Launch ceremony of Xiqu Arts Salon. A documentary commemorating Ko Yun-hung's 40th anniversary in the field premiered during the ceremony.
- 11 August 2022 Xiqu Centre's Tea House Theatre Experience presented their new programme, *Magic Tea House*. The performance introduced a robot modeled after Law Ka-ying, a *wenwusheng* in Cantonese opera.
- 21 October 2022 Wan Fei-yin was awarded Honorary Fellow by the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts.

20 November 2022

Leung So-kam passed away.

20 November 2022

60th anniversary of Wan Fei-yin's debut. Cantonese opera concert *Wan Fei-yin's 60 years in Cantonese Opera* (尹飛燕飛粵六十載) was held.

10 December 2022

The Education University of Hong Kong announced the establishment of the Greater Bay Area Cantonese Opera Development Alliance, aimed at connecting 14 academic institutions and Cantonese opera organisations in the region to promote academic, artistic and cultural exchanges for the development of Cantonese opera.