



LEGENDARY WOMEN

In this issue, we pay homage to the women who, in their own extraordinary ways, have made outstanding contributions to the academia, to society, and have left a mark in the history. These are women who have come from diverse walks of life. Their personal journeys vary, but they share the common lifelong endeavour of steadfastly pursuing their ideas, their goals, their dreams. They are women whom the University has proudly recognised with honorary degrees. Their lives and work endure as an inspiration to us all.

HKU Women Honorary Graduates

- 1 Her Royal Highness **Princess Alexandra Helen Elizabeth Olga Christabel** of Kent 英國雅麗珊郡主 (LLD 1961) – a lifetime of royal duty to promoting goodwill throughout the Commonwealth and the world.
- 2 **Li, Mrs. Ellen Shu Pui 李樹培夫人** (LLD 1969) – training in business administration in Shanghai was followed by a lifelong commitment to public service and the advancement of women's rights in Hong Kong.
- 3 **Murdoch, Jean Iris** (DLitt 1969) – regarded as a novelist by philosophers and a philosopher by novelists, but acclaimed and revered as one of the most outstanding and imaginative contemporary English writers.
- 4 **Kotewall, Bobbie Madeleine Florence 羅怡基** (LLD 1971) – renowned as an outstanding principal of St. Paul's Co-educational School, and cherished by generations of students as teacher, mentor and friend.
- 5 **Chun, Daphne Wai Chan 秦惠珍** (DSocSc 1972) – the first woman professor of the University of Hong Kong also led the way in scholarship, training and patient care in the field of obstetrics and gynaecology.
- 6 **Younghusband, Dame Eileen Louise** (DSocSc 1972) – her comprehensive programme for the training of social workers has been of inestimable value in the development of social welfare services in Hong Kong.
- 7 **Moore, Violet Elizabeth Frankland** (LLD 1975) – in addition to recognition from the United Kingdom, the Order of the Brilliant Star of China celebrates her courage and invaluable service to Hong Kong and China.
- 8 **Ho, Chung Chung 何中中** (DLitt 1975) – first student, then teacher, Dean and finally Principal of True Light Middle School underscore her dedication to the education and advancement of women.
- 9 **Symons, Catherine Joyce 西門士夫人** (LLD 1978; BA 1939) – a tireless participant in Hong Kong's public life, including the field of education, social welfare and the battle against corruption.
- 10 **Aquinas, Sister Mary** (DSocSc 1978) – described as an 'Irish nightingale who operates in a Parsi hospital in a Chinese setting in a British colony', and the embodiment of spirituality, scholarship and compassion.
- 11 **Hui, Wai Haan 許慧嫻** (LLD 1981; BA 1933, MSc 1954) – over forty years of devotion to scholarship in chemistry, to her students and to the University of Hong Kong.
- 12 **Bennett, The Rev. Joyce Mary** (DSocSc 1984) – missionary, principal at St. Stephen's Girls' College, social reformer and a smiling humanitarian who dedicated over thirty-four years of her life to Hong Kong.
- 13 **Chan, Pauline 陳蕉琴** (LLD 1985; BA 1940) – a self-confessed 'discontentist' who advanced from a traditional Chinese childhood to being a model of modern industrial management.
- 14 **Tu, Elsie 杜葉錫恩** (DSocSc 1988) – originally a missionary and teacher, it is for her work as in public service – seeking justice for the ordinary man in Hong Kong – that she is most often recognised.
- 15 **Dunn, The Rt. Hon. The Baroness 鄧蓮如** (LLD 1991) – the first woman to chair a number of blue-chip corporate directorships, and to receive local and overseas public recognition, including a peerage in the British House of Lords.
- 16 **Pullinger, Jacqueline** (DSocSc 1991) – founder of the St. Stephen's Society in the Walled City where she spent her life helping drug addicts, young delinquents and prostitutes in Hong Kong.
- 17 **Barker, Kathleen Esther** (DSocSc 1989) – over three decades of achievement in education, especially in the advancement and welfare of deaf and physically challenged students.
- 18 **Aquino, Corazon Cojuangco 阿奎諾夫人** (LLD 1993) – her dedication to democratic principles and 'people power' won her the presidency of the Philippines.
- 19 **Teresa, The Rev. Mother 德蘭修女** (DSocSc 1993) – recognised around the world for a lifetime of caring for the poor and the destitute, and revered as a guardian of compassion and human dignity.
- 20 **Young, Rosie Tse Tse 楊紫芝** (DLitt 1995; MBBS 1953, MD 1959) – a lifetime of dedication to medical scholarship, to teaching and the welfare of the University of Hong Kong, as well as the Hong Kong community at large.
- 21 **Fang, Marion Sum Suk 方心淑** (DSocSc 1995) – founder of the John F. Kennedy Centre for physically handicapped children and a pioneer in educational policy on pre-school care, special education and rehabilitation services.
- 22 **Chan, Anson 陳方安生** (LLD 1996; BA 1962) – the first Chinese Chief Secretary of Hong Kong has been celebrated for her 'adherence to the ideals of fairness and openness in government' around the world.
- 23 **Fang, Zhao Ling 方召馨** (DLitt 1996; BA 1955) – an unflinching belief in 'understanding, breadth and creativity' has won her international recognition as one of China's foremost artists.
- 24 **Kadoorie, the Lady 嘉道理夫人** (LLD 1999) – a lifelong generosity of spirit, tireless philanthropic work, and a dedication to music, has raised her 'out of the commonplace into the rare'.
- 25 **Shih, Cheng Yen 證嚴法師** (DSocSc 2001) – Buddhist nun and founder of the Tzu-Chi Foundation, the most trusted charity in Taiwan and dedicated to promoting charity, medical care, education and culture.
- 26 Her Royal Highness **Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn 泰國詩琳通公主** (DLitt 2002) – royal birthright and a quest for knowledge brought together for the good of the people of Thailand.
- 27 **Wong, Rosanna Yick Ming 王葛鳴** (DSocSc 2003; BSocSc 1975) – an alumna of the University of Hong Kong who is respected for her dedication to the welfare of young people and the Hong Kong community.
- 28 **Ching, Lucy Man Fai 程文輝** (DSocSc 1992) – brought up in a traditional Chinese family, she did not let her blindness stop her from championing the cause of education and recognition for the blind in Hong Kong society.
- 29 **Chan, Shuk Leung 陳淑良 (Pak Suet Sin 白雪仙)** (DLitt 2004) – one of Cantonese opera's most enduring stars. Her career epitomizes the artist's achievements and contributions to Chinese traditional culture.
- 30 **Qian, Zhengying 錢正英** (DSc 2004) – academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering. She has provided leadership and professional advice on the construction of many massive dams and power plants which have greatly mitigated flood hazards.
- 31 **Rodrigues, Mary Gray 羅紀瑪喇** (DSocSc 2004; BA 1967) – a graduate of HKU who has remained closely committed to her *alma mater*. She has served the University as an active member of the Council and Convocation for more than a decade.



New Honorary Graduates 2004



The Hon Michael D Kadoorie (LLD) is Chairman of Hong Kong and Shanghai Hotels and CLP Holdings. As trustee of the Kadoorie Charitable Foundations, Mr Kadoorie is a renowned philanthropist. In 2000 the Kadoorie Biological Sciences Building was opened at HKU in memory of his father, Lord Kadoorie. Mr Kadoorie has been a member of the University Council since 1993 and on the Court Life Membership Committee since 2001. In 2003 he was awarded a Gold Bauhinia Star.



Professor Arnold George Dominic Maran (DSocSc) is Professor Emeritus of Otorhinolaryngology at the University of Edinburgh, and immediate past-president of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh. Professor Maran's long and distinguished service to the academic medical profession has won him wide acclaim internationally and has made an immense professional impact on many countries around the world. His book on 'Head and Neck Surgery' is considered the Bible for all candidates taking the fellowship exam.

Since 1969, Professor Maran has been a visiting professor to more than 20 universities worldwide, including HKU. His sustained and continuing effort in ensuring a high standard of training and practice for Hong Kong is widely admired.



Mr Darwin Chen (Hon DSocSc; DipMS 1972) has enjoyed a distinguished career highlighted by services to the community. He is currently chairman of the Hong Kong Arts Development Council and his achievements in this area have already received recognition through the conferment of an Honorary University Fellowship from HKU and an Honorary Fellowship of the Academy of Performing Arts.

During his years in the civil service Mr Chen was Manager of City Hall and later Director of Cultural Services of the Urban Services Department. One of his initiatives was to ensure that the Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra and the Hong Kong Academy of Ballet achieved of professional status.



Madam Qian Zhengying (DSc) is an eminent engineer in water resources and electric power. She has provided leadership and professional advice on the construction of many massive dams and power plants which have greatly mitigated flood hazards along the Lower Yellow River. In 1999, she was also appointed by the State Council to head a study group for monitoring the construction quality of the Three Gorges Project.

中國傑出基建工程師

錢正英女士是中國工程院院士，亦是第七屆、八屆、九屆中國人民政治協商會議全國委員會副主席。

一九三九年她進入上海大同大學土木工程系攻讀，又積極參與學生運動。

其後，她成為了著名的水利及電力工程師。自一九四四年起，她先後為中國多項重大水利工程出謀獻策，對中國大陸的水資源的管理作出了重大貢獻。

她曾經領導許多大型堤壩及發電廠的興建工程，提供專業意見，大力整治黃河下游的水患。一九九九年，她更獲國務院委以重任，帶領研究小組監察三峽大壩工程的建築質量。

The University conferred Honorary Degrees upon six outstanding individuals on March 18, 2004, at Loke Yew Hall:

Doctor of Laws

Michael D Kadoorie

Doctor of Letters

Chan Shuk Leung 陳淑良
(**Pak Suet Sin** 白雪仙)

Doctor of Science

Arnold G D Maran
Qian Zheng Ying 錢正英

Doctor of Social Sciences

Darwin Chen 陳達文
Mary Gray Rodrigues 羅紀瑪瀾

御是瑶台第幾仙

十三歲跟薛覺先學戲

白雪仙女士 (DLitt) 原名陳淑良，一九二八年出生於粵劇家庭，是有「小生王」之稱的白駒榮的女兒，因為在兄弟姐妹中排行第九，所以人愛稱她為九姑娘。她在廣州出世和讀書，後來跟隨白駒榮移港居住，白雪仙便曾在敦梅中學、嶺英中學與聖保祿中學讀書。

白雪仙，十三歲便跟萬能泰斗薛覺先學戲，因白駒榮不擅反串花旦，便請薛收女兒為徒，薛覺先更替她改了「白雪仙」的藝名。名字的取義，白是白駒榮的白，雪是薛覺先妻子唐雪卿的雪，仙是薛覺先的先字諧音，念起來順口，又能配合她擅演的花旦角色。白雪仙又跟隨歌唱音樂家冼干持學習。在幾位明師栽培下，白雪仙得天獨厚，基礎功夫非常紮實。

但白雪仙初踏台板，仍是由梅香(戲份很少的小女配角)做起，不過比照其他人，她演出機會還是較多，很快已於舞台上任「開口梅香」(有對白或唱歌的小女配角)及做「包天光」戲。

一九四一年日軍攻佔香港，白駒榮沒有逃到內地，但因沒有戲可做，全家一時陷入經濟困境。期間為了兩餐一宿，白雪仙曾跟冼干持在歌壇以師徒對唱。直至白駒榮移居澳門，到廣州灣演戲，白雪仙才結束這段歌壇日子，但對她而言這是難得的磨練。

香港重光後，白雪仙返回香港，白雪仙獲「新東亞劇團」聘為「二幫花旦」。從前她在跟白駒榮演出，也只不過是「四幫」角色，當時才十五歲，已能成為「二幫花旦」，白雪仙初露頭角。

偶遇任劍輝 共組仙鳳鳴

眾所皆知白雪仙和任劍輝是一雙好拍檔，

提起白雪仙，便會想起任劍輝。白仙鳳鳴以後，任劍輝便沒有夥拍別的花旦，白雪仙也沒有夥拍其他文武生。但任劍輝做戲的時候，白雪仙也許還未出世，兩人為什麼會成為舞台的好拍檔呢？她們是怎樣結識的呢？這就要由白雪仙在澳門居住的時候談起了。

當時，白雪仙是隸屬「日月星劇團」，為陳艷儂之副。有一晚演戲時，她看到任劍輝在第三行位看戲，但完場後，卻不見了座中的任劍輝，她當時有點失望。

然而，當回到後台，突然見到任劍輝坐在她的箱位旁，白雪仙立刻上前招呼，連洗粉卸裝也不敢，可見當年任姐在她心目中的崇高地位，而兩人就由這種惺惺相惜的邂逅開始，締結大半生的誼情。

香港光復後，任劍輝在香港組織「新聲劇團」，以陳艷儂為「正印花旦」，以白雪仙為「二幫花旦」。後來任姐再起仙鳳鳴劇團，白雪仙正式擔演正印，直到兩人息演為止。

仙鳳鳴是戰後香港粵劇黃金時代的班霸，每次演出都極受歡迎，除觀眾認為任白是天造地設的一對，而任白、唐滌生、梁醒波與馮次伯，牡丹綠葉崢嶸，更是一時無兩的組合，成就中國粵劇史上的傳奇。

他們共同創作與演出過的作品，如《牡丹亭驚夢》、《紫釵記》、《帝女花》、《蝶影紅梨記》、《再世紅梅記》等，都為人津津樂道，雅俗共賞，流行一時之餘，更把香港粵劇推上登峰造極的境地，為香港文化留下了寶貴而不朽的經典。

藝術家台前幕後一絲不苟

白雪仙對演藝以嚴謹見稱，對每一部戲都非常認真，要做到千錘百鍊，一絲不苟。她在仙鳳鳴演出，吸收了許多崑曲與京劇的技術與表演方法。她與仙鳳鳴，代表了那個距離我們仍不算遙遠的時代，對藝術的最高要求與表現。

當時，參與的幕後人才眾多，例如教舞蹈的有吳世勳，設計服裝、教京戲的有孫養農夫人，張淑嫻女士也曾被白雪仙請出來幫忙，其他音樂、化妝、燈光都有專人負責，跟同期其他劇團相比，仙鳳鳴為粵劇注入了新的創造力與專業精神。

在仙鳳鳴之前，白雪仙最早於一九四八年便開始拍電影。拍的是從前新聲的戲寶《晨妻暮嫂》，由馮峰和白雪仙擔任主角，這部片是二次世界大戰後，她在香港拍的第四部影片，此後演戲多部，是當時的電影紅星。但論成就，還是以粵劇上的表現最矚目。

她的第一部是歌唱片《沙三少與銀姐》，是白雪仙和新馬師曾主演的。後來與任劍輝最後一部白資、白導、白演的《李後主》，更是當時空前大製作。

一九六零年起，任白一心積極改革粵劇，改良劇本、舞台設計、唱曲調度、服裝道具等，又致力培育新人，成立「離鳳鳴」，為粵劇界培訓接班人。

無計相迴避的多年情

一九六九年，任白息影，直到一九八九年十一月任劍輝逝世，她倆一直過著優悠愉悅的的退隱生活。但任姐的猝然逝世，對白雪仙不啻是沉重的打擊。

她在一九九四年曾說過：「於情我頓失所依，於藝我已無所望，一切懸空；懸空的生命，懸空的感情，我浮沉於茫茫塵世。我迴避了一切可能引起我回憶的人與物，事與景，但幾十年的情，『眉間心上，無計相迴避』，我徒然白苦。」(見《妮紫嫣紅開遍》的「思入水雲寒」代序) ☐

不管是瞬息芳華如逝水，還是妮紫嫣紅花開遍，白雪仙自我創造的演藝事業是成功的，她對粵劇夙夜匪懈的貢獻也是不朽。

才子佳人緣未盡，儘管事隔多年，但今天仍為人推崇景仰。

趙來發 (BSocSc 1981; MJ 2001)



「私相簿」



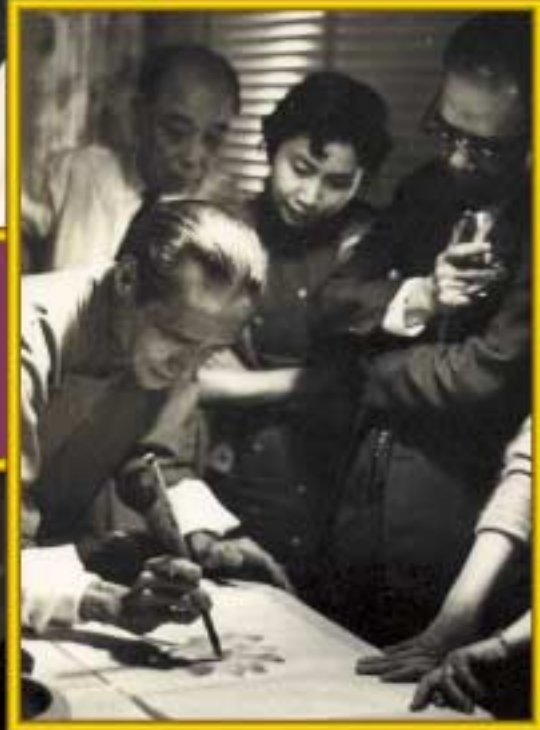
《李後主》劇照，1965年。



白雪仙



白雪仙與父親白駒榮 1960年攝於澳門。



六十年代初鄧芬老師在仙姐家即席揮毫，左起鄧芬、呂燦銘、白雪仙與許菊芬。



四十年代中新聲劇團六台柱，前左起白雪仙、任劍輝與陳豔儀，後左起黃超武、靚次伯與歐陽儉。



五十年代仙姐家中合照，左起白雪仙、任劍輝、南海十三郎、胡蝶老師(孫養農夫人)與張淑嫻老師。



唐滌生與仙鳳鳴台柱談《紫釵記》劇本，左起梁醒波、唐滌生、任劍輝、靚次伯與白雪仙。



1984年與雛鳳合照，左起言雪芬、龍劍笙、任劍輝、白雪仙、梅雪詩與朱劍丹。



Tradition and Heritage

Mrs Mary Gray Rodrigues (DSocSc; BA 1967), a loyal graduate, has dedicated her unfailing voluntary efforts to the promotion of a beneficial relationship between HKU graduates and their alma mater.

She has, for a quarter of a century, played a pivotal role in re-defining not only how the graduates could help their

alma mater in meeting the said challenges, but also in her solid work in rallying the force of the graduates in the community to the cause of their alma mater. She first joined the Standing Committee of Convocation in January 1979, was elected as the Clerk



of Convocation in 1986, and eventually elected as its Chairman in 1993. She held this post until 2001, and after retiring as Convocation Chairman, continued to serve on the University Council.

Under her leadership from the mid-1980s to the 1990s, Convocation started to embark upon a pro-active approach in re-organising its membership. Mary also pioneered a more systematic approach to graduates' contribution to the University. This included, for example, an affinity credit card – and HKU was the first university in Hong Kong to launch this. Since its inception in 1993, the card has brought in some HK\$52 million of funds to the HKU Foundation.

She has also helped strengthen bonds between town and gown. She had made good use of her professional and personal network to encourage graduates to offer their expertise and connections to the benefit of the University. She has herself exemplified such contributions in her memberships on various university committees.

As a long-standing leader in Convocation, Mary Rodrigues represented and reflected the views and aspirations of the body of 90,000 graduates, thus provided an invaluable input in the important process of the selection of the new Vice-Chancellor. This contributed to the continuation of a tradition and the preservation of the heritage of the University. ■

