

Gu Cao

Images of Hong Kong in the Tourist Association's Publicity Films

Forever under the curse of the junk we
 Must carry on with the horse racing carry on with the dancing carry on
 Evolving from Susie Wong into
 dressy dames embraced by Club Volvo's wealthy patrons carry on
 Smiling, rickshaw-man, at the lord your client who is
 Standing under strangely fashioned skyscrapers gazing upwards
 At the costly gigantic Buddha exhibiting his mercy, blessing
 Hard-working compatriots: eat your fill then lay your eggs and then
 Coming into the spotlight we have
 A cheongsam accompanied by the compulsory lute or
 The imported cats and the singing phantom
 Proud of them, aren't we? Rejoice, Paradise this is
 Catering to misconception prejudice cut into
 Postcards blown all over the place like pieces of confetti
 Bit by bit by bit
 That's us

May 1996

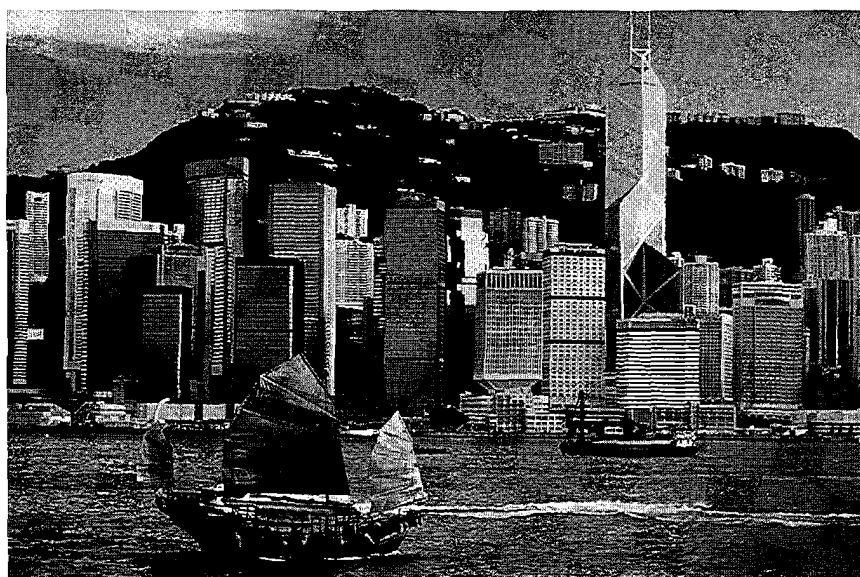
Translated by Eva HUNG

The Chinese government's guarantee that Hong Kong's current system will remain unchanged for fifty years was couched in these words by Peking officials: the horse racing will continue, and the dancing will continue 馬照跑，舞照跳。

During the period of the Sino-British negotiations over Hong Kong in the 1980s, Hong Kong was frequently referred to as the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Founded in the 1980s, Club Volvo is arguably the leading nightclub in Hong Kong.

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A butterfly-winged fishing junk sails through Victoria Harbour.
Collection of the Hong Kong Tourist Association.