

It was very fortunate for me to intern at the Hong Kong Museum of History this summer. I was positioned at the Ethnography Unit, which was one of the four units that were responsible for the “Hong Kong Story” exhibition. The Ethnography Unit was a small department but the colleagues are very close, I was lucky to work with them. My supervisors include an Assistant Curator (I) and two Assistant Curators (II), who were all very nice and approachable. I learned a lot just by observing them work. They have very different styles of working, yet one thing in common, they are extremely good at multi-tasking. They are very willing to share their experiences and never hesitate to answer my questions. I especially enjoyed chatting with the Assistant Curator (I), as I was sitting next to him, and because he was always eager to tell me stories about his previous work in other museums and to advise me on my future career.

I had two colleagues who are in the same age group as I am. One of them is a Museum Trainee, another is a research assistant. They are friendly and easy to get along with. They have graduated from universities a couple of years ago and shared with me their experience in finding jobs. During my internship, my department was busy planning for the “Images through Time: Photos of Old Hong Kong” exhibition in December. We scanned through all the photos from the museum’s collections and filed them for the Curators to choose from. Although it was a painstaking and demanding task for us to print out and categorize all the photos, we bonded over the hectic week of work.

The Hong Kong Museum of History borrowed a large numbers of old photos from some collectors in the United Kingdom. I was fortunate to be there on the day that the photos arrived and to participate in the procedures of handling loan items. We needed to count and check a few thousands of photos in two days and it was a lot more difficult than I had expected. Yet, the process was very enjoyable as the photos were extremely beautiful and I was stunned by the quality of the films in late 19<sup>th</sup> century. I learned a lot about the landscape of Old Hong Kong since my boss was really good at recognizing places from the past. I look forward to the Old Photos exhibition in December and hope to appreciate the incredible photos again.

The Ethnography Unit was responsible for the large-scale multimedia programs displayed in “The Hong Kong Jockey Club Series: The Splendors of Royal Costume: Qing Court Attire”. They let me sit in on their meetings with other Curators, together with the museum expert advisor, the museum design team and the CG production company. Those were the moments that I enjoyed most during my internship, as I could learn by listening to their comments and critiques. I learned that experience matters in this profession and it is useful to have wide breadth of knowledge.

Overall, it was a really unique opportunity for me to have the first-hand experience of working in a museum and to learn the behind-the-scene stories. I would like to take this opportunity to

thank our professors for granting me this wonderful chance to intern at the Hong Kong Museum of History.