SEASON FIVE
FILM SCREENING
Free and open to the public

MADE IN HONG KONG
This season presents a selection of films showcasing Hong Kong's New Wave cinema and its legacies.

3
May
Tuesday, 5:15-7:15pm

Rouge
胭脂扣
Directed by Stanley Kwan 關錦鵬
1988, 96mins, Hong Kong
Cantonese with English subtitles
The Auditorium, China in the World Building 188, Fellows Lane, ANU

In a 1930s Hong Kong 'flower house', Chan, a stylish playboy, falls in love with Fleur, a sort after courtesan who shares his passion for Chinese opera. When Chan's family vehemently opposes their feelings, the lovers attempt a suicide pact... Flash forward to 1980s Hong Kong, when Fleur mysteriously appears in a Hong Kong newspaper office, wishing to place an ad to find her lost lover, who didn't make it to the afterlife. With the reluctant help of a journalist and his equally bewildered girlfriend, they together continue searching for traces of her lost lover, in turn revealing how much of the city itself has been lost over the decades, leaving little trace of its past.

A leading director of the so called 'second wave' of the 1990s, Stanley Kwan's films have often been sensitive portrayals of marginalised women, which—like Centre Stage 阮玲玉 (1991)—also appear a lament for the pace of urban and cultural change. A critical and commercial hit locally (Mui won best actress in Hong Kong and Taiwan, among the films numerous awards), Rouge also made a name for Kwan on the European festival circuit.

The screening will be followed by a short informal discussion.