

# Recovery, Resilience, Resurgence

## 復甦生息、逆中求存、重振旗鼓

Curator Edward Stokes introduces an exhibition of historic Hong Kong photographs

by Hedda Morrison, Lee Fook Chee and Brian Brake

艾思滔精心策劃香港歷史照片展覽，展出Hedda Morrison、李福志及Brian Brake的作品

A new exhibition of photographs at the Asia Society Hong Kong Centre show Hong Kong as it was around the middle of the last century. The images span some 30 years of change: from the post-war recovery of 1946-7, through the resilience of the 1950s, to the resurgence of the 1960s and 1970s. The photos were taken by three photographers: Hedda Morrison, Lee Fook Chee and Brian Brake.

Morrison arrived in Hong Kong in 1946 and although she stayed here for just six months she photographed almost every aspect of the colony. Her passion was to record the lives of ordinary people. Her photos reflect a masterful eye and some of her images, used in the Government's 1946 Annual Report, prompted my search for her negatives.

Lee Fook Chee, then a sailor, landed in Hong Kong in 1947 and in the 1950s made a frugal living selling his photos to tourists on The Peak. Lee was entirely unknown until 2010, when his treasure trove of negatives came to my attention. Like many immigrants of that time, Lee had a gritty resilience. Half a century later, he moved to a public housing flat where he established a darkroom and began to print his 1950s negatives.



▲ **CNY oranges: By Brian Brake**

The photo shows Chinese New Year – probably at the market in Reclamation Street, Mongkok.

年桔：這張新春照片由Brian Brake拍攝，地點相信是旺角新填地街街市。

◀ **Packing toys: By Brian Brake**

As Hong Kong's light industry expanded during the 1960s, it depended greatly on low-paid piecework, often done by families.

包裝玩具：香港輕工業於1960年代蓬勃發展，當時家家戶戶都以低薪計件工作謀生。照片由Brian Brake拍攝。



◀ **Elegant women on The Peak: By Lee Fook Chee**

Two elegantly dressed ladies pose on Victoria Peak. Central District lies far below. The photo is from between late 1951 and early 1952.

淑女山頂留影：兩位衣着優雅的女士在太平山頂拍照留念，山下是中環市區。照片由李福志於1951年底至1952年初期間拍攝。



▲ **Star Ferry smoke: By Lee Fook Chee**

The old Hong Kong-side Star Ferry Pier, facing the elegant Edwardian buildings that then lined Victoria Harbour.  
天星小輪濃煙：李福志鏡頭下的港島舊天星碼頭，對面的干諾道其時有一幢幢愛德華風格建築物沿維港而建。



▲ **Cheung Chau: By Hedda Morrison**

From the hills south of Cheung Chau's anchorage, this view looks north to the island's narrow neck and main village.  
長洲：從長洲碼頭南面的山丘遠眺北面狹長的地峽和沿峽而建的主要村莊。照片由Hedda Morrison拍攝。

▼ **Des Voeux Road tram: By Hedda Morrison**

In Des Voeux Road, just east of Ice House Street, pedestrians amble across without a care. The tram system had survived the war.

德輔道中電車：德輔道中雪廠街口以東，行人氣定神閒過馬路，毫不擔心來往車輛。電車系統沒有遭戰火摧毀。照片由Hedda Morrison拍攝。



New Zealand-born Brian Brake first arrived in Hong Kong in 1957, after a journey from London that took him through the Middle East and on to East Asia. Brake's photographs encompassed very different places and people – including China in the late 1950s. From 1962 to 1976 he was based in Hong Kong, and he photographed widely here. In the early 1970s, TIME-LIFE commissioned Brake to photograph Hong Kong for its "The Great Cities" book series.

The exhibition has almost 90 large-framed photos by Morrison, Lee and Brake, and also many panel stories to explain more about the history and background of the images. Together they present almost every aspect of Hong Kong as well as insights into each of the photographer's lives and work.



Lunch man and trams. By Lee Fook Chee. 中午時分行人在電車間穿梭：李福志作品。



Large sailing junk. By Lee Fook Chee  
Lee's photo perfectly captures the details of a middle-sized fishing junk. The vessel is a Guangdong-style fishing junk.  
大型帆船：李福志完美捕捉一艘中型中式漁船的細緻輪廓。

亞洲協會香港中心現正舉行全新展覽，透過攝影作品活現香港在上世紀中期的面貌。這些照片見證歷時30多年的蛻變：從1946至1947年間戰後復甦生息，到1950年代逆中求存，以及在1960至1970年代重振旗鼓，分別由Hedda Morrison、李福志及Brian Brake三位攝影師執鏡。

Morrison在1946年來港，短短半年便將香港的生活百態盡收鏡頭之下。她尤其熱衷於記錄平民百姓的生活，作品細膩入扣，部分更獲刊載於政府1946年出版的《香港年報》，驅使我四出搜羅其底片。

李福志在1947年以海員身分抵港，於1950年代在太平山頂向遊客售賣自家攝影作品謀生。他在2010年前一直寂寂無名，直至他

珍藏的一批底片引起了我的興趣。李福志跟當時不少新移民一樣，擁有堅忍不拔的意志。半世紀後，他遷入公屋單位，並在內閣設黑房，開始沖曬在1950年代拍攝的底片。

Brian Brake出生於新西蘭，他從倫敦出發後穿越中東、遊遍東亞，其後於1957年首次踏足香港。Brake的拍攝內容包羅不同地區和群體，包括1950年代後期的中國。他在1962至1976年期間長居香港，拍下了大量作品。在1970年代初期，出版商TIME-LIFE曾委託他為《偉大城市》系列叢書拍攝香港風貌。

是次展覽展出近90幅Morrison、李福志和Brake的大型裝裱作品，輔以展板講解照片的歷史和背景，透過三位攝影師的閱歷和技巧，重現香港昔日的情懷。



◀ **Flats and buses: By Brian Brake**

This shows Kowloon's Tze Wan Shan Resettlement Estate. Built between 1964 - 1971, with 63 blocks it was the largest resettlement estate.

屋邨與巴士：在1964至1971年期間落成的九龍慈雲山徙置屋邨共有63座住宅大廈，為當時最大型的徙置屋邨。照片由Brian Brake拍攝。

▲ **Film poster: By Brian Brake**

Gritty daily life is seen here in the pedestrians all intent on their journeys – and in the traffic grime that marks the poster.

電影海報：在Brian Brake的鏡頭下，匆忙趕路的行人，路邊陳舊的海報，都是當時生活的寫照。

▶ **Cigarette seller: By Hedda Morrison**

Immediately after the war, a time of great need, street sellers like this woman had lives full of concern and uncertainty.

賣煙婦人：二戰剛結束百廢待興，民生困苦，像相中在街頭擺賣的婦人，日子都過得憂心忡忡，前路難測。照片由Hedda Morrison拍攝。

The exhibition is presented by the Asia Society Hong Kong Centre, originated by The Photographic Heritage Foundation, and curated by Edward Stokes. It is being held in the Asia Society's Chantal Miller Gallery, near Admiralty MTR. The exhibition runs until 6 March. Admission is free. Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday 11am - 6pm; last Thursday of every month 11am - 8pm.

Exhibition Sponsor: Dr Patrick SC Poon SBS.

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展覽由亞洲協會香港中心主辦，並由歷史遺珍攝影基金會籌劃，策展人為艾思活。展覽由即日起至3月6日在鄰近金鐘地鐵站的亞洲協會香港中心麥禮賢夫人藝術館舉行，開放時間為星期二至星期日上午11時至下午6時；每月最後一個星期四於上午11時至晚上8時開放。費用全免。

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李福志遺珍（李福志作品）；Wai-man Lau（Brian Brake作品）

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▲ **Two men and poles: By Hedda Morrison**

Men like these were the backbone of harbour lightering. Bronzed from years spent outdoors, they were paid by the load. 苦力與擔挑：在Hedda Morrison這張作品中的搬運工人支撐着整個港口駁運業的發展。他們長年在戶外工作，曬出一身古銅膚色。