

## **Graham Street Market Festival 2008**

**- enjoy the simple pleasures of market shopping –**

Opening: Saturday, 15 November 2008 at 3pm on Gage Street

This year's Graham Street Market Festival opens on Saturday 15 November 2008 and all are welcome to join the activities and celebrations. The first Festival in 2007 attracted thousands of people of different ages and from throughout Hong Kong to celebrate the Graham Street Market and its 140-year old legacy as Hong Kong's oldest street market. We hope that the realities of the current financial crisis and the planned redevelopment of the Market by the Urban Renewal Authority focuses the public and, after participating in the Festival and enjoying the Market's unique ambience, everyone will place a higher values on simple pleasures and the unique culture that of our open street markets provide.

The Graham Street Market is located in the heart of Central surrounded by newly built commercial buildings and older residential properties; the street market preserves and continues the traditions of an older Hong Kong. Indeed, the layout of the streets and the ambience of the area are exactly as it was one hundred years ago and the neighborhood and the Market both create a close atmosphere and camaraderie that allows people to easily keep in touch with each other.

We hope that the Urban Renewal Authority and the government will revise its redevelopment plans to preserve the market and maintain the present low-rise building character of the area – and to allow Hong Kong's unique urban culture to continue to be lived.

The Festival is a chance for the public to visit the market and enjoy the simple pleasures of shopping for a wide range of food on streets closed to traffic. The Festival also includes exhibitions, discussion and sharing sessions, forums, etc. This is an opportunity for the public to experience and understand the unique market culture of Hong Kong and the importance of heritage and cultural conservation.

The Graham Street Market Festival 2008 is lead organized by the Conservancy Association Center for Heritage and co-organised by SEE Network and the Central & Western Concern Group with funding sponsored by the Central & Western Concern District Council.

# **Graham Street Market Festival Programme**

## **Saturday, 15 November 2008**

### **3:00pm : Opening Ceremony (on Gage Street)**

Short opening ceremony followed by balloon distribution. Free Graham Street Market Map to be given to public – this bi-lingual map illustrated by Stella So highlights special stalls, shops, restaurants, *cha chan teng* and historic points in the market and surrounding area.

### **4:00 - 6:00pm : Urban Renewal Forum (held on corner of Gage Street & Cochrane Street, under Mid-levels Escalator)**

A discussion with architects, planners and activists about urban planning and renewal (in Cantonese).

### **6:30 - 7:30pm : *Graham Darlings* Film (at Hoi Won Café, 28 Gage Street)**

A short movie about the Graham Street market stall-holders directed by V-Artivist (in Cantonese).

### **7:00 – 9:00pm : Lights Up!**

Designed by students from the Faculty of Architecture of Hong Kong University, a variety of lighted lamps will be placed at different locations around the Graham Street Market.

## **Sunday, 16 November 2008**

### **2:00-6:00pm : Art & Memorabilia Flea Market @Central (Hoi Won Café, 28 Gage Street)**

### **2:00-4:00pm : Market Cultural Tour**

A guided tour of the Market. To register for the tour, please send email to: [kwlau@cache.org.hk](mailto:kwlau@cache.org.hk)

## **Other Events**

### **Ocean Gallery Café (in Hoi Wan Café, 28 Gage Street - Hours: 7am-5pm daily)**

**15/11 – 18/12 : *People in the Street Market* – a photography exhibition by Photosynthesis and Li Wei Han designed *yinyeung* cups.**

### **Street Performances around Gage Street**

**Saturday 22/11 at 4:00-5:00pm : Magdalen Wong and students from Baptist University**

**Graham Street Market Map available from selected shops and stalls along Gage Street**

**Enquiries about the Festival Programme, please call 21274505 (SEE Network)**