



In Memoriam – Shih Yen-Chung, Jerome

史仁仲

(?-2005)

Studied at Wah Yan College, Kowloon, 1955-1963

Years at Wah Yan College, Kowloon, 1955-1963

P6B - 1955-1956

F1D - 1956-1957

F2D - 1957-1958

F3D - 1958-1959

F4C - 1959-1960

F4C - 1960-1961

F5A - 1961-1962

F6S - 1962-1963

A. Class Photographs and Class Lists, 1955-1963 (a selection)

PRIMARY 6B.
Form-master: Mr. S. P. Aras



P6B, 1955-1956 – 2nd row from bottom – 2nd left



FORM 4C (59-60)

F4C, 1959-1960 – 2nd row from bottom – 3rd right

FORM II D (1957-1958)

1. Chan Loonnay	陳龍尼	22. Lai Park Chiu, William	黎伯釗
2. Chan Man Bun, Kenneth	陳文彬	23. Lam Fook Hong, Tommy	林福康
3. Chan Yiu Man	陳耀民	24. Lee Kwok Po, Philip	李國堡
4. Chan Yuen Hing, Raymond	陳元慶	25. Lee Sai Cheung, Michael	李世昌
5. Chang Kung Sun, Patrick	張君新	26. Leung Siu Tat, Carmelo	梁少達
6. Chen Chia Hua, Bobby	陳加華	27. Li King Hang, Richard	李景行
7. Cheng See Yau, Stephen	鄭時佑	28. Ling Tak Fun, Victor	林德芬
8. Chan See Ching	陳士菁	29. Ma Kai Fai	馬啓輝
9. Cheung Chi Fong, B.	張子方	30. Ma Shiu Sang, Nelson	馬韶生
10. Cheung Kwok Ming, E.	張國明	31. Man Chung Keung, Andrew	文仲強
11. Chiu Kuo-chao, Tony	邱國超	32. Ng Sheung Yee	吳尙義
12. Chow Chue, Jacob	周柱	33. Ngan Kai Shui, Robert	顏啓遂
13. Choy Tak Fun, Robert	蔡德勳	34. Pan Cheung Ming, John	潘祥銘
14. Chu Shing On, Patrick	朱承安	35. Shih Yen Chung, Jerome	史仁仲
15. Fang Kong	方剛	36. Tai Chun Leung, Patrick	戴振樑
16. Fong On Chuck, Andrew	方安竹	37. Tam Tin Wai, Richard	譚天惠
17. Fong Wai Kit, Freddie	方偉傑	38. Yu Chi Hung	茹至雄
18. Hui Tak Cheung	許德祥	39. Yue Fong Ying	余晃英
19. Kwok Lung Cheung	郭龍章	40. Wong Hin Sing	王顯誠
20. Kung Yum Sing, Francis	龔蔭聲	41. Wu Ho Mun	胡可滿
21. Koo Chi Chung	古志衆		

F2D, 1957-1958

FORM III D (1958-1959)

1. Au-Yang Siu Lee	歐陽兆里	21. Lam Fook Hong, T.	林福康
2. Chan Yiu Man	陳耀民	22. Lam Wing Cheung, S.	林永章
3. Chang Kung Sun, P.	張君新	23. Lee Lap Sun, R.	李立信
4. Cheng See Yau	鄭時佑	24. Lee Ping Hon, M.	李秉漢
5. Cheung Chi Keung	張志強	25. Lee Sai Cheung, M.	李世昌
6. Cheung Kwok Ming, E.	張國明	26. Lee Yu Ting, G.	李毓鼎
7. Ching Yat Biu, C.	程一彪	27. Leung Siu Tat, C.	梁少達
8. Chiu Kuo-Chao, A.	邱國超	28. Lew Kwok Chi, R.	廖國治
9. Chiu Wah Kwong	趙華光	29. Lee King Hang, R.	李景行
10. Chu Cho Ham, L.	朱祖涵	30. Ma Shiu Sang, A.	馬韶生
11. Choy Tak Fun, R.	蔡德勳	31. Mak Wai Kei	麥偉基
12. Chu Shing On, P.	朱承安	32. Pan Cheung Ming, J.	潘祥銘
13. Fong Wai Kit, F.	方偉傑	33. Shih Yen Chung, J.	史仁仲
14. Fong Wan Loong, L.	方雲龍	34. Tai Chun Leung, P.	戴振樑
15. Ho Kar Wing	何家榮	35. Tang Ka Yiu, M.	鄧家堯
16. Ho Ping Kwong	何秉光	36. Wang Hok Cheong, D.	王學章
17. Koo Chi Chung	古志衆	37. Wong Hin Sing	王顯誠
18. Kung Yum Sing, F.	龔蔭聲	38. Wong Ping Kwan, P.	王炳坤
19. Kwan Ying Wai	關英偉	39. Wu Tse Wai, F.	吳子惠
20. Lai Park Chiu, W.	黎伯釗	40. Yu Chi Hung	茹至雄

F3D, 1958-1959

B. Other Photos, 1961-1999 (a selection)



~1961, at a gathering – top row – 2nd right



1961, Classical Music Lovers' Association gathering – Jerome with bow tie -- standing – 1st right

(note: CLA was born on Feb 2, 1957, when we met at Bluebird (?) Restaurant. Core members were: 1, Chan Chi-Kong; 2, Chan Yiu-Man; 3, Chen York-Lung; 4, Chen Chia-Hwa; 5, Chow Chue; 6, Chow Cheung; 7, Li King-Hang; 8, Man Chung-Keung; 9, Shih Yen-Chung and 10 Wong Hin-Shing. Associate members included 11, Butt Chak-Cheung; 12, Lam Kwong-Yu; 13, Lee Sai-Cheung; 14, Wu Homun; 15, Yu Fong-Lun; 16, Yu Fong-ying and others who joined us occasionally. We also asked Fr Farren to be our sponsor/consultant. In the photo, front, L to R: 13, 4, 3, 8, 11, 15; back, L to R: 10, 5, 2, 1, 7, 6, 9)



1961, Richard leaving HK – 5th left



1961, at Andrew's farewell party – 2nd row – 2nd left



1962, Andrew Man's departure – 4th left



1962, Andrew Man's departure – left row – 2nd from bottom



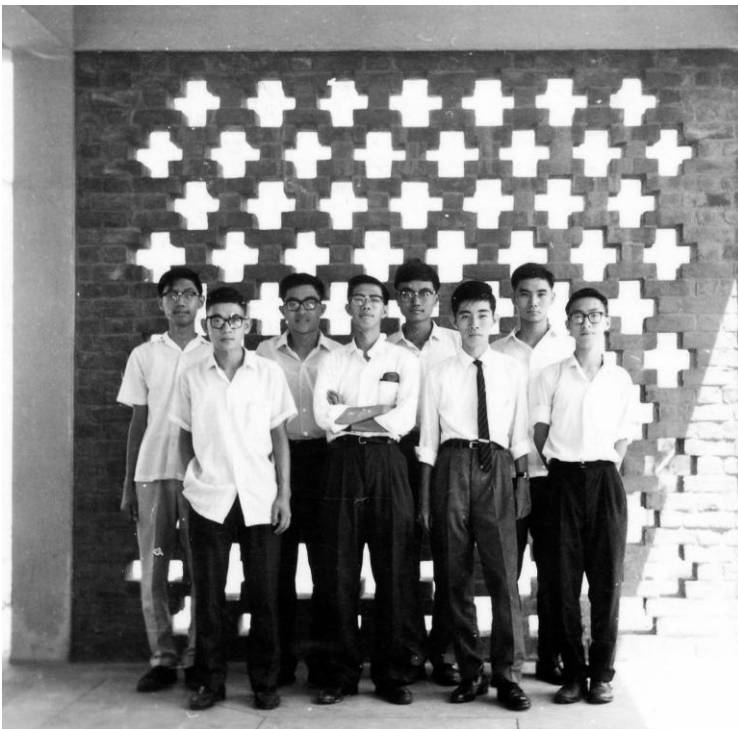
1962, with his '62 classmates



1962, '62 grads class picnic – 4th left



1962, Yiu-Man & Bobby leaving HK – top row – 2nd right



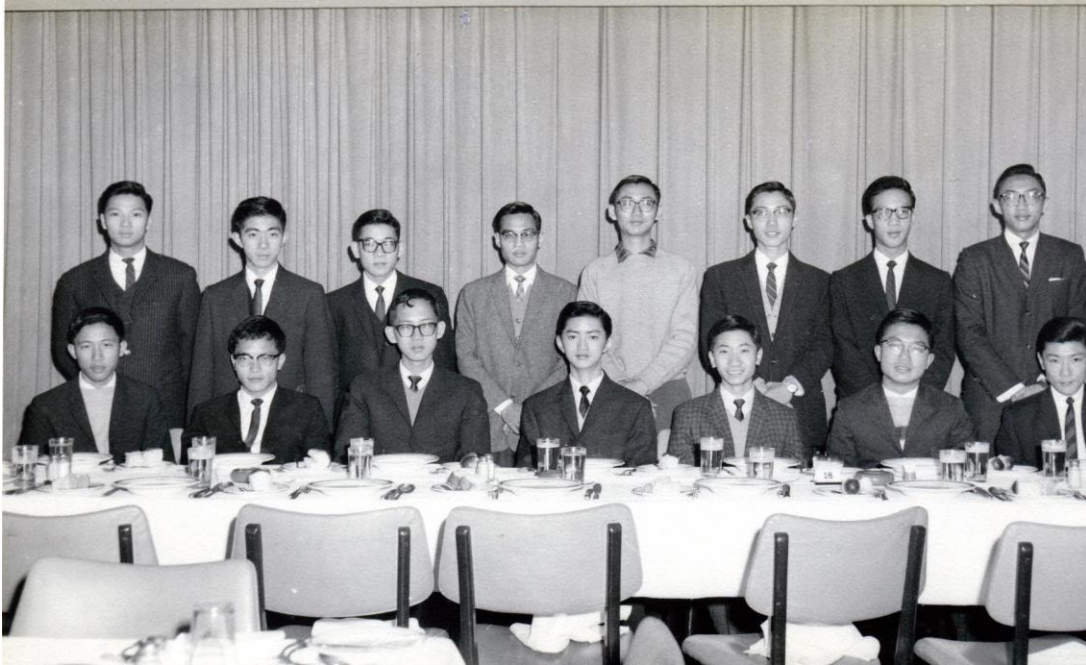
1962, at WYK, before Yu Fong-Lun's departure – 3rd right



1962, picnic



1963 (not 1962), farewell party for Tony Chiu – left row – 2nd right



1963, farewell party for Tony Chiu – back row – 2nd left



1966, another gathering with classmates – top row – 2nd left



1969, having fun swinging



1969, with close friends again



1999 reunion in Hong Kong

1999, reunion gathering in HK – bottom row – 1st left – CLA, 1961?



1999 reunion in Hong Kong

1999, gathering in HK – top row – 2nd left

C. M.A. in Linguistics, 1971

Extract from http://www.ling.fju.edu.tw/lg_05_03_1971.htm



The screenshot shows the website of the Graduate Institute of Linguistics at Fuzhou University. The header includes the university's name in Chinese and English, and a navigation menu. A sidebar on the left lists various student resources. The main content area displays a list of theses under the heading '本所碩士論文題目(1971-1975):'. The list contains two entries, each with a rank, a title in English and Chinese, and the author and supervisor.

項次	論文題目	
1.	A Contrastive Study of the Phonological Structures of Mandarin and Cantonese 北京話廣東話音韻系統對比研究	史仁仲 1971 孫志文 (指導)
2.	A Contrastive Study of the Phonological Systems of Mandarin and Taiwanese	簡清國 1971

D. Memories

My Memories of Jerome

I was in the same classes as Jerome from F1D to F4C (1956-1960). Since we were in the same football and classical music groups, we were very close.

(However, Richard told me that I often quarrelled with Jerome. It was most likely my fault because I was, and still am, very quick-tempered.)

Jerome was an avid classical music lover and had great knowledge about classical music, composers such as Beethoven and Brahms, conductors such as Nikisch and Weingartner, violinists such as Kreisler and Elman, and pianists such as Schnabel and Kempff. He, together with York and Yiu-Man, took a great part in helping Mr Hsueh in the afternoon concerts at WYK.

I remember one of our favorite meeting places for our weekly Saturday evening record listening concerts was at the parents of Jerome's house. It was these record concerts that cemented our great bondage, even till now.

After Form 5, we lived our own ways and separated. I understand that Jerome initially went to the United States to study science or maths.

It was when I graduated from HKU and began teaching at Bishop Hall Jubilee School that I met Jerome again.

He told me that after a short stay in the States, he found out that he was no longer interested in pursuing maths or science. So he went to Taiwan to study languages instead. He got his Master's Degree in Linguistics from 輔仁大學語言學研究所 in 1971. I think he eventually got a PhD Degree in German, though I'm not too sure.

I lost contact with him again when I went to Canada in 1969. It was only in 1999 that we established contact again. Actually, it was either York or Yiu-Man or Richard who emailed me about Jerome. I phoned Jerome long-distance and talked to him several times. He was still very interested in classical music. He told me he was working for the HK Government as a translator.

We lost contact again until when I learned from one of our classmates that Jerome passed away suddenly. It was very shocking news. One morning, during office hours, he felt uncomfortable. In the afternoon, he went to the doctor and had some procedure performed. And he died there. I don't remember the cause of death. (See section on "possible cause of death".)

I remember receiving a document from the Shih family via one of our classmates. I was extremely impressed to learn that Jerome had a photographic memory. Unfortunately, I don't have that document anymore.

I'll always miss Jerome.

Wong Hin Shing
Jan 30, 2012

To the best of my knowledge, I have the following to add:

1. He was not formally trained at the piano, but he once played the first movement of the Moonlight sonata to me. I tried to follow, but no way.
2. He probably also went to Berkeley as I once met him when I paid a visit there.
3. He has been working as a Senior Consultant in the Hong Kong Productivity Council in Hong Kong until his passing away.
4. He was an expert in 錢鍾書 as he once translated 圍城 into German. (2008)

<http://www.amazon.co.uk/Die-umzingelte-Festung-Qian-Zhongshu/dp/3865550592>

<http://www.modernchineseliterature.net/writers/QianZhongShu/works-transworks-gb.jsp>

5. He was a big, big collector of classical music. I once visited his house in 又一居 and his bedrooms and living room were lined with shelves of classical music CD and

vinyl albums, must be more than 20,000. When I was there, he just received another box of vinyl albums from ??? We listened to Weingartner's Beethoven #3 (vinyl album) before I left him for good. I have always wondered what happened to this huge collection of his.

Hope this adds a little more to his RIP file.

Andrew Man

February 1, 2012

My brief reunion with Jerome was in HK 1990, when Yiu Man and I returned for our parents' funeral. As a 4-year junior to your class, I remember him but do not know him well. At that time he treated YM and me to a special Chao Zhou (?) restaurant.

I knew that Jerome was an ardent classical music lover. Ignorant about the German language, I learned from him that "Beet-hoven" means "beet vendor", which is a trivia but quite interesting as I didn't know that before. When I mentioned that I liked Schnabel's rendition of Beethoven's 5th piano concerto, he later gave me a CD recording of his performance. I still have it in my modest CD collection.

After an outing that year in HK with your classmates, they and YM visited his home. I did not join them because I badly needed some rest that evening. I regretted later for missing a chance to learn more from this eclectic scholar.

Like most of you, I was shocked when learning his sudden demise. Yes, high BP is a silent killer. As we are aging fast, we should be aware of the danger of hypertension. Relaxing the mind and body would be preferred to unrelenting drive in enjoying the latest chapter of our lives, which may be better extended.

Chan Yiu Kwok

February 2, 2012

I do know a bit more about Jerome. His huge collection of books and records have been accepted by HK Chinese U. I also have some copies of his correspondence with Chiang Chung-Hsu. Very erudite and impressive! I think I can say with some confidence that no other Wah Yan alumnus have mastered Chinese literature better than Jerome. (I am being conservative, the field can actually extend much beyond Wah Yan alumni.)

Paul Lee ('62), February 6, 2012

We write as Jerome Shih's classmates of Form 5A (1961 - 1962) & Form 6 Science (1962 - 1963).

We all have fond memories of Jerome: well-bred, good mannered, and gentlemanly.

He was an expert of Chinese literature and history. But he liked to study science subjects so much that he chose to repeat in Form 4, instead of going to Form 5 Arts Class. Maybe he admired his elder brother, who was in Form 7 Science, and excellent in mathematics.

In 1961, he won the first place of final examination of his Form 4 Class, and was awarded a scholarship on 1961 Wah Yan College, Kowloon speech day.

He had hard luck in his School Leaving Certificate Examination, with 5 credits - all grade 2, bordering distinctions!

He mixed well with us Form 5Aers: hosting us for whole day bridge games at his home, camping with us for 3 days in Lobster Bay (very remote in those days of 1962), and roaming hills and New Territories now and then together.

He left for United States university education in 1963 summer.

We threw great parties for him.

We all missed him very much.

Tong Yau Kan, Kevin ('62) on behalf of Raymond Lau, Paul Lee Lung-sang, Vincent Chu, Dunson Cheng Ka-Fat, Peter Sien, John Kwok Chun-Ping, Kenneth Lau, Desmond Lee

February 8, 2012

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(In response to Wong Hin Shing's appeal for information about the Classical Music Lovers' Association. See 1961 photo above)

A note about the Feb 2nd date. It is the birthday of Fritz Kreisler. As I recall, we were gathering in a record outlet on the HK side. We used to hang out there to buy LP or just to listen as it had small sound-proof rooms where one could actually listen in peace and quiet. I think we chose the date when we were there and someone -- it must have been Yiu-man -- pointed out that it was Fritz's birthday.

With respect to Jerome, I remember at one of our usual Saturday night gatherings, Jerome arrived and told us that he just had a conducting lesson. We were all quite puzzled. As it

turned out, he attended a concert in which Herbert von Karajan conducted the Vienna Phil. He immediately showed us a few of the techniques he observed. At that time, I never dreamt of our attending a real concert. He certainly was way ahead of most of us. I also have fond memories of our gathering at his house, in the room in the front of his house with those gigantic speakers and of course his knowledge and love of classical music.

It would be nice if someone still has a copy of the only one publication that the club produced. I believe Jerome wrote an article.

Tony Chow

February 12, 2012

E. Possible Cause of Death

After Hin-Shing's appeal for information about Jerome Shih, Chan Chi Kong wrote:

"I don't have any emails on Jerome's unfortunate passing. I attended his funeral and from what his relatives said, I believe he passed away because of aneurism (the inner wall of a blood vessel was broken, and the blood went between the inner and outer wall). I don't know much about this medical problem. Maybe someone can verify Jerome's case. If we can confirm that Jerome suffered from that problem Tak-Fu can surely explain the problem clearly." (Jan 30, 2012)

Tse Tak Fu responded:

"From your description it seems that he had rupture of the aorta which usually occurs suddenly in people with poorly controlled hypertension. It is an uncommon disease but well described. When it happens, the death rate is usually around seventy percent. Few lucky ones are rushed to hospital and are lucky enough to have successful repair of the aorta. Hypertension is the usual cause. Of course, old age contributes to weakening of the vessel wall. It may also be due to inborn weakness of the wall of the aorta. Patients suffering from this usually have associated abnormal external bony features, with long limbs like a spider man, the famous index person with this condition being Abraham Lincoln.

We should all watch our BP and keep it under control." (Jan 31, 2012)

Chi Kong acknowledged:

"Thanks Tak-Fu, for your clear expert explanation. So the problem wasn't aneurism (?) ... in Jerome's funeral I remember hearing his relatives mentioned his symptom was that the inner wall of a blood vessel was broken, and the blood went between the inner and outer wall ... Of course, this is based on my memory of Jerome's relatives' information and my interpretation of what they said. It's not confirmed." (Jan 31, 2012)

Tak Fu clarified:

"It is aneurysm, which literally means a defect in the inner wall of the vessel, leaking into the middle wall of the vessel which in this case the largest vessel of the body called the aorta. It is a form of rupture." (Jan 31, 2012)

(A note about the above article, from Paul Lee ('62): "The 'humorous' writing by him was written in 1965 and published in something called the Sempiterne, put out by the '62, 5A class. I am a bit surprised that you have that article. I dug that up in our class reunion ten years ago and passed it to my classmates. I still have the original mimeographed publication but I thought that the article is otherwise lost." "Sempiternel" is French for "everlasting," "forever." Fr Brosnan gave the club formed by the Class of 1962, 5A the name "Sempiterne Club"; its publication was called "Sempiternelet" and Jerome's article appeared in the April 1966 issue. – Fong-ying)

Works: an academic translation (<http://detail.bookuu.com/1463157.html>)

斐多(中英对照柏拉图对话录)

内容提要

《斐多》描绘苏格拉底受死当日与其门徒就生死、灵魂、智慧、快乐 等问题进行讨论。其对西方文化影响之深远，几乎没有另一本著作可以相比。杨绛先生的译文清新可读、充分还原了苏格拉底与其门徒平易家常的 对话风格，为中文世界贡献了一部文学价值与哲学价值并重的经典作品。

前言

柏拉图的对话录《斐多》，描绘的是哲人苏格拉底就义的当日，与其门徒就正义和不朽的讨论，以及饮鸩致死的过程。在西方文化中，论影响的深远，几乎没有另一本著作能与《斐多》相比。因信念而选择死亡，历史上这是第一宗。苏格拉底生在动荡的时代。伯罗奔尼撒的战事，令现存的价值观念受到了怀疑。从业石匠的苏格拉底，在雅典的市集内牵引市民参与讨论：什么才是正确的思想和行为。他开创了一个崭新的方法，后世称之为“接生法”：苏格拉底并不作长篇大论，而是提出问题，往返之间。令对手渐渐自缚于矛盾，而从困境中获得新见地。他于公元前 399 年在雅典受控被判死刑。从柏拉图另一对话录《辩护》中，我们得知他的罪名是误导青年、颠倒是非黑白。以及否定希腊传统神祇的存在。事实上，恐怕嫉妒和毁谤，才是他被控的主因。苏格拉底本人不曾留下文献。我们可以想知，柏拉图对话录中苏格拉底所说的话，不尽出于其口，其中有不少应是柏拉图借老师的口说话。《理想国》内最脍炙人口的意念论，即是其中一例。苏格拉底的风韵神态令门徒心仪，倒是显然易见的。而这种风韵和他的相貌无关，纯粹是心灵的外发力量。从另一对话录《酒会》中可以得知，他又胖又矮、相貌奇丑、酒量惊人、充满反讽，而非常能言善辩。在《斐多》中，苏格拉底予人的印象最为活泼而深刻。如果他要苟且偷生，大可以逃往其他城邦，或答应从此保持缄默，不再在雅典街头与人论道。但他不肯背叛他的信念。即在今日，他在就义前从容不惧，与门徒侃侃论

道的情景，仍然令人惊叹向往。在《斐多》中，苏格拉底一再呼唤他内在的“灵祇”指引他正直的途径。我们可以说，在西方文化史上，苏格拉底第一个发现了个人良知。对他来说，这个内在的声音并不囿于个人，而指向一个更高的层次，是人类共同的价值。哲学既是对智慧和正义的热爱，也就是团结人类社群和宇宙的义理定律。由此观之，哲学是幸福快乐不会枯竭的泉源，因此能战胜死亡。对苏格拉底的审判和他最后时刻的描述，到今天还是西方伦理学的基础。中国数千年的文化中，自然有不同的传统，但与西方文化也有很多相通的地方。不论在西方或中国，我们都应该感谢杨绛先生把《斐多》译成了中文。推动中西思想和意念的汇合和交流，《斐多》实在是一本最适当的经典著作。德国莫芝宜佳(博士、教授)敬序
史仁仲 译 (Translated from German)

END

Compiled by Wong Hin-Shing and Yu Fong-ying, February 13, 2012