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Music in Performance
(RAM - ARCH 225)

LENT (SUNDAY) PREFACE

The success of the current Arts Festival & the interest & participation in it wh. is body slam, does perhaps suggest that, after all, Hong Kong does have a soul - even though money-richness and stock-exchange speculation continue to absorb a lot of people's attention. I'm remembering a tag given to Hong Kong in a background briefing paper on the cities of Asia a few years ago, 'the city without a soul'. I remember too, a comment by a long-time resident here who was transferred to another Asian city by his firm - he particularly liked his new home, despite its obvious faults, for it was (he said) a country with a soul, s'th. HK hadn't got. I don't imagine such comments would please many officials here, or the small army of ad-men and P.R. experts who try to promote the image of HK as a progressive place of great achievements.

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