



British TV cat's ashes sell for US\$1,200 英國電視貓演員骨灰 以一千兩百美元成交

The cremated remains of a cat that appeared in the opening **credits** of Britain's longest-running television soap have sold for over £800 (US\$1,200), an auction house said last week.

For over a decade, viewers tuning in to *Coronation Street* were greeted with a clip of Frisky the cat crouching on a **pigeon** house.

The tabby beat 5,000 other cats to get the part in 1990, and he featured in more than 1,000 episodes of the show before he died ten years ago.

His ashes, sealed in a wooden box with a brass plaque, were put up for auction by the cat's owner and sold for more than four times the initial estimate.

After some **frenzied** bidding, the item went under the hammer for £700, and with the buyer's premium the total came to £844, Dominic Winter Auctioneers said.

Frisky was a favorite with viewers and made numerous public appearances to raise money for charity, and the auction sparked significant interest.

"He seems to be really well known," Chris Albury of Dominic Winter told AFP.

The winning bidder, who was not present at the auction, also gets a collection of nine postcards showing Frisky being cuddled by *Coronation Street* actors and a certificate of **authenticity**.

"It would make a nice cabinet display if you're a *Coronation Street* fan," said Albury. (AFP)

拍賣公司上週表示，英國最長壽電視劇片頭裡那隻貓咪的骨灰，已經以超過八百英鎊（一千兩百美元）的價格賣出。

曾有十年的時間，收看「加冕街」的觀眾總能在片頭看到貓咪「弗瑞斯基」蹲伏在鴿舍上的身影。

弗瑞斯基是隻斑貓，一九九〇年擊敗其他五千名競爭者得到演出機會，十年前去世的他，生前共參與過一千多集演出。

飼主把裝有弗瑞斯基骨灰的黃銅名牌木製骨灰盒拿出來拍賣，結果成交價是最初估計的四倍多。

多明尼克溫特拍賣公司表示，經過幾次激烈的競標後，該物件

以七百英鎊成交，加上買方需支付的費用，總成交價為八百四十四英鎊。

弗瑞斯基生前深受觀眾喜愛，並多次公開現身為慈善活動募款，因此這次拍賣十分引人關注。

多明尼克溫特拍賣公司的克里斯·阿爾伯尼向法新社表示：「他好像真的很紅。」

並未現身拍賣會場的得標者還獲得劇中演員擁抱弗瑞斯基的九張明信片組，及一張真品保證書。

阿爾伯尼說：「對『加冕街』的粉絲來說，那會是很棒的收藏。」 (法新社/翻譯：林倩如)

A handout picture obtained in London, on July 22, 2010, shows a box containing the ashes of a cat called Frisky, who featured in more than 1,000 episodes of Britain's longest-running soap opera *Coronation Street*. PHOTO: AFP

這張七月二十二日攝於倫敦的照片中，是貓咪「弗瑞斯基」的骨灰盒。他生前曾演出英國最長壽肥皂劇「加冕街」一千多集。 照片：法新社

TODAY'S WORDS 今日單字

1. credit /'kredɪt/ n.

片頭（或片尾）字幕 (pian4 tou2 huo4 pian4 wei3 zi4 mu4)

例：Allen was surprised to see his name omitted from the movie's credits. (艾倫看到自己的名字沒被打上電影字幕感到很意外。)

2. pigeon /'pɪdʒɪn/ n.

鴿子 (ge1 zi5)

例：The city council launched a campaign to eradicate pigeons from the town square. (市議會發起了城市廣場滅鴿活動。)

3. frenzied /'frenziəd/ adj.

癡狂的 (feng1 kuang2 de5)

例：There was frenzied media coverage of the royal wedding. (媒體癡狂報導那場皇室婚禮。)

4. authenticity /,ɔθə'nɪtɪsəti/ n.

真實性 (zhen1 shi2 xing4)

例：Experts have questioned the authenticity of the letter. (專家們質疑那封信的真實性。)