



YUAN Qiufeng 袁秋楓 (1924.7.15–year of decease unknown)

Director, Screenwriter, Producer

A native of Lujiang, Anhui, Yuan was born in Harbin. After graduating from the Faculty of Economics and Politics of China University in Beijing, he worked as a reporter during the war. Yuan worked for a newspaper after coming to Hong Kong in 1950 and wrote novels in his spare time. He later became the assistant director to Ma Xu Weibang and scripted his Amoy-dialect works *Lady Hoon Escapes* (1956) and *A Wronged Maiden* (1957). Yuan made his directorial debut with the Amoy-dialect film *Bandidos* (1956) and subsequently shot 20-plus Amoy-dialect titles, including *Nonya of Malaya* (1959), *Nana* (1959) and *Miss Singapore* (1959). He also filmed a Chaozhou-dialect feature, *A Merchant Divorces His Wife* (1960).

Yuan joined Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd in 1959 and directed Amoy-dialect films such as *Always in My Heart* (1960) and *Agent No. 33* (1961); Cantonese titles such as *Revolutionary Heroine* (1960) and *Duel in Black Dragon Street* (1961). Ma Xu's last work, *The Serpent and the Lovers* (1961) was also penned by Yuan. He later switched to make Mandarin films and shot *Mid-Nightmare* (Part One and Two, 1962-63), written by Ma Xu before his passing; *Dream of the Red Chamber* (1962), scripted by his wife Yi Fan; *The Black Forest* (1964) and *Songfest* (1965). In 1964, Yuan left Shaws for Motion Picture and General Investment Co Ltd (MP&GI) (later restructured into Cathay Organisation [HK] [1965] Ltd). His first film there was *Lady on the Moon* (1966), followed by seven other titles, including the extravagant epic *A Debt of Blood* (1966). Later he founded Golden Eagle Film Company with Kelly Lai Chen and Betty Loh Ti and directed a number of *wuxia* titles, such as *The Wandering Swordsman* (1968) and *The Lightning Sword* (1969). Yuan returned to Shaws in 1970 as the production manager of the studio, in replacement of Raymond Chow. He retired from the film industry three years later to embark on a career in publishing.