



HE Yalu 何亞祿 (1901–1982.9.16)

Distributor, Management Personnel

Born in British New Guinea (now Papua New Guinea), He Yalu graduated from The University of Hong Kong with a degree in Mechanical Engineering. Prior to that, he had studied in Edinburgh, England and Penang, Malaya respectively. He first got involved in film exhibition and distribution in 1926. In 1948, his cinema chains were incorporated into the newly formed International Theatre Ltd, a subsidiary of Cathay Organisation in Singapore, which was later expanded to be known as Loke's Theatre Ltd. He was appointed head of Loke's Theatre and as department head of the film scheduling unit, as well as board director-manager of Cathay the same year. He founded Keris Studio and teamed up with Loke Wan Tho in 1953 to form Cathay Keris Film Productions, producing a number of Malay films including Singapore and Malaysia's first colour film, *Bamboo of Yearning* (1953), the box-office hit *The Vampire* (1957) and the first widescreen feature *Curse of the Vampire* (1958). An excellent producer, He held the key to Cathay's success in film production, contributing his 30-year knowledge in film exhibition, distribution and production to the company.

In 1959, he left Cathay to establish Independent Film Company and co-produce films with Indonesian companies. He was also credited as writer-director for *Every Cloud Has a Silver Lining*. He passed away of illness on 16 September 1982.