



Andrew LAU 劉偉強 (b. 1960.4.4)

Producer, Director, Cinematographer

Born in Hong Kong, Lau grew up in a walled village in Yuen Long, and he developed a keen interest in photography since young. He joined the photography unit of Shaw Brothers (HK) Limited in 1981, and apprenticed under cinematographer Peter Ngor. The first film he took part in was Lau Kar-leung's *Legendary Weapons of China* (1982). He then left Shaws with Ngor, and participated in productions of different film companies as assistant cinematographer. His first credit as cinematographer was *Mr. Vampire* (1985). He also worked the cameras for such films as *City on Fire* (1987), *As Tears Go By* (1988) and *News Attack* (1989).

In 1990, Lau made his directorial debut with *Against All*, and later directed *The Ultimate Vampire* (1991), *Rhythm of Destiny* (1992), *Ghost Lantern* (1993), *To Live and Die in Tsimshatsui* (1994) and *Lover of the Last Empress* (1995). He then directed *Young and Dangerous* (1996), an adaptation of Man Kai-ming and Dickey Yau's comic book. The film grossed over HK\$21 million dollars and paved the way for the trend of comic-to-film adaptations.

In 1995, Lau co-founded BoB & Partners Co with Wong Jing and Manfred Wong to shoot sequels *Young and Dangerous II* and *III* (both 1996). The films again enjoyed box-office success. He continued to head the production and cinematography for the subsequent instalments of the series until 2000. In 1998, his CGI epic *The Storm Riders* became the year's top-grosser and the next year, he followed up with a similar venture, *A Man Called Hero* (1999).

Lau was chief operations officer at Teamwork Productions in 2001. During his tenure, he directed *Dance of a Dream* (2001). He founded Basic Pictures Limited in 2002 to produce and co-direct *Infernal Affairs* with Alan Mak. He displayed his brilliant cinematography in this intense drama. It grossed over HK\$55 million in box-office sales, and won Best Feature Film at the 40th Golden Horse Awards and Best Film at the 22nd Hong Kong Film Awards. Along with Alan Mak, he also won the Golden Horse and Hong Kong Film Award Best Director with the same film. The film was later remade by Hollywood director Martin Scorsese as *The Departed* (2006). The Lau-Mak duo went on to direct the prequel *Infernal Affairs II* and *III* (both 2003).

The duo also collaborated on the blockbusters *Initial D* (2005) and *Confession of Pain* (2006). The former was adapted from a Japanese comic and was a high grosser at the local and Asian box office, which helped Lau to tap into the international market. He later shot the South Korean film *Daisy* (2006) and his Hollywood debut *The Flock* (2007), followed by *Revenge of the Green Dragons* (2014), which was produced by Martin Scorsese. He then switched his focus to the Mainland market, directing such works as *Legend of the Fist: The Return of Chen Zhen* (2010), *A Beautiful Life* (2011), his first 3D movie *The Guillotines* (2012), *The Founding of an Army* (2017), *Kung Fu Monster* (2019) and *The Captain* (2019).
