

## Andy LAU 劉德華 (b. 1961.9.27)

## Actor, Producer, Executive Producer, Singer

Born in Hong Kong, Lau is a native of Xinhui, Guangdong. He graduated from the Television Broadcasts Limited's (TVB) performing artist training programme in 1981. Soon after, he made his film debut with *Once Upon a Rainbow* (1982). He also earned praise for his performance in Ann Hui's *Boat People* (1982). In the same period, Lau started to become a prominent TV actor.

Lau continued to work in film while furthering his career in television, appearing in works like Home at Hong Kong (1983), Everlasting Love (1984) and The Unwritten Law (1985). His performances put him on the map in the film industry. He acted in a wide range of films, including comedies The Crazy Companies 2 (1988) and Don't Fool Me (1991); cops-and-robbers films Proud and Confident (1989) and Long Arm of the Law, Part III (1989); gambling flicks Casino Raiders (1989), God of Gamblers (1989) and God of Gamblers 2 (1990); gangster films Sworn Brothers (1987) and Rich and Famous (1987). He also played the young heroic gangster and enabled elements of romance to be incorporated into mob films—As Tears Go By (1988) and A Moment of Romance (1990) are great examples. When 'big timer' biopics became prevalent, he was cast in Lee Rock (1991) and Lee Rock II (1991), which marked the first time Lau played a character from youth to old age.

In addition to appearing on screen, Lau established Teamwork Motion Pictures Limited in 1991 with David Lai, Daniel Yu and Chan Pui-wah. Films produced by Teamwork include *Saviour of the Soul* (1991), *Days of Tomorrow* (1993) and *A Fighter's Blues* (2000).

During the mid-1990s, Lau made less film appearances. In 1999, his performance in Johnnie To's crime thriller, *Running Out of Time*, earned him the Best Actor accolade at the 19th Hong Kong Film Awards. From there, Lau started to break free from his idol image to become an actor, probing into the inner psyche of his characters. Lau was crowned Best Actor again at the Hong Kong Film Awards for his performance in *Running on Karma* (2003) and *A Simple Life* (2012). Starting in 2003, Lau frequently acted in Mainland and Western co-productions, including the Feng Xiaogang's *A World Without Thieves* (2004), Jacob Cheung's *A Battle of Wits* (a Mainland-Japanese-Korean co-production, 2006), and Peng Sanyuan's *Lost and Love* (2016).

As a film producer, Lau was committed to support new directors, such as providing financial assistance for Fruit Chan to direct *Made in Hong Kong* (1997). He also launched the 'Focus: First Cuts' project in 2005 which helped fund six young Asian directors to showcase their works including the popular and critically acclaimed *Crazy Stone* (2006). Lau is also a superstar in singing. With his debut record in 1985, Lau launched a successful singing career that spans decades with numerous works and concerts, endearing himself to massive number of fans.