

## Betty LOH Ti 樂蒂 (1937.7.24-1968.12.27)

## Actress

A native of Pudong, Loh was born in Shanghai with the original name Xi Zhongyi. She was the younger sister of actor Kelly Lai Chen. Her parents died when she was young and Loh was brought up by her maternal grandmother. Her maternal grandfather Gu Zhuxuan was the owner of an opera house in Shanghai, and she developed a passion in acting at a young age. Loh came to Hong Kong with her grandmother in 1949. She joined The Great Wall Movie Enterprises Ltd as a staple actress in 1953 and made her debut in *The Peerless Beauty* (1953). She switched to work for Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd in 1958 and shot to stardom with *The Enchanting Shadows* (1960). She was known by the epithet the 'Classic Beauty'. In 1963, she won the 2nd Golden Horse Best Actress Award with *The Love Eterne* (1963) in Taiwan. Her other prominent works in this period include *The Deformed* (1960) and *Sons of Good Earth* (1965), etc.

When her contract with Shaws came to an end in 1964, she joined Motion Picture and General Investment Co Ltd ([MP & GI], which later restructured into Cathay Organisation [HK] [1965]) and took part in a number of productions, including *The Beggar's Daughter* (1965), *The Longest Night* (1965), *The Lucky Purse* (1966), *A Debt of Blood* (1966), *The Magic Fan* (1967) and *Darling Stay at Home* (1968). In 1967, Loh formed Golden Eagle Film Co with her brother, Kelly Lai Chen and director Yuan Qiufeng. The company made a number of *wuxia* features, such as *Duel at the Supreme Gate* (1968) and *The Wandering Swordsman* (1968). The films were distributed by MP & GI.

Loh married Peter Chen Ho in 1962 but the pair got divorced in 1967. Loh overdosed on sleeping pills and died in 1968.