



CHING Li 井莉 (1945.10.29–2017.12.9)

Actress

Immigrated to Taiwan from Shanghai as a child and a native of Jinan, Shandong, Ching Li's father was the famous actor Ching Miao. Ching moved to Hong Kong after finishing secondary school in Taiwan and studied at Chu Hai College. She joined Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd in 1967 and made her screen debut playing a supporting character in *The Thundering Sword* (1967). She was cast in a major role immediately afterwards in the melodrama film *My Dream Boat* (1967), before soaring into the ranks of leading roles in *Mist Over Dream Lake* (1968) and *When the Clouds Roll By* (1968), winning a special award at the 7th Golden Horse Awards in Taiwan for her brilliant performance in the latter film.

Ching made her mark in several melodrama films while acting in martial arts films, including *Mission Impossible* (1971) directed by Joseph Kuo Nan-hung. In the same year, she acted in director Chang Cheh's *The Anonymous Heroes* (1971), co-starring with John (David) Chiang and Ti Lung for the first time, which sparked a merry actor-director collaboration that continued with *Duel of Fists* (1971), *The Angry Guest* (1972), *Four Riders* (1972) and the wildly popular *The Blood Brothers* (1973). She also starred alongside Chan Koon-tai in *The Boxer from Shantung* (1972) and *Warrior of Steel* (1972), co-directed by Chang Cheh and Pao Hsueh-li. Ching made an appearance among the all-star ensemble cast in *The House of 72 Tenants* (1973) directed by Chor Yuen, followed by his *Sex, Love and Hate* (1974). Since then, she was cast by Chor Yuen repeatedly to play the refined beauty in his new romantic era martial arts films, roles in which she shone brilliantly, including *Killer Clans* (1976), *The Magic Blade* (1976), *Swordsman and Enchantress* (1978), *Return of the Sentimental Swordsman* (1981). She was also seen in Chor Yuen's *The Forbidden Past* (1979).

Ching acted in various types of films over the years, from quiet drama and rousing action, period to modern films. She was also in the comedy *Intrigue in Nylons* (1972) directed by Kuei Chih-hung. In *Ripples* (1970) directed by Lo Chen, she learned how to row just to better portray her character. In the early 1980s, she was loaned to Taiwan by Shaws where she shot many gambling-themed films, such as *The Gambler & the Fake* (1981, Taiwan) and *The Stunning Gambling* (1982, Taiwan). Her last film appearance was in *Shaolin and Wutang* (1983). Ching worked for Shaws from the day she stepped foot in the industry, a relationship that lasted almost 14 years, appearing in more than 50 films.

After acting in Taiwan TV series *The Jade Buddha's Heart Lamp* and *The Legend of Chu Liuxiang: The Legend of the Orchid* in the mid-1980s, Ching faded out of the show business. She died of illness on 9 December 2017.