



CHOW Chung 周驄 (1932.9.16–2025.7.4)

Actor

Chow Chung was born Sin Kam-wing in Hong Kong, with ancestral roots in Panyu, Guangdong. Chow's father was a seaman who died young of illness, leaving Chow and his two brothers to be raised by their mother alone. During the War of Resistance, the family moved to Macau where the boys were educated. After returning to Hong Kong, Chow worked as a waiter and a department store salesperson. In 1955, he joined Lan Kwong Film Company and made his film debut in *Broken-Zither Bower* (1955). He later joined Sun Luen Film Company through an introduction by Tai Ping Theatre manager Wong Hing-wah. After leaving Sun Luen, he signed a contract with Sun Ngee Motion Picture Production Company. As Cantonese films boomed in the 1960s, Chow worked with several directors including Chun Kim, Ng Wui, Lee Fa, Lee Sun-fung and Chor Yuen. Chow starred in films including *He is a Rare and Passionate Lover* (1962), *So Siu Siu* (1962), *Between Hate and Love* (1963), *When Spring Appears* (1963), *A Private Affair* (1963), *The Dreadnaught* (1966) and *Colourful Partners* (1968), winning praise for his portrayals of gentle and sincere young men.

Early in his career, Chow met and learned filmmaking from Lee Sun-fung. In 1969, Chow partnered with Lee Sun-fung and his son, Lee Sil-hong, to establish Modern Film Company, making films such as *Cast Love* (1969), *Four Girls From Hong Kong* (1972), and *The Loner* (1972). In the 1970s, Chow served as assistant director to Lee Sun-fung for *The Best Friends* (1976) and *The Devil Husband* (1978). He also starred in the Lok Lam Films Company comedy, *The Sausage Chase* (1978), produced by Liza Wang.

As Cantonese films began to decline in the 1970s, Chow turned to television, appearing in Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) series such as *Conflict* (1978), *Yesterday's Glitter* (1980), and *The Shell Game* (1980). Soon after, he stepped away from the screen, working at different times at Silver Cinema and a duty-free shop. In the 1990s, Chow made an onscreen comeback, appearing in films such as *Cageman* (1992), the *Love Undercover* series (2002–2006), and *77 Heartwarmings* (2021). His final film appearance was in *Time* (2021). In 1998, Chow rejoined TVB at almost 70 years old, appearing in numerous series, including *A Taste of Love* (2001) and *Heart of Greed* (2007), *Moonlight Resonance* (2008) and *Heart and Greed* (2017). His frequent portrayals of kind and amiable senior citizens earned him the nickname 'TVB's Designated Grandpa' among locals. In 2016, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the TVB Anniversary Awards.

In addition to his onscreen work, Chow served as chairman of the South China Film Industry Workers Union for three separate terms. He officially retired in 2020 and passed away from illness in Hong Kong on 4 July 2025.
