



CHEUNG Ying 張瑛 (1919–1984.12.14)

Actor, Director

A Fujian native, Cheung was born in Hong Kong with the original name Cheung Yik-sang. He shared the accolade the 'Movie King of South China' with Ng Cho-fan and was known as the 'Actor with a Thousand Faces' for his versatility in acting. Cheung studied at Wah Yan College and was fond of acting at a young age. Through Jackson Sum Kat-sing, he made his screen debut with Muk Si-ying's *The Glowing Pearl* (1937). He then joined Grandview Film Company Limited and starred in *Shanghai under Fire* (1938), *Poor Souls* (1940) and *Shadow over Shanghai* (1941).

He fled to Guangzhouwan during Japanese occupation and performed in a theatre troupe with filmmakers such as Ng Cho-fan, Tse Yik-chi and Wong Man-lei to make ends meet, before settling temporarily in Guilin. Cheung returned to Hong Kong after the war and took part in celebrated works *Everlasting Regret* (1948), *Dawn Must Come* (1950), *Step-mother* (1951), *The Prodigal Son* (1952), *A Mother Remembers* (1953), etc.

In 1952, he founded The Union Film Enterprise Ltd with like-minded film workers and starred in its inaugural production, *Family* (1953). Supported by business magnate Ho Yin, Cheung later established the Oversea Chinese Film Co with Tse Yik-chi and put out its inaugural feature, *Thunderstorm* (1957). He then set up Hoover Film Co and produced a number of works including *Fake Saviour* (1962). He made his directorial debut in 1956 with *A Peaceful Family will Prosper*, followed by some ten other titles such as *Driver No. 7* (1958), *The Night of Spirit Returns* (1962), *Story of the Sword and the Sabre* (in two parts, 1963) and *Cash Sweep First Prize* (1964).

Cheung joined Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd in the late 1960s. In the 1970s, he ventured into the television industry but continued to act in films. He died of a stroke on 14 December 1984 after completing the shoot of Stephen Shin's *Love Me and My Dad* (1988) in Toronto, Canada.