

Clarence FOK 霍耀良 (1960-2024.2.1)

Director, Actor, Producer

A native of Shanghai and born in Hong Kong, Fok graduated from the Department of Design of the Hong Kong Polytechnic, and was already a devoted experimental filmmaker in his student years. He joined the production assistant training programme at Rediffusion Television (RTV) in 1978, and was the production assistant of the television series *In Cold Blood* (1978). He then joined Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) in the following year and participated in the writing and directing of *Conflict* (1978), *The Passenger* (1979), *The Good, the Bad and the Ugly* (1979), *The Bund* (1980) and *Five Easy Pieces* (1980). In 1980, while he was working at TVB, Fok made his directorial debut with *The Man from Vietnam*; the film premiered in 1982. *Job Hunter* (1981), starring teen stars Danny Chan and Leslie Cheung, was his first public release. In the same year, Fok was promoted to producer at TVB, producing such dramas as *My Little Darling* (1981), *No One is Innocent* (1981), and *In the Same Boat* (1983).

After he left TVB, Fok dedicated himself to the film industry. Known for his excellent handling of action scenes and his evocative imagery, Fok has directed many high-grossing films, including *The Greatest Lover* (1988), *Iceman Cometh* (1989), *The Dragon from Russia* (1990)—the first Hong Kong film shot on location in Moscow—*Gun n' Rose* (1992), and *Naked Killer* (1992).

Fok was associate producer for *New Mr. Vampire* (1986) and *No Compromise* (1988); he had also served as creative planning producer for Johnny Mak Production Ltd. In the late 1990s, he shifted his focus and directed for Wong Jing's Production Limited, releasing films such as *Century of the Dragon* (1999).

Apart from directing, Fok also produced *Chicken a la Queen* (1990), *Touches of Love* (1994), and *Let's Go Slam Dunk* (1994). Besides, he appeared as an actor in *Let's Make Laugh II* (1985), *Naughty Boys* (1986), *That Enchanting Night* (1987), and *Happy Go Lucky* (1987).

After 2000s, Fok shifted his focus to producing television series in the Mainland. For example, he participated in the production of *Seven Swordsmen* (2005), *Take Care of You, Accompanied by the Lights* (2009) and *Love of Seven Fairy Maidens* (2010). He also directed two films in 2013, namely *Together* and *Special ID*. In 2014, he produced the supernatural period drama *The Monkey King* (2014), which starred Donnie Yen. Four years later, he collaborated with Wong Jing's Mega-Vision Project Workshop Limited to produce the drama series *The Great Adventurer Wesley* (2018). Fok passed away in Hong Kong on 1 February 2024.