



DOE Ching 陶秦 (1915–1969.5.16)

Screenwriter, Director

A native of Cixi, Zhejiang with the original name Qin Fuji, Doe graduated from the Faculty of Chinese Literature at St. John's University in Shanghai and worked as a cinema translator to translate synopsis and film dialogues. During the War of Resistance against Japan, he began using the pseudonym 'Doe Ching' to publish his translation works. Because of his excellent script for the adaptation of the western film *The Letter*, he was invited by Zhang Shankun to join China United Film Holdings Company Ltd (Huaying) as the chief screenwriter. His first work there was *The Guiding Vessel* (1943). Doe left the industry after the war, but returned in 1946 as a screenwriter when Central Motion Picture Company resumed productions in Shanghai. In the next four years, he wrote six scripts for various film companies, including *Flying Orioles* (1946), a musical film shot in Shanghai, and the Hong Kong-made *wenyi* film, *The Unmarried Mother* (1949). Zhang Shankun later invited Doe to join him at Great Wall Pictures Corporation (later restructured as The Great Wall Movie Enterprises Ltd), a new company founded by Zhang in Hong Kong. He first scripted the comedy *Awful Truth* (1950), then wrote and directed *Father Marries Again* (1952), which marked the starting point of Doe as both a screenwriter and director. After completing *Aren't the Kids Lovely?* (1953), *Night and Every Night* (1953) and other excellent works, Doe joined Shaw & Sons Ltd in 1952. There he wrote and directed a dozen or so films, including *A Song to Remember* (1953), *The Third Life* (1954), *Shadow in Her Heart* (1954), *Beyond the Grave* (1954), *The Error* (1956), *A Lonely Heart* (1956) and *A Married Woman's Secret* (1956).

Doe joined Motion Picture and General Investment Co Ltd (MP & GI) in 1956, where he shot more than ten films. Among these works, *Our Sister Hedy* (1957) won Best Film at the 5th Asian Film Festival. His other famous works included *Surprise* (1956), *Little Darling* (1958), *Calendar Girl* (1959), *The More the Merrier* (1959) and *Wedding Bells for Hedy* (1959). In 1959, Doe returned to Shaws, which was restructured as Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd at the time; and directed about 20 films, including *Les Belles* (1961), which won Best Director at the 1st Golden Horse Awards in Taiwan; *Love Parade* (1963), which bagged Best Comedy at the 10th Asian Film Festival; and *The Blue and The Black* (1966) which was awarded Best Film at the 13th Asian Film Festival. His other well-known works included *Love Without End* (1961) and *My Dream Boat* (1967). Doe directed his first *wuxia* film *Twin Blades of Doom* in 1969, but died of gastric cancer on 16 May before it was completed. The film was finished by Griffin Yue Feng. Doe directed around 50 films over the span of his career, churning out mainly *wenyi* and musical films.