



Ekin CHENG 鄭伊健 (b. 1967.10.4)

Actor, Singer

Born in Hong Kong, Cheng is a native of Enping, Guangdong Province. He was admitted into the Television Broadcasts Limited's (TVB) performing artist training programme in 1986. He started to come into limelight after appearing in an advertisement for beverages. In 1987, he participated in the New Talent Singing Awards but was left empty-handed. That same year, he made his TV screen debut with the drama *Young Beat* (1987), and became known to the audience after starring in *A Time of Taste* (1990) and *The Zu Mountain Saga* (1991). In 1991, he signed with Bertelsmann Music Group (BMG) Hong Kong and kicked-start his singing career.

Cheng's debut film was *Girls Without Tomorrow 1992* (1992). He was then taken under Wong Jing's wing to act in *Future Cops* (1993), as well as *Return to a Better Tomorrow* (1994) and *Mean Street Story* (1995). In 1996, he starred in *Young and Dangerous*, a comic-to-film adaptation directed by Andrew Lau. The movie scored over HK\$21 million at the box office. His cool and detached portrayal of Chan Ho-nam, an emerging gangster, successfully won audience support and catapulted him to idol status. In 2018, he and the same string of actors from the *Young and Dangerous* series appeared again in *Golden Job* (2018). He also co-starred with Sammi Cheng in *Feel 100%* (1996) and *Feel 100%.....Once More* (1996), both light-hearted romances based on comics. These box-office hits established him as a bankable star.

Since 1997, Cheng signed on a contract with Golden Harvest (HK) Limited, and then with China Star Entertainment Ltd. During the period he took on the lead in *The Storm Riders* (1998) and *A Man Called Hero* (1999), both adaptations from comic books. His brilliant interpretation of the two characters, Nie Feng and Hero Hua, won popular acclaim and became his iconic roles for the audience. Around a decade later, he acted again in the sequel *The Storm Warriors* (2009). His other box-office hits include *Hot War* (1998) and *The Duel* (2000).

After 2000s, Cheng appeared in several action flicks such as *Tokyo Raiders* (2000), *Running Out of Time 2* (2001), *Divergence* (2005); as well as comedy *My Wife is 18* (2002), thriller *Leave Me Alone* (2004), and wenyi film *Claustrophobia* (2009). In his subsequent films *Goodbye Mr. Cool* (2001), *Heavenly Mission* (2006) and *Once a Gangster* (2010), he played various gangster roles who all share a desire to leave the game. In 2008, he, along with Shawn Yue, won the Best Actor Award at the 12th Puchon International Fantastic Film Festival for his role in *Rule #1* (2008). His other film credits include *Saving General Yang* (2013), *Break Up 100* (2014), *Full Strike* (2015) and *Love Illusion* (2018).
