



Eric TSANG 曾志偉 (b. 1953.4.14)

Actor, Director, Producer

A native of Wuhua, Guangdong, Tsang was born in Hong Kong. He had a short stint as a professional soccer player before working as a martial arts stuntman at Shaw Brothers Studio along with Sammo Hung. In 1974, he followed Lau Kar-leung's team to join Chang Cheh's film company in Taiwan, and returned to Hong Kong in 1976. Tsang then worked as screenwriter and assistant director for Lau Kar-leung, Sammo Hung and Jackie Chan in companies such as Shaw Brothers and Golden Harvest. Introduced to Karl Maka by Lau, Tsang and Maka co-wrote the action comedy *Dirty Tiger, Crazy Frog!* in 1978. Tsang made his directorial debut next year with *The Challenger* (1979).

In 1980, Tsang was invited by Maka to join Cinema City. He became a member of the 'Team of Seven', participating in story creation. He soon directed the record shattering *Aces Go Places* (1982) and *Aces Go Places II* (1983), while he also produced a number of movies that explored different filmmaking approaches, including the thriller *He Lives by Night* (1982), *Till Death Do We Scare* (1982), which applied western style make-up and special effects, and the fresh comedy *My Little Sentimental Friend* (1984).

Tsang left Cinema City in 1985 and became a pivotal figure in Hung's Bo Ho Films. He was the associate producer for such films as *Mr. Vampire* (1985) and *My Lucky Stars* (1985). In 1987, Tsang co-founded Alan & Eric Films Co. Ltd. with Alan Tam and Teddy Robin. The film company was not exceptionally productive, but it was ambitiously experimental, producing such works as Clara Law's directorial debut *The Other 1/2 & the Other 1/2* (1988) and Patrick Tam's *Burning Snow* (Taiwan: 1987; Hong Kong: 1988). Tsang was the associate producer for the latter film. Tsang later established Children's Town and Friend Cheers, presenting some edgy films such as *Kawashima Yoshiko* (1990) and *Farewell China* (1990). In the early 1990s, Tsang founded United Filmmakers Organization (UFO) and presented the refreshing *Tom, Dick & Hairy* (1993), *Twenty Something* (1994), *He's a Woman, She's a Man* (1994) and *Mack the Knife* (1995), etc.

From the '*Lucky Stars*' series to *The Romancing Star* (1984), Tsang's comedic image was deeply engraved in the mind of the audience. His acting skills were also widely praised. He won Best Actor and Best Supporting Actor at the Hong Kong Film Awards with *Alan & Eric: Between Hello and Goodbye* (1991) and *Comrades, Almost a Love Story* (1996) respectively. Later in the new millennium, he garnered the Best Supporting Actor and Best Actor at the 36th Hong Kong Film Awards and the 1st Malaysia Golden Global Awards (MGGA) respectively, for his role in *Mad World* (2017).

Tsang has been actively involved in grooming new talent. Apart from funding new directors, he also served as producer in their films. In 2017, he picked up the Lifetime Achievement Award at the New York Asian Film Festival and Italy's Far East Film Festival.
