



FUNG Chi-Kong 馮志剛 (1911.12.4–1988.11.18)

Screenwriter, Director

Fung, alias Fung Ting-fan, was born in Guangzhou. A native of Panyu County, Guangdong Province. Screenwriter Fung Yat-wai is his younger brother, and the two of them had been long-time collaborators. After attending the Politics and Journalism College in Guangzhou, he obtained a job in the Guangdong Radio Station in Shanghai. In 1930, Fung joined the Screenwriting Unit of Shanghai's Dachangcheng Film Company, and had participated in the shooting of films including *Dark Shadow* (1932). In 1933, he directed the first Mainland Amoy-dialect movie, *Madam Chen*, for Ji'nan Film Company in Shanghai.

The following year, Fung came to Hong Kong to work for Feng Huang Motion Picture Co as a screenwriter and director, before continuing working for different film studios. In 1937, he directed the anti-war film *Battle on Burnt Ground* (1937), his first film shot in Hong Kong. Before the fall of Hong Kong, he had also made some well-received opera films such as *Why Not Return?* (1940) and *The Red Bean Ballad* (1941).

Fung's output was prolific; he made around 200 films between 1937 and 1970, one-third of which he had written himself, including *The Impeachment of Yim Sung* (1952), *Liang Hongyu's Victory at Huangtiantang* (1961) and *The Romantic Pipa Tune* (1962). His modern-dress films include *Return of the Swallows* (1948), *Life Debt of Our Children* (1949) and *A Nagging Wife Meets Her Fierce Mother-in-Law* (1956).

On 1 June 1963, Fung, together with directors Wong Toi, Mok Hong-si, Lung To, Wu Pang, Lee Tit, Ng Wui, Wong Hok-sing, Lo Yu-kei and Chu Kea, decided to become sworn brothers; they were touted as one of the 'Top Ten Directors' in Hong Kong at the time.

Fung was also a founder of several film companies, including Liuliu, Sanyou and Lida. His last film before retiring from the film industry was a *wuxia* actioner titled *Crack the Dragon Gate* (co-directed with Ng Wui, 1970). After making his exit from the film industry, Fung assisted his daughter in setting up garment factories. He passed away in Hong Kong in 1988.