



## HU Tong 胡同 ( Year of birth unknown-1968.12.26 )

### Actor, Lyricist, Composer, Director

Born Hu Xunfa, also known as Hu Feng, Hu Tong was a native of Tong'an in Fujian province. In the early 1950s, he served as the manager of the newly established Nanfeng Film Company. He was responsible for the release of box-office hits *Tang Bohu's Seduction of Qiuxiang* (aka *Tong Peck Hor Tiam Chiu Heong*) (Part 1 & 2, 1952-53), with Hu himself also playing supporting roles in the films. With *The Romance of Lychee and Mirror* (Part 1-3, 1953-54), Hu began to star in leading roles. He would come to perform in over 100 Amoy-dialect films, most of them were in supporting roles, but occasionally Hu also played the films' protagonists. Besides acting, Hu tried his hand at various roles behind-the-scenes, serving as assistant director in *An Orphan's Tears* (1957), as well as composing lyrics for the songs featured in *Lian San Pak Chok Yin Tai* (aka *The Butterfly Lovers*, 1955), *Two Sisters in a Turbulent World* (aka *Sisters Two*, 1957) and *Honeymoon Hiccups* (1958). Sometimes Hu would don multiple hats at the same time, working as screenwriter, assistant director, composer and actor in films including *Story of the White Fan* (1958), *Choosing a Son-in-Law* (1958) and *The Driver Takes a Wife* (aka *Phony Phoenixes*, 1959), which made him a versatile and multi-talented filmmaker. With the decline in Amoy-dialect films, Hu joined Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd as a regular player in 1965 and performed in Mandarin films such as *The Perfumed Arrow* (1966), *The Trail of the Broken Blade* (1967), *Susanna* (1967), *The Assassin* (1967) and more.

Amoy-dialect film star Xiao Wen was his ex-wife; his second wife was another Amoy-dialect film actress, Marie (alias Ma Li) from Taiwan. Hu died of cerebral hemorrhage while filming *The Singing Escort* (1969) for the Shaw Brothers in Japan.