



Kenneth TSANG Kong 曾江 (1934.10.5–2022.4.27)

Actor, Director, Executive Producer

Born Tsang Wing-kong (alias Tsang Koon-yat) in Shanghai, a native of Zhongshan, Guangdong; Tsang moved to Hong Kong in 1948. Film star Jeanette Lin Tsui was his younger sister. He made his film debut *Tragedy of Vendetta* (1955) when he was in Form Five and then acted in *Love Is Everywhere* (1956). He studied architecture at the University of California, Berkeley. He returned to Hong Kong after graduating in 1961 and worked as an architect for three years before re-entering the film industry in 1964. He starred in the Mandarin film *The Big Circus* (1964), directed by Chun Kim (Jeanette Lin's husband), making him one of the new rising stars.

Tsang then signed a contract with Hong Kong Film Company as a basic actor. He played characters across different genres, from the period martial arts films *A Brave Young Girl's Spirit* (*Parts One* and *Two*, 1965) to the contemporary action film trilogy that started with *The Black Musketeer 'F'* (1966), co-starring Suet Nei. Also, he appeared in films of different companies then. He was the lead actor in many films in the 1960s and 1970s, such as *Adventure in Fishing Harbour* (1967) which he co-starred with Connie Chan Po-chu; and *The Gilded Cage* (1968) with Josephine Siao Fong-fong. He acted in multiple films by renowned directors, such as *Lovely Husbands* (1969), directed by Chor Yuen; *Teddy Girls* (1969), directed by Patrick Lung Kong. He played Ling Wan-kai in several films in the Wong Fei-hung series from 1967 to 1969.

Tsang's film career continued to flourish through the 1970s. With the decline of Cantonese films, he went to Taiwan to make films, including *The Brave of the Evil* (1971) and *Where Have the Lovers Gone* (1975). His directorial debut, *The Eternal Obsession* (1976), was made before *Frigidity* (1975) which he served as the director and executive producer. In 1970, he went to Australia to shoot *Demonstrator* (1971). In the late 1970s, he also served as the assistant director to American director Peter Bogdanovich on the film *Saint Jack* (1979). He then began working in television, first playing the role of the protagonist's eldest son in the Radio Television Hong Kong (RTHK) television series *Below the Lion Rock* in 1974. Tsang later joined Commercial Television, Rediffusion Television (RTV), Asia Television (ATV) and formed a long-term cooperation with Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), during which time he portrayed many famous characters, such as Wong Yue-si in *The Legend of the Condor Heroes* (1983), Luk Kwok-wing in *The Final Verdict* (1988), and played the lead in a few individual dramas such as *A Baby Makes Three* (1982).

In the late 1990s, Tsang took part in Hollywood productions, such as *Die Another Day* (2002), *Memoirs of a Geisha* (2005) and Chinese language film productions, including *Detective Chinatown 2* (2018) and *The Attorney* (2021). Tsang was nominated twice for Best Supporting Actor at the 31st and 34th Hong Kong Film Awards for *Overheard 2* (2011) and *Overheard 3* (2014), winning the award for the latter. In 2006, he was invited to perform in the stage play *De Ling and Empress Dowager Ci Xi* and won the Best Supporting Actor (Tragedy/Drama) at the Hong Kong Drama Awards. He passed away in Hong Kong on 27 April 2022.
