



Kent CHENG 鄭則仕 (b. 1951.5.22)

Actor, Director, Associate Producer

A native of Chaozhou, Cheng was born in Shantou, Guangdong Province and migrated to Hong Kong in his childhood. In 1973, he entered the 1st actor training programme at Chang's Film Co. In 1976, he became an actor of Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) after winning its acting competition show, starring in such dramas as *Hotel* (1976) and *The Cheap Detective* (1979). He then joined the film industry first with a role in *The Beasts* (1980). He then played the lead roles in *The Sweet and Sour Cops* (1981), *The Sweet and Sour Cops (Part II)*, 1982), *He Lives by Night* (1982), *Beloved Daddy* (1984) and *Lifeline Express* (1984), consolidating his status as a comedy actor.

Cheng was eager to explore more diverse acting roles and participate in the creative process and production. He thus created his most celebrated character, the mentally challenged 'Fat Cat', in his self-written, directed and starred feature *Why Me?* (co-written with Raymond Wong and Philip Cheng, 1985). His performance led him to be named Best Actor at the 5th Hong Kong Film Awards. He also worked behind the scenes. Working together with the creative team of Cheng's Film Production Company Limited, he directed *United We Stand* (co-directed with Szeto Lap-kwong, 1986) and *Heartbeat 100* (co-directed with Lo Kin, 1987). His other directorial works include *The Fortune Code* (1990) and *Dragon in Jail* (1990). In 1992, he established Grand River Film Ltd. and produced the big-budget *Hero of Hong Kong 1949* (1993), which was a box-office flop and led him into debt. He was subsequently production coordinator at Long Shong Pictures (H.K.) Limited, producing such works as *Beginner's Luck* (1994) and *The Other Side of the Sea* (1994).

During this period, Cheng carried on with his acting career. He acted in films such as *Beloved Son of God* (1988), a spin-off from *Why Me?*. His iconic 'Fat Cat' character continued to appear in many spin-off films and TV drama series. He was also featured in such films as *Mr. Sunshine* (1989), *To Be Number One* (1991) and *Powerful Four* (1992). In 1993, he returned to TVB to act in dramas. In 1997, he switched to join Asia Television Limited (ATV), acting in the *Forrest Cat* Series. He returned to TVB twice after 2006, appearing in such dramas as *A Journey Called Life* (2008), *A Watchdog's Tale* (2009), *When Lanes Merge* (2010) and *King Maker* (2012). In 1997, he was awarded Best Actor at both the 16th Hong Kong Film Awards and the 2nd Golden Bauhinia Awards for his performance in *The Log* (1996). His other acting credits include *Flash Point* (2007), *Ip Man 2* (2010), and *Guilt by Design* (2019).
