



**LAW Bun 羅斌** ( 1923.4.27–2012.5.21 )

### Producer

Born Luo Jin-pei in Macao and grew up in Shanghai, Law was a native of Kaiping, Guangdong. After graduating from The Lester School and Henry Lester Institute of Technical Education, he moved south to Hong Kong and attended engineering classes at the Far East Flying Training School. Law returned to Shanghai during the Japanese occupation. There he founded the Universal Publisher with friends and published the *Blue Books* and other magazines. He resettled in Hong Kong in the late 1940s and continued to operate Universal Publisher. And the business continued to grow, publishing *Boxing Magazine*, *Universal Literature and Art*, *Universal Screen* and others. In October of 1959, Law launched the *Hong Kong Daily News*.

In 1961, Law and Miu Hong-nee formed Hong Kong Film Company. Their first production was an adaptation of the *wuxia* novel *The Secret Book*, published by Universal. They produced a total of five episodes with outstanding results. Most films produced by the company were adaptations of popular novels or serials published by Law. All were produced by his wife Ho Lai-lai, and occasionally co-produced by him. The couple came to be known as trailblazers for a new wave of *wuxia* films: four episodes of *The Azure Blood and the Golden Pin* (1963-64) and *The Mighty Snow Sword* (1964), three episodes of *The Ghost with Six Fingers* (1965), and two episodes of *Paragon of Sword and Knife* (1967-68), etc. Amongst them, *The Green-Eyed Lady* (1967) was critically praised for crafting a new image of the rebellious heroine, while successfully integrating elements of action and romance and creating a spectacular atmosphere.

The Hong Kong Film Company also produced other genre films, including comedies such as *One Queen and Three Kings* (1963) and *To Live by Trick* (1964); from 1965 to 1966, it launched a new film franchise adapting the beloved comic character 'Old Master Q' into three films, which reflected a keen sense of the pop cultural zeitgeist; there were also spy films like the trilogy in their 'The Dark Heroine Mulan Hua' series released from 1966 to 1967; there were also arthouse films such as *Adventure in Fishing Harbour* (1967) and more. Their last production was the *Flyer & Magic Sword* (1971). The company operated for about ten years and produced more than 40 films. Over that time, the company cultivated many accomplished talents both in-front and behind the camera. Amongst them directors Chan Lit-bun and Law Chi, production designer Tung Pui-sun, distinguished writers Yee Tat and Ni Kuang, etc. The company also championed newcomers such as Suet Nei, Kenneth Tsang Kong, Kong Man-sing, Bonnie Wong, Wong Shu-tong and Law Oi-sheung. They also mentored rising stars Connie Chan Po-chu, Nancy Sit Kar-yin, Cheung Ching and so on. In later years, Luo continued to expand his publishing business and established Hong Kong Daily News & Trading Holding Limited. It went on to become a listed company in 1988, with him serving as its chairman. He sold the business in 1992 and moved to Canada that following year. In 2006, he published his autobiography, *A 50 Year Anniversary of Mr. Law Bun*. Law passed away in 2012 in Vancouver.

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