



## LOU Hung 鶯紅 (1928–2015)

### Actress

Born Zeng Gulan, Lou Hung is a native of Xiamen in the Fujian province of China, where she also grew up. Lou always loved the performing arts as a kid, and already performed with a theatre troupe while in secondary school. During the War of Resistance against Japan, she furthered her evolution as an actress on the theatre stage. Lou was famous in Xiamen early on in her career and was affectionately known as 'Miss Fujian'. In 1947, overseas Chinese entrepreneurs from the Philippines, Esteban Ngo and Dai Youmin, established the Hsin Kuang Film Company in Hong Kong and began casting for Amoy-dialect speaking actresses. It was the break Lou was looking for to showcase her talents, and she came to Hong Kong from Xiamen to film the Amoy-dialect film *A Belated Encounter* (1948). Lou followed up with her performance in another Amoy-dialect feature to be produced in Hong Kong, *The Air is Cleared* (1948), which marks the first publicly released Amoy-dialect film. She consequently settled in Hong Kong and made her first Mandarin film, *Hero of Our Time* (aka *The Black Bully*, 1948). Lou's performance in the film brought her to the attention of Yung Hwa Motion Picture Industries Ltd and she was hired as a regular player. In this period, she played in *Prisoner of Love* (1951), *A Moment of Bliss* (1952), *Dog Murderer* (1952) and *Wife and Husband* (1953), amongst many other Mandarin films.

After her contract with Yung Hwa ended, Lou kept a small number of her roles to Mandarin films, such as the Shaw & Sons Ltd's *Siren* (aka *Beauty in the Maelstrom*) (1956), and *The Blood of Patriotic Souls* (aka *The Heroic Sacrifice*, 1957), a co-production between China United Film Company and Yilian Film Production Company. Most of her other starring roles were in over a dozen Amoy-dialect films, including *Meng Lijun* (1955), *Romance of Western Chamber* (1956), *Meeting on the Magpies Bridge* (1956), *The Champion Beauty Falls for the Oil Vendor* (1956), as well as co-starring with her sister Lou Fen in *Dream of the Red Mansion* (1956). She went on to star in *Intelligence Trader* (1959) in Taiwan. In 1958, she got married and took an exit from the film industry. In 2015, Lou passed away of sickness in Hong Kong.

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