



Lawrence LOUEY 雷覺坤 (1935–1992.12.24)

Distributor, Theatre Owner, Producer

Born the son of William Louey Sui-tak (1909-1962), founder of The Kowloon Motor Bus Co. (1933) Ltd. (KMB) along with Tang Shiu Kin, Lui Leung and Tam Woon Tong et al. Louey was a professional accountant until he took over his family business in 1979 and served as KMB's Chairman of the Board as well as Chairman and General Manager of Kowloon Development Group. The diverse businesses he ran include property investment and entertainment. He also owned several cinemas.

In early 1978, the Louey family lined up their cinemas to form a cinema circuit with Royal Theatre as the chief cinema. At the end of the year, Louey's company Golden Princess Amusement Co. Ltd. started to distribute movies and screen them at the Royal Circuit. The company name 'Golden Princess' was derived from 'Golden Gate Theatre' and 'Princess Theatre'. Due to unstable movie supply, the circuit did not perform well and was often teased as the 'glassy (brittle) circuit'.

Louey strived to expand his cinema business by recruiting independent production companies with potential. In early 1980s, he brought in Karl Maka to found Cinema City with Dean Shek and Raymond Wong. Later, Tsui Hark also founded Film Workshop under his support. His tremendous investment in filmmaking had not only secured his circuit's movie supply, but also expanded the scale of local productions, resulting in continuous record-breaking box-office earnings. Besides film distribution, he also founded Golden Princess Film Production Co. in 1987.

Louey died in 1992 and Golden Princess ceased its operations soon after. As an investor, Louey never interfered with the creative process and allowed his filmmakers freedom in production. The way he treated others and handled his business had been widely praised in the industry.
