



MUI Yee 梅綺 (1923–1966.8.17)

Actress

A native of Nanhai, Guangdong, Mui was born in Beijing with the original name Kong Tuen-yee. Her grandfather Kong Hung-yan was a prominent scholar-official in Guangdong and her uncle Kong Yu-lau was a famous playwright known as Nam Hoi Sap-sam Long. She was a guest actress in Great Wall Film Company's *A Clever Fool* (1929) under the stage name Jiang Lili when she was six. Mui came to Hong Kong in 1937 and joined Nanyang Film Company, debuting on screen with *War and Survival* (1937), written and directed by Nam Hoi Sap-sam Long. She later joined Grandview Film Company Limited and made a name for herself with works such as *The Little Tiger* (1941), *Shadow over Shanghai* (1941) and *Love in the Schoolyard* (1941).

Fleeing en route to Guangzhouwan and then Guilin with some other film workers during the Japanese occupation, Mui had to perform on stage to make a living. She returned to Hong Kong after the war and resumed her acting career. In 1952, she founded The Union Film Enterprise Ltd with like-minded film workers and took part in *Family* (1953), the company's inaugural work. She later acted in *In the Face of Demolition* (1953), *Sworn Sisters* (1954) and *An Orphan's Tragedy* (1955), etc. Mui also starred in films produced by other companies, including *Sunrise* (1953), *The Bachelor Girl* (1954), *The Chair* (1959) and *Feast of a Rich Family* (1959). Mui released her autobiography *A Life of Drama* in 1956.

A Christian since her early years, she retired from the screen in the early 1960s and dedicated herself to missionary work, travelling around Southeast Asia. She died of tongue cancer on 17 August 1966.