



NI Kuang 倪匡 (1935.5.30–2022.7.3)

Screenwriter

With the original name Ni Yiming and several other pen names Yiqi, Wei Li, Wei Sili and Sha Weng, Ni was born in Shanghai to a family native of Ningbo, Zhejiang. He graduated from junior secondary school in 1951 and continued his studies at East China People's Revolution University. In 1952, he enlisted in the People's Liberation Army of China. Some say that he was once held in prison in Inner Mongolia. Ni came to Hong Kong in 1957 and published his first novel in *Kung Sheung Daily* in the following year. Ni was later invited to join *Zhenbao*. He worked his way up from reporter trainee to editor to eventually chief editor. Between 1958 and 1971, he wrote a large number of *wuxia*, crime and thriller fictions, many of them were later adapted and made into films. From 1963, Ni began writing science fictions and wrote columns regularly for newspapers and magazines, making him a well-known local writer.

Ni penned his first film script, *One-Armed Swordsman* for Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd in 1967. Chang Cheh collaborated with him on the script and directed the film, with Jimmy Wang Yu playing the leading role. The film went on to become a huge commercial success. Since then Ni had become a major screenwriter for Shaws and several other film companies in Hong Kong and Taiwan, while remaining active in his career as a fiction writer. It is estimated that he had written about 300 film scripts of the *wuxia* genre between the 1960s and the 1980s, and was one of the most prolific screenwriters of his time. His most well-known works were those directed by Chang Cheh and Lau Kar-leung for Shaws. Some of the features directed by Chang include *The Invincible Fist* (1969), *Golden Swallow* (co-scripted with Chang Cheh, 1968), *Vengeance!* (1970), *The Boxer from Shantung* (1972), *Man of Iron* (1972), *The Blood Brothers* (1973) and *Disciples of Shaolin* (1975). Titles directed by Lau include *The Spiritual Boxer* (1975), *Challenge of the Masters* (1976), *Executioners from Shaolin* (1977), *The 36th Chamber of Shaolin* (1978) and *Dirty Ho* (1979).

Ni received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the Hong Kong Film Awards in 2012. He passed away in Hong Kong on 3 July 2022.