

## Norman CHAN 陳學人 (b. 1952)

## **Chief Production Manager, Director, Screenwriter**

Born in Hong Kong with his family originally came from Xinhui in Guangdong, Chan studied Film & Television Production at the University of Southern California after graduating from high school. He returned to Hong Kong after graduating in 1976 to join Commercial Television as production assistant and was later promoted to producer. During this period, he reconnected with his university classmate Lau Shing-hon, who encouraged him to pursue independent film-making, leading him to work as production manager for Lau's first feature *House of the Lute* (1980). Chan then became production manager for many new wave films, including *See-bar* (1980), *Love Massacre* (1981), *Cream Soda & Milk* (1981), *Eclipse* (1982). When he first entered the film industry, he was also the screenwriter for *Illusions Come True* (1979).

In 1983, Chan was recruited by Cinema City Company Limited, where he worked as the production manager for *The Occupant* (1984) and *Kung Hei Fat Choy* (1985). He was also line-producer on *Mummy Dearest* (1985) and was the associate producer for *The Family Strikes Back* (1986). Later in 1986, Chan was invited to join D & B Co., Ltd. and was promoted to Chief Production Manager. He was in charge of films by 'The Trio' (Clifton Ko, Ronny Yu, Raymond Fung), which include films such as *Legacy of Rage* (1986), *It's a Mad, Mad, Mad World* (1987) , *Porky's Meatballs* (1987) and *You're O.K, I'm O.K!* (1987). He also served as production manager for *Magnificent Warriors* (1987) and *Easy Money* (1987). In 1988, he became the Administrative & Production Controller at D & B and left the company around 1991.

During his time at D & B, Chan wrote and directed his first film *The Nobles* (1989), and later codirected with Raymond Wong on *Happy Ghost V* (1991). Later on, he would turn to more adult themes, directing such films as *Pink Lady* (1992), *The Final Judgement* (1993), *Diary of a Serial Killer* (1995) and *Devil's Woman* (1996) under the pseudonym Otto Chan. He also served as screenwriter and producer for some of those films.

A veteran production manager for many years, Chan promoted the establishment of Hong Kong Film Production Manager Association in 1990. From 1992 to 1993, he served as a committee member of the Hong Kong Film Directors' Guild. In 2008, he co-directed the Mainland feature 12 Seconds 58 with Siu Wing. The film won the Special Jury Award at the China Movie Channel Media Awards of the 11th Shanghai International Film Festival. He later taught at Hong Kong Baptist University as Lecturer and Programme Director for the Higher Diploma in Creative Film Production at the Academy of Film and participated in the production of *Weeds on Fire* (2016) shot by graduates of the school.