



Ray LUI 呂良偉 (b. 1956.12.22)

Actor

A Vietnam-born Chinese, Lui moved to Hong Kong with his family in 1968. After completing Television Broadcasts Limited's (TVB) performing artist training programme in 1976, he signed with the company and became an actor. His big break came in 1980, when he was cast as Ting Lik in *The Bund*, a television series based on gangs in 1930s Shanghai. He reprised the role in the two subsequent sequels, securing himself a place among the top leading men in TVB. *Kung Fu Master of Fat Shan* (1981), *The Brave Young Ones* (1982), *The Flying Fox of Snowy Mountain* (1985) and *Twilight of a Nation* (1988) are just some of the many serials he went on to star in.

Lui already appeared in films occasionally while he was at TVB. He made his silver screen debut with Tsui Hark's *Dangerous encounter—1st kind* (1980). In the same year, he appeared in the cops-and-robbers film *The Informer* (1980), along with co-actors Kent Cheng and Danny Lee. The trio continued to act together in the same genre films such as *Murderer Pursues* (1981) and *Funny Boys* (1982). He also appeared as the second male lead in Kirk Wong's sci-fi film *Flash Future Kung Fu* (1983).

In 1989, Lui left TVB to fully focus on his film career; he was cast as the male lead in two Golden Harvest productions, *Four Loves* (1989) and *What a Small World* (1989). He put on 40 pounds in 1991 to play the lead role in *To Be Number One*, produced by Johnny Mak, and earned praises for his professionalism as well as his performance. The film grossed HK\$38 million at the box office. *To Be Number One* ushered in a wave of films in the same vein, and from there, Lui continued to portray many other renowned underworld leaders, including *Legend of the Brothers* (1991), *Lord of East China Sea* and its sequel (both 1993), and *Hero of Hong Kong 1949* (1993).

In addition to being adept at playing gangster characters, Lui has portrayed historical figure Xiang Yu in *The Great Conqueror's Concubine Part II* (1994). After 1996, he spends most of his time filming Mainland Chinese television dramas, but still occasionally appears in Hong Kong films, including *6AM* (2004), *Flash Point* (2007), *Firestorm* (2013), *Our Time Will Come* (2017) and *Tomorrow Is Another Day* (2018).
