

SHEK Hwei 石慧 (b. 1934)

Actress

Born Sun Huili in Nanjing, with ancestral roots in Wuxian County, Zhejiang Province, Shek Hwei moved to Hong Kong in 1947, where she attended secondary school. A lover of theatre and film from a young age, the artistically talented Shek also excelled in singing, piano, ballet and painting. In 1951, she entered the film industry, making her screen debut in Taishan Film Company's *Three Smart Girls* (1952). Later that year, she joined Great Wall Movie Enterprises Limited, where she became a regular actress and took on leading roles, starting with *Father Marries Again* (1952). She rose to fame with *Honeymoon* (1952) and *Aren't the Kids Lovely?* (1953), becoming one of Great Wall's principal actors, known alongside Hsia Moon and Chen Sisi as the 'Three Princesses of Great Wall'.

Over the span of nearly three decades, Shek starred in more than 40 films for Great Wall and Feng Huang Motion Picture Company between 1951 and 1979, making a particular impression with her adorable, innocent girl-next-door characters. For Great Wall, she starred in films such as *Parents' Love* (1953), *Actress Pearl* (1956), *When You Were Not with Me* (1958), *Laugh, Clown, Laugh* (1960), *The Lost Pearl* (1965), which also starred Pak Yin, *A Time to Remember* (1966), and *The Hut on the Hilltop* (1970). For Feng Huang, she starred in films including *Mama Sings a Song* (1957), *A Girl in Disguise* (1959), *Thunderstorm* (1961), *For Life or for Death* (1961), and *Mud Child* (1976). Her final film was *Affairs*, released in 1979. She also served as assistant director on Great Wall's *The Unseparated* (1961).

Shek and actor Fu Che fell in love during the filming of *When You Were Not with Me* and married in 1954. After 1980, she served in various managerial roles at Great Wall, the South China Film Workers Union, and Sil-Metropole Organisation Limited.

During the 1980s, Shek held concerts in places such as Beijing, Shanghai and Fuzhou, recorded solo albums, and held solo art exhibitions. In 1991, she and her husband immigrated to Canada.