



SHU Kei 舒琪 (b. 1956)

Director, Screenwriter, Producer, Publicist, Distributor, Film Programme Curator

Kenneth Ip, with his pen name Shu Kei, is a native of Bao'an, Guangdong, who was born in Hong Kong. Shu Kei worked at Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) as a screenwriter in an anthology series for New Wave directors including Patrick Tam and Yim Ho. After graduating from university, he joined Commercial Television as a screenwriter. During the mid-1970s, Shu Kei became the chief editor of *Film Biweekly* which he established. From the 1970s to the post-2000s, his film reviews can be found in a wide variety of newspapers and magazines.

Shu Kei entered Golden Harvest (HK) Limited in 1980, and he served as assistant director to Yim Ho in *The Happenings* (1980) and *Wedding Bells, Wedding Belles* (1981), and as screenwriter for the former film. Shu Kei penned and made his directorial debut in 1981 with *Sealed with a Kiss*. In the mid-1980s, he directed his second feature *Soul* (1986). In 1990, he filmed the documentary *Sunless Days* which received an OCIC Award at the 40th Berlin International Film Festival. He later directed *Hu-du-men* (1996) in which Josephine Siao Fong-fong won the Best Leading Actress Award at the 33th Golden Horse Award. In 1997, he directed *A Queer Story*, co-founded Film 100 Percent Ltd. with Joe Ma Wai-ho, directed *Love: Amoeba Style*, and produced *First Love Unlimited* which was directed by Joe Ma Wai-ho.

During the 1980s and 1990s, Shu Kei also worked behind the scenes, initially on film marketing and distribution under Lai Kit and Wong Kai-chuen. He once worked with Tina Lau on the publicity campaign for *Boat people* (1982). Later, John Sham recruited him as publicity manager for D & B Films Co. Ltd. from 1984 to 1986. He later promoted films including *Red Dust* (1990), *Fong Sai-yuk* (1993) and *Lifeline* (1997). In 1987, Shu Kei founded Shu Kei's Creative Workshop Ltd., screening non-mainstream foreign films. The company also launched a videodisc series of film classics by Motion Picture & General Investment Co. Ltd. (MP & GI). In the early 1990s, he also operated mini cinemas that screened films under his distribution. Shu Kei has also curated a wide range of film screening programmes including the Hong Kong International Film Festival's Hong Kong Cinema Retrospective in 1982 and 1983. He is the editor of books including *Cantonese Cinema Retrospective (1960-69)* and *A Comparative Study of Post-War Mandarin and Cantonese Cinema: The Films of Zhu Shulin, Qin Jian and Other Directors*.

In 2002, Shu Kei started teaching at the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. He then became the dean of the School of Film and Television from 2005 to 2016. He produced the documentary *Boundless* (2013) directed by Ferris Lin. He also co-produced Kiwi Chow's *A Complicated Story* (2013) with Ding Yui-shan, a film he co-wrote with Chow; and co-produced Jun Li's *Tracey* (2018) with Jacqueline Liu Yuen-hung, a film he co-wrote with Erica Li and Jun Li. He is currently Vice Chairman of the Fresh Wave Film Festival Limited.
