



## Sammo HUNG 洪金寶 ( b. 1952.1.7 )

### Director, Actor, Martial Arts Choreographer, Executive Producer

A native of Ningbo, Zhejiang, Hung was born in Hong Kong. His grandfather, Hung Chung-ho was a director in the 1930s and 40s. Hung enrolled in Yu Zhanyuan's Hong Kong-China Opera Institute to study Peking opera before he was ten. He was the captain of the school's performing troupe 'Seven Little Fortunes'. Under the screen name Chu Yuen-lung, Hung appeared in *Education of Love* (1961) and *The Seven Little Valiant Fighters* (1962). He began working as a stuntman in the late 1960s, and served as the martial arts choreographer for Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd's *The Golden Sword* (1969). After Golden Harvest (HK) Limited was established, Hung took part in Lo Wei, Huang Feng and Chung Chang-hwa's features as both a martial arts choreographer and actor. He was also the martial arts choreographer of King Hu's *The Valiant Ones* (1975). In 1977, he made his directorial debut *The Iron-Fisted Monk* for Golden Harvest. Its box-office catapulted Hung to stardom. In addition to his comedic genius, he won over audiences with his remarkable, fluid action despite his bulk size. The box-office success was followed by a series of action comedies, including *Warriors Two* (1978), *Knockabout* (1979) and *The Prodigal Son* (1981), all directed and played by Hung himself.

In 1978, Hung set up Gar Bo Films with Karl Maka and Lau Kar-wing and produced features such as *Dirty Tiger, Crazy Frog!* (1978). In 1979, he founded Bo Ho Films Company Limited, a satellite company of Golden Harvest. Hung directed and starred in the company's inaugural work *Encounter of the Spooky Kind* (1980), a pioneering piece in action horror-comedy. He also produced a series of high-quality films of different genres, including *Pom Pom* (1984), *Long Arm of the Law* (1984) and *Mr. Vampire* (1985). The contemporary action feature, *Winners & Sinners* (1983) which he directed for Golden Harvest also blossomed into a bestselling series. He went on to collaborate with Jackie Chan on *Project A* (1983), *Heart of Dragon* (1985). Hung co-founded D&B Films Co. Ltd. with Dickson Poon and John Sham in 1984 to produce *The Owl vs Bumbo* (1984), *Yes, Madam* (1985) and *Where's Officer Tuba* (1986).

At the height of his career in the mid-1980s, Hung was revered as an all-rounder in producing, writing, directing and acting; Bo Ho was also the most prolific among the many satellite companies of Golden Harvest. His varied success thus earned him the nickname of 'Big Brother'. Hung left Golden Harvest in 1988 to focus on his new company Bojon Films Co., Ltd, producing celebrated titles such as *Spooky, Spooky, Spooky* (1988), *Pedicab Driver* (1989) and *Don't Give a Damn* (1995). In 1997, he directed the Golden Harvest title *Mr. Nice Guy*, which featured Jackie Chan. He then ventured into the US market, starring in an American television drama *Martial Law* (1998-2000) and received positive reception. Hung was honoured twice as Best Actor at the Hong Kong Film Awards for his performance in *Carry On Pickpocket* (1982) and *Painted Faces* (1988); and four times as Best Action Choreographer for *The Prodigal Son*, *Ip Man* (2008), *Ip Man 2* (2010) and *Paradox* (2017). His recent works as a director and actor include *The Bodyguard* (2016). In 2018, he acted in the New Year's film *A Lifetime Treasure* (2019).

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