

SIU Yin Fei 小燕飛 (1920.8.28-2013.7.29)

Actress

A native of Panyu, Guangdong, Siu Yin Fei was born in Guangzhou with the original name Fung Yin-ping. Studied at an old-style private school, she had a strong passion for Cantonese operatic songs early on and mastered the vocal skills without formal training. She had performed with renowned vocalists such as Siu Ming Sing and Cheung Yuet-yee. She entered the film industry in her teenage years and debuted with *Blood-Stained Money* (1936).

After Hong Kong fell to the Japanese, she travelled to Guangzhou and Macao to perform on stage to make ends meet. She returned to Hong Kong when the war ended and made her comeback with *The Evil Mind* (1947) produced by Lingfeng Film Company, which she invested in. Recognising the talent of Chun Kim, she invited him to direct films for Lingfeng, including *South Sea Songstress* (1950), *Five Sisters* (1951) and *The Long and Winding Road* (1952). She later introduced Chun to the Singaporean film magnates, Ho Khee-siang and Ho Khee-yong, who funded the establishment of Kong Ngee Motion Picture Production Company in Hong Kong with Chun at the helm.

Siu Yin Fei co-founded The Union Film Enterprise Ltd with some other filmmakers in 1952 and acted in films such as *A Son is Born* (1953), *Sworn Sisters* (1954) and *The Tormented Beauty* (1958) produced by the company. She retired after completing *Little Orphan Girl* and *Murder Case in Chinatown* in 1961 and migrated to the US, where she once ran a restaurant. Siu Yin Fei passed away in New York on 29 July 2013.