



## Sylvia CHANG 張艾嘉 (b. 1953.7.21)

### Actress, Director, Screenwriter, Singer

A native of Shanxi, Chang was born in Chiayi, Taiwan and moved to Hong Kong and the US with her family before returning to Taiwan at the age of 15. During her school years, she had already hosted radio and television programmes. In 1972, she made her big screen debut with *The Flying Tiger* (1973). She then joined Golden Harvest in Hong Kong and performed in *The Tattooed Dragon* (1973) and *China Town Capers* (1974), among others. Returning to Taiwan again, she worked with various renowned directors and was named Best Supporting Actress in the Golden Horse Awards for her performance in *Prosperity and Perplexity* (1976). She later starred in Taiwan Television's drama series *Eleven Women* (1981) and participated in the production as an associate producer, collaborating with new directors Edward Yang and Ko Yi-cheng.

Chang's collaboration with Cinema City began with the invitation for her to star in *Aces Go Places* (1982), for which she took up the exceptional role of 'cop lady'. In 1982, she went on to become production director at Cinema City's Taiwanese branch. She was keen on producing and starring in films that steered away from the mainstream, such as *Send in the Clowns* (1983), *That Day, on the Beach* (1983) and *Kidnapped* (1983). However, she retreated from the post a year later. Chang continued her working relationship with Cinema City by starring in *He Lives by Night* (1982) and *All About Ah-Long* (1989).

With nearly a hundred acting credits, Chang collaborated with both established directors—in productions such as *The Dream of the Red Chamber* (1977), *Mirta* (1977) and *Legend of the Mountain* (1979)—and newcomers, such as Ann Hui's directorial debut, *The Secret* (1979). Chang also starred in *Eight Taels of Gold* (1989), *Queen of Temple Street* (1990) and *Full Moon in New York* (Taiwan: 1989; Hong Kong: 1990). Throughout her career, Chang has showcased her acting prowess in diverse genres, including *wenyi* dramas or boisterous comedies, and has won numerous awards in acting—Best Actress in the Golden Horse Awards for *My Grandfather* (1981); Best Actress at both the Golden Horse Awards and Hong Kong Film Awards for *Passion* (1986); Best Actress in Hong Kong Film Awards again for *Forever and Ever* (2001). She also starred in several foreign productions, such as *Soursweet* (1998) and *The Red Violin* (1998). Her other acting credits include *Office* (2015), *Mountains May Depart* (2015), and *Long Day's Journey into Night* (2018).

After making her directorial debut with *Once Upon a Time* in 1981, Chang continued to work behind the camera. Her writer-director credits include *Passion* (1986), *Siao Yu* (1995), *Tempting Heart* (1999), *Princess-D* (2002), *Twenty Thirty Forty* (2004) and *Murmur of the Hearts* (2015). With *Love Education* (2017), she (along with co-writer You Xiao-ying) won Best Screenplay at the 37th Hong Kong Film Awards, and Best Actress and Lifetime Achievement Award at the 12th Asian Film Awards. She has also been involved in music and theatre.

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