



TSUI Hark 徐克 (b. 1951.2.1)

Director, Producer

Born in Vietnam with the birth name Tsui Man-kong, Tsui immigrated to Hong Kong in 1966. He went to the US and studied film at The University of Texas at Austin. Upon graduation, he worked as reporter in New York. He participated in making the documentary *From Spikes to Spindles* (1976). He then returned to Hong Kong in 1977 and joined Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) as a producer and, a year later, Commercial Television, at which he directed the drama *The Gold Dagger Romance* to great acclaim.

The first film Tsui directed was *The Butterfly Murders* (1979), which earned him a place in the pantheon of the Hong Kong New Wave. After *We're Going to Eat You* (1980) and *Dangerous Encounter—1st Kind* (1980), his profile as a critical darling was further consolidated. Soon he joined Cinema City and directed the retro comedy *All the Wrong Clues (...for the Right Solution)* (1981). The comic style won him the Golden Horse Awards for Best Director. Tsui was also the member of 'Team of Seven'. Apart from creating stories, he was the associate producer for films such as *All the Wrong Spies* (1983).

Tsui has a deep interest in special effects. He organised the special effects department at Cinema City and was responsible for the special effects in many films, including *Aces Go Places III—Our Man from Bond Street* (1984). He then formed the Film Workshop in 1984 with Nansun Shi and released *Shanghai Blues* (1984) as its debut, which was directed by Tsui himself. In the ensuing years, he produced numerous films that won popular acclaim, including *A Better Tomorrow* (1986), *A Chinese Ghost Story* (1987), *A Better Tomorrow II* (1987), *Swordsman* (1990, as co-executive director), and *Swordsman II* (1992) etc.

Throughout the years, Tsui has produced a great number of films, including *Once Upon a Time in China* (Part 1-4, 1991-94)—for which he was both director and producer—*Green Snake* (1993), *The Lovers* (1994), *Love in the Time of Twilight* (1995), *The Blade* (1995), *Time and Tide* (2000), *Seven Swords* (2005) and *Missing* (2008). Furthermore, he produced the animated film *A Chinese Ghost Story—The Animation* (1997) and *The Legend of Zu* (2001), which featured extensive CGI effects. He also filmed two action flicks in the US.

After 2010, Tsui mainly shot his films in the Mainland, resulting in *Detective Dee and the Mystery of the Phantom Flame* (2010). He also kept up with the trends and made several 3D films, including *Flying Swords of Dragon Gate* (2011) and *The Taking of Tiger Mountain* (2014). He won his third Best Director award at the 35th Hong Kong Film Awards with *The Taking of Tiger Mountain*. In 2014, Tsui garnered the Award for Outstanding Contribution in Arts from the Hong Kong Arts Development Council. In 2017, he received the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 11th Asian Film Awards.
