



WONG Kar-wai 王家衛 (b. 1958)

Director, Screenwriter, Producer

Born in Shanghai, Wong Kar-wai moved to Hong Kong when he was five. In 1980, he joined the first traineeship program for scriptwriting and directing at Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) and worked as a production assistant for the drama series *Five Easy Pieces* (1980), as well as an uncredited scriptwriter for *Don't Look Now* (1980) and *Ladies of the House* (1982). Wong subsequently entered the film industry by co-writing the screenplay for *Once Upon a Rainbow* (1982), with Hoh Hong-kiu, Lo Man-sang and Yee Chung-man. In 1982, Frankie Chan and Lai Ying-chau formed Always Good Film Co. Ltd, in which Wong worked as a principal creator. In this period, Wong co-wrote the screenplays for *Just for Fun* (with Frankie Chan and Wu Ma, 1983) and *Silent Romance* (with Barry Wong, 1984), and as an independent screenwriter for *Chase a Fortune* (1985) and *Unforgettable Fantasy* (1985). He served as assistant director for Cheung Tung-joe's *Challenge on Chasing Girls* (1984). He was also the screenwriter for Patrick Tam's *Final Victory* (1987), and Jeff Lau's *Saviour of the Soul* (1991).

In 1987, Wong wrote the screenplay for *Flaming Brothers* (1987) produced by In-Gear Film Production Co. Ltd. Following that, Wong made his directorial debut with *As Tears Go By* (1988) with Alan Tang's support. The film received critical acclaim and was selected for the International Critics' Week at the Cannes Film Festival that year. Wong's next film, *Days of Being Wild* (1990) with its large ensemble cast garnered acclaimed both at home and abroad. In 1991, he formed Jet Tone Films Limited with Jeff Lau, producing *Chungking Express* (1994), *Ashes of Time* (1994) and *Fallen Angels* (1995), which were masterfully crafted with unique perspectives.

Wong then established Block 2 Pictures Inc. Its debut, *Happy Together* (1997) made Wong the first Hong Kong director to win the Best Director at the Cannes Film Festival. Wong then wrote and directed *In the Mood for Love* (2000), *2046* (2004) and the English language film, *My Blueberry Nights* (2007), all of which were nominated in the Cannes Film Festival competitions, with *In the Mood for Love* winning Best Actor and Technical Grand Prize at the (53rd) film festival. He directed 'The Hand' in *Eros* (2004), a film he co-directed with Steven Soderbergh and Michelangelo Antonioni. In 2006, he was invited to be the Chairman of the Cannes Film Festival Jury. He was also one of the 36 renowned directors who was invited to direct in *Chacun son cinéma* (2007), the same time his work *My Blueberry Nights* (2007) was released. Later, his work *The Grandmaster* (2013) won 12 awards at the 33rd Hong Kong Film Awards and was nominated for Best Cinematography and Best Costume Design in the 86th Academy Awards.

Wong also produced *Chinese Odyssey 2002* (2002), *See You Tomorrow* (with Jacky Pang Yi-wah, 2016), and *Jinpa* (2018). In 2001, Wong was awarded the Bronze Bauhinia Star by the Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and in 2006, he was awarded Knighthood for National Order of the Legion of Honour from the French Government. In 2018, he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Arts by Harvard University.
