



WOO Fung 胡楓 (1932–)

Actor, Director, Screenwriter, Producer

With the birth name of Woo Kai-sau, Woo Fung was born in Guangzhou and raised in Hong Kong. He worked at his father's antique shop after his secondary school graduation. In 1953, Woo was admitted into Tai Seng Film Company and was immediately cast as a male lead. He starred opposite Fong Yim-fun in his acting debut *Men's Hearts* (1953). Woo's acting career spans over seven decades, with more than 370 films and 80 television series under his belt.

Woo was a contract actor at Tai Seng in his early career. He was mainly cast in contemporary films such as *The Maidservant's Sad Tale* (1954) with Yam Kim-fai and Pak Suet-sin, *Heaven-Sent Fortune* (1955) with Tang Bik-wan, and *The Wife* (1956) opposite Pak Yin. In the late 1950s, he received praise from Chun Kim and starred in films by Kong Ngee Motion Picture Production Company, including *The Quarrelsome Couple* (1959) and the film classic *My Intimate Partners* (1960). Woo continued to be cast as leading man in productions by other film companies, for example *A Man's Betrayal* (Part One and Two, 1962). He frequently co-starred with Patricia Lam Fung and Ng Kwan-lai, for example in *A Sad Wise Woman* (Part One and Two, 1963) and *Viva the Better Half* (1964) with Lam; and *Near the Li River* (Part One and Two, 1963) and *The Rebellion* (1966) with Ng. In the late 1960s, Woo often played the love interest of a new generation of young idols such as Connie Chan Po-chu and Josephine Siao Fong-fong, and appeared in the song-and-dance films *Colourful Youth* (1966) and *Three Young Girls* (1968).

In 1962, Woo partnered with Cui Ngai, Lung To, Tso Tat-wah, Patricia Lam Fung, and Cheng Bik-ying in founding Artland Film Company. He starred in the company's debut work, *Trouble with Nightmare* (1962), and subsequent productions including *Women's Hearts* (1965). In 1967, Woo established Venus Film Company, directed and starred in *The Crazy T.V. Fans* (1976), *Be Quick, Darling!* (1977) and *The Big Boss Girl and C.I.D.* (1977). He produced *Caning* (1979), which he also co-directed with Wong Man. Woo was also involved in film distribution in the mid-1970s. He then appeared in works like *Cream Soda & Milk* (1981), *Shanghai Blues* (1984) and *The Haunted Cop Shop II* (1988). His recent works include *Overheard 2* (2011). In 2023, Woo was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award at the 41st Hong Kong Film Awards.

With the decline of Cantonese films in the late 1960s, Woo started to appear on television and had previously worked in Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), Rediffusion Television (RTV) and Asia Television (ATV). One of Woo's most memorable television roles is the stuttering lawyer in *The Final Verdict* (1988). In 2013 and 2015, he joined Patrick Tse Yin and Kenneth Tsang Kong, close friends and fellow actors in the Cantonese film era, in co-hosting a television travel programme that generated much buzz and anticipation.

Known as the 'evergreen entertainer', Woo has held multiple concerts at the Hong Kong Coliseum and became the oldest artist staging a solo concert there in 2022 at the age of 90.
