



WU Yuanxiang / GOH Guan Siang 吳源祥

(Year of Birth Unknown–2008.8.14)

Producer

Native to Xiamen, Fujian, Wu Yuanxiang's family operated a postal service in Xiamen. Wu came to Hong Kong in 1950. In 1955, he founded Minsheng Film Company that primarily produced Amoy-dialect films. After its debut feature, *Zhuang Zi Tests His Wife* aka *Butterfly Dream* (1955), Minsheng went on to produce *Heartbreak Journey* (1956), *Sister Thirteen* (1956), *Lianli Gives Birth to Han Qi* (1956), *Zheng Yuanhe and Li Yaxian* (1956), *A Wrong Maiden* (1957), *The Shepherd* (1957), *Tears of Blood* (1957), *Story of the White Fan* (1958), *Honeymoon Hiccups* (1958), *Emergency Wedding* (1959), *Jealousy* (1959), *Snow in June* (1960), etc. Including *Three Daughters* (1964) which was billed as a Bian Sing Motion Picture Co production, Wu produced nearly twenty films, making him among the most prolific Amoy-dialect film producers of the period. All his productions featured lead actress Jiang Fan, and were distributed by the Singapore-based Kong Ngee Co Ltd.

In 1960, Wu founded Bian Sing Motion Picture Co as Amoy-dialect films fell into decline. Wu shifted to producing Chaozhou-dialect films, starting with *The Innocent* (1960), which featured the Dongshan Chaozhou Music Company. Later on, Wu established a long-term partnership with Xintiancai Chaozhou Theatre and produced over twenty Chaozhou opera films, including *Unchanged Hearts* (1961), *Judge Bao's Encounter with the Deposed Empress* (1961), *The Sit Family* (1962), *Lady Warrior* (1962), *The Chaozhou Female Top Scholar* (1962), *Prince Lau Chiang* (1962), *The Story of Chun Xiang* (1962), *Unworldly Event* (1962), *Tormented by Love* (1963), *Hai Rui Thrice Tries a Wronged Woman* (1963), *Governor Qiao Arranges Marriages at Random* (1964), *Four Appeals* (1964) and *The Escapees* (1967). as well as the colour productions *The Crab Beauties* (1964), *Mermaid Story* (1965) and *The Nymph of River Lo* (1966). Notably, *Fairy Pearl* was a big-budgeted, widescreen, colour production. One of the most prolific Chaozhou-dialect film production companies in Hong Kong, Bian Sing distributed primarily through the Kong Ngee network in Singapore and Malaysia.

In 1966, Bian Sing shifted to producing Cantonese films, such as Chor Yuen's *Running Tears* and Lee Tit's *Between Justice and Love*. Wu later moved his business to Taiwan and produced films such as *Recalling My Dreams* (1967) and *My Love for you* (1968). In 1968, he formed Bian Sing Motion Picture Co (Taiwan) Ltd which became an independent film powerhouse in the late 1960s and 70s, with productions including *The Evergreen Mountain* (dir. Lee Chia, 1970), *Goodbye Darling* (dir. Bai Jingrui, 1970), *Cheat to Cheat* (dir. Li Han-hsiang, 1973), *The Conspiracy of Thieves* (dir. Tu Chung-hsun, 1975) and *Iron Swallow* (dir. Chang Pei-cheng, 1979). Most notably, *Evergreen Mountains* and *Goodbye Darling* garnered awards at Golden Horse Awards. In the 1990s, Wu founded the Beijing Wansheng Corporation, a Mainland distributor of Hong Kong and Taiwanese films and television programmes. Distributed TV dramas include company *The Pawnshop No. 8* (2003). Wu passed away on 14 August 2008.
