



## WANG Yueting 王月汀 (1918–1974)

### Screenwriter, Director, Actor

Wang was born in Shanghai to a family from Shaoxing, Zhejiang. After graduating from military school, he served in the army. During the War of Resistance against Japan, he was the leader of a theatre troupe and scripted plays from time to time. After discharging from the army in 1950, he came to Hong Kong the next year and joined the film industry, working as an extra and continuity for several years. From 1956 to 1962, Wang wrote a number of screenplays for Shaw & Sons Ltd and Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd, with the debut work, *The Angel* (1958). After *The Kingdom and the Beauty* (1959), a story adapted from traditional Peking opera, won Best Film and a dozen of other awards at the 6th Asian Film Festival, Wang, who bagged Best Screenplay with the film, became the most sought-after screenwriter. He continued to put out quality works, including a number of films directed by Li Han-hsiang: *Back Door* (1960), which won Best Film and Best Screenplay at the 7th Asian Film Festival, *The Enchanting Shadow* (1960), *Empress Wu Tse-tien* (1963), etc. His other well-known screenplays included *Cinderella and Her Little Angels* (1959) and *The Pistol* (1961).

Wang was also the screenwriter and assistant director of *Empress Wu Tse-tien*. He later wrote and directed *The Fair Sex* (1961), followed by *When Fortune Smiles* (1962) and *Stranger than Fiction* (1963). In 1962, Wang took up the role of director for *Hung Niang*. However, he suffered a concussion from a car accident not long after the start of shooting and was hospitalised. The film was thus set aside and later renamed as *The West Chamber* (1965) with Griffin Yue Feng as the director and himself as the screenwriter.

Wang went to Taiwan in 1963 to join Li Han-Hsiang's Grand Motion Picture Company, but he did not make any new films. He came back to Hong Kong after Grand Motion Picture closed down and lived in oblivion, working only as a bit player in films such as *The Warlord* (1972) and *The Prodigal Boxer* (1972). Wang overdosed on sleeping pills and passed away in 1974.

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