



**YUEN Biao 元彪** ( b. 1957.7.26 )

### **Actor, Action Choreographer**

Born Ha Ling-chen in Hong Kong, Yuen started learning Beijing opera under Yu Zhanyuan at the age of five, and became a member of the troupe 'Seven Little Fortunes'. In the early 1970s, he followed his elder disciple Sammo Hung to work as a stuntman at Golden Harvest. His early acting credits include *Fist of Fury* (1972) and *Enter the Dragon* (1973), the two films in which he starred with Bruce Lee, as well as Shaw Brothers' new-style *wuxia* dramas such as *The Magic Blade* (1976).

In 1979, he was given the lead role in *Knockabout* directed by Sammo Hung and became known for his spectacular somersaults and kicks. His lead role in *The Prodigal Son* (1981) made a hero of him and yet he remained active as a martial arts choreographer.

In 1983, he was cast in the costume epic *Zu: Warriors from the Magic Mountain*. In the same year, alongside the release in Japan of *The Champions* in which he played the lead, Yuen also starred in *Project A* opposite Sammo Hung and Jackie Chan, thereby making his name in Japan. Afterwards, he took part in several major titles directed by Sammo Hung, including *Wheels on Meals* (1984), *My Lucky Stars* (1985), *The Millionaires' Express* (1986) and *Eastern Condors* (1987); and starred in two co-productions of Golden Harvest and Fuji TV, *Peacock King* (1989) and *Saga of the Phoenix* (1990).

Yuen was twice honoured as the Best Action Choreographer at the Hong Kong Film Awards for *The Prodigal Son* (1981) and *Winners & Sinners* (1983) together with Sammo Hung, Lam Ching-ying and Bee Chan.

Yuen co-founded Tai Ho Films Co., Ltd. with Corey Yuen Kwai in the mid-1980s and starred in the company's debut *Righting Wrongs* (1986). His *Iceman Cometh* (1989) and *Once Upon a Time in China* (1991) were both commercial and critical successes. He set up Yuen Biao Productions Ltd. in the 1990s where he directed and acted in *A Kid from Tibet* (1992). After his contract with Golden Harvest ended in 1993, he appeared in *Kick Boxer* (1993), *Circus Kids* (1994) and *A Man Called Hero* (1999). He was occasionally cast in TV dramas, and played the lead in two Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) productions, *Real Kung Fu* and *The Ultimate Crime Fighter* in 2005 and 2007. He continued to star in films after 2010, acting in such films as *Taichi Hero* (2014) and *The Bodyguard* (2016).

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