



LU Shihou 盧世侯 (Year of birth unknown–1959.8.20)

Costume Designer

A native of Nanjing, Lu moved to Shanghai with his father when he was young. His father, Lu Mingzhi, a financial magnate, was not only the president of the Daqing Government Bank during the Qing dynasty, but the managing director of Bank of China during the Republican period. His mother, Zhang Shuying, was talented in classical painting and embroidery. Inspired by his mother, Lu showed great talent in painting as a child. He was the second child of the five siblings. His brothers all held senior positions in the banking business. Lu had also worked in a bank for a year, but preferred to stay at home to study about painting. He was also acquainted with the legendary Buddhist monk Master Hongyi. Lu had taken part in film productions in the earlier years in Shanghai, working as costume design for *Ge Nenniang* (1939), directed by Zhang Shankun. Lu was particularly good at human figure painting and excelled in period costume design. When Yung Hwa Motion Picture Industries Ltd was formed, he was hired as the costume designer. His early works included *The Soul of China* (1948), *Sorrows of the Forbidden City* (1948), *The Sins of Our Fathers* (1949), *A Scholar's Adventures* (1952) and *General Chai and Lady Balsam* (1953). He was later recruited by Shaws and contributed to the success of period titles produced by Shaw & Sons Ltd and Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd. His major works included *Beyond the Grave* (1954), *Chin Ping Mei* (1955), *Diau Charn* (1958), *The Kingdom and the Beauty* (1959), *The Heroine* (1959) and *The Enchanting Shadow* (1960). In the mid-1950s, He was originally commissioned by the Japanese as the costume designer for the Shaws and Daiei Co., Ltd. collaboration, *Princess Yang Kwei Fei* (directed by Mizoguchi Kenji, 1955), but his title was later changed to research consultant due to disagreement during production. Known as the *monstre sacré* in the film industry, Lu was a true bohemian and never cared for fortune or fame, or abided to conventions. He took to wear only black traditional Chinese clothes made from the best material. Lu passed away of liver cancer on 20 August 1959 in Hong Kong.