



LUI Kay 呂奇 (b. 1942)

Actor, Director, Screenwriter

With an original name Tang Juemin, Lui was born in Taishan, Guangdong. He came to Hong Kong in 1949 and graduated from Puichung Secondary School. Lui enrolled in The Union Film Enterprise Ltd's training course for actors in 1958 and joined the Cantonese film unit of Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd the following year with his younger sister, Lee Man. He debuted on screen with *The Tragedy of Nine Lives* (1960) and played the leading role in *Sleeping Beauty* and *Love and Chastity* the same year. Before Shaws shut down its Cantonese film unit in 1964, he and Ko Fung founded the Ocean Film Co. He starred in its inaugural title, *My Darling Wife* (1965) and gained immediate success. Lui then starred in *Tears of Lovers* (1966), where he debuted as a screenwriter. In 1965, he set up 21st Century Film Co and wrote the screenplay for the satirical comedy *Jack-of-all-trades* (1966), which he also acted in. The company later released *Forget Not Tonight* (1966), *The Strange Girl* (1967) and *First Love Forever* (1967), all directed by Wong Yiu, starred and written by Lui. *Forget Not Tonight* further set a box office record for black-and-white films and made Lui and Connie Chan Po-chu the ideal screen couple. The pair also appeared in *Movie Fans* (1966), *Girls Are Flowers* (1966), *The Young Lovers* (1967), *The Pregnant Maiden* (1968) and *Beauty in the Mist* (1968). Some other celebrated titles of Lui included *The Violet Girl* (1966), *The Precious Mirror* (1967) and *The Single-armed Holy Nun* (1969).

In 1969, Lui directed his first film, *Mary, I Love You*, for which he wrote the script and acted in the film. He went on to direct five other titles, including *Love with a Malaysian Girl* (1969) and *Her Tender Love* (1969). At the end of the 1960s, when Cantonese cinema was degenerating, Lui switched to produce Mandarin films. After setting up New Art Film Co, he shot three films, including *House of Tears* (1971). Starting with *Sexy Girls of Denmark* (1973), which he directed for Shaws, he embarked on a path of making soft-core erotica, making films such as *Adultery Chinese Style* (1973), *Sexy Playgirls* (1973), etc. In 1974, he established Golden Film (Lui Chi) Company and produced such films, including *Starlets for Sale* (1977), *The Foxy Ladies* (1979) and *The Stud and the Nymphs* (1980), on behalf of Shaws. By the 1980s, the erotic elements in his films gradually lessened, while more comedic elements, largely of vulgar basis, were involved, such as *Sexy Career Girls* (1981) and *Man Crazy* (1982). Lui's works were characterised by their relatively strong realism, which distinguished them from other erotic films of the same period. After releasing his last film, *The Seductress* (1987), Lui faded out of the cinematic scene and moved to Taiwan. He had trained many actors, such as Miu Ka-lai, Ai Ti, Eddie Chan and his second wife, Ling Tai.