



TONG Kai 唐佳 (b. 1937.1.7)

Martial Arts Director

With the original name Huang Tang and the alias Huang Longji, Tong was born in Macau to a family native of Zhongshan, Guangdong. He left home in 1952 and came to work in Hong Kong. He worked in a theatrical troupe since young and studied Cantonese opera under Chan Kam-tong. Because of his admiration for the Northern fighting style on stage, he became a disciple of Simon Yuen Siu-tin. He first appeared as an extra in Chan Kam-tong's *Romance of Fuji Mountain* in 1954. With the recommendation of Yuen, Tong joined the film industry officially as a stuntman and extra in Cantonese films, such as the Wong Fei-hung series. In early 1963, he collaborated with Lau Kar-leung to direct the martial arts scenes of *The Dragon and the Phoenix*. Together they worked again for The Great Wall Movie Enterprises Ltd's *The Jade Bow* (1966), which made a name for both of them. Through Hsu Tseng-hung, he made acquaintance with Chang Cheh. Eventually both Tong and Lau were hired by Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd. They became long-term partners and designed action sequences in many of Chang's films, such as *One-Armed Swordsman* (1967), *Vengeance!* (1970), *The Boxer from Shantung* (1972), *The Blood Brothers* (1973) and *Shao Lin Martial Arts* (1974).

After Lau became a director in 1975, Tong started to work by himself as a martial arts director and worked mostly with Chor Yuen and Sun Chung. He created elegant fighting scenes for Chor's *Killer Clans* (1976), *The Magic Blade* (1976), *Swordsman and Enchantress* (1978), *Full Moon Scimitar* (1979), *The Proud Twins* (1979), all adaptations of Gu Long's fictions. On the other hand, he designed violent and action-packed scenes for Sun's *The Proud Youth* (1978), *The Avenging Eagle* (1978), *The Deadly Breaking Sword* (1979), *To Kill a Mastermind* (1979), etc. Tong once headed a hundred-person team of martial arts artists at Shaws. He also directed *Shaolin Prince* (1983), *Shaolin Intruders* (1983), *Opium and the kung-fu master* (1984) and is regarded as a major figure of Hong Kong action cinema.
