



## LEE Ching 李清 (1912–2000.7.14)

### Actor

A native of Dongguan, Guangdong, Lee was born in Kuala Lumpur with the original name Lee Hon-ching. Dubbed as the 'Iron Man of the Silver Screen', Lee entered the film industry as an actor in 1934 and appeared in *Bible for Girls* (1934) and *The New and Old Shanghai* (1936) upon completing the training course at Star Motion Pictures in Shanghai. In 1937, he joined United Photoplay Service Limited and acted in the segment titled 'Under the Moonlight' in *Symphony of Lianhua* (1937), followed by *The Lost Pearl* (1937) and more.

When the War of Resistance Against Japan began, he moved to Hong Kong and continued his acting career. His first film in Hong Kong was *Murder at the Wedding* (1938), followed by *The Blood-Stained Baoshan Fortress* (1938), *Shanghai under Fire* (1938), Mandarin films such as *Orphan Island Paradise* (1939) and *Ten Thousand Li Ahead* (1941). When Hong Kong fell into Japanese occupation, he joined the China Repertory Theatre. After the war, he returned to Hong Kong and starred in a Cantonese film, *The Fearless* (1947) and a Mandarin title, *Yonder My Love* (1947).

His works from the 1950s include Cantonese classics *Dawn Must Come* (1950) and *Kaleidoscope* (1950), as well as Mandarin features produced by Dragon-Horse (Loon-Ma) Films, *The Dividing Wall* (1952), *The Show Must Go On* (1952) and *Between Fire and Water* (1955). Lee founded The Union Film Enterprise Ltd with other filmmakers in 1952 and became one of its 21 shareholders. He also acted in a number of Union Film productions, including *A Son is Born* (1953), *A Home of a Million Gold* (1953), *Big Thunderstorm* (1954), *The Tormented Beauty* (1958) and *The Cruel Husband* (1959).

In the late 1950s, he worked for the Feng Huang Motion Picture Co and Sun Luen Film Company, appearing in *Full House* (1955), *His Fabulous Wife* (1957) and *Who's the Murderer?* (1957); as well as *Thunderstorm* (1957) and *A Tale of Laughter and Tears* (1957) for Overseas Chinese Films Co. Lee had over 100 films to his credit and continued acting until he retired due to health issues in the late 1970s. He passed away on 14 July 2000.

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