



## Michael HUI 許冠文 (b. 1942.9.3)

### Director, Screenwriter, Actor, Producer

Born in Guangzhou and a native of Panyu, Guangdong, Michael Hui moved to Hong Kong with his family in 1950. He later graduated from the Department of Sociology at The Chinese University of Hong Kong. He joined Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB) in 1968 when he was studying in university and hosted TV programmes such as *Interschool Quiz Contest* and *Enjoy Yourself Tonight*. Hui was soon joined by his younger brother, Sam in hosting *The Hui Brothers Show*, an enormously popular comedy show that put both their names on the map.

In 1972, Hui was then invited by director Li Han-hsiang to star in *The Warlord*, a Mandarin comedy directed by Li, after his return to Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd. Hui's debut was an instant hit. The film grossed over HK\$3 million and ranked number two at the box office that year. It was followed by *The Happiest Moment* (1973), *Scandal* (1974) and *Sinful Confession* (1974). In 1974, when his proposal of directing films himself was turned down by Shaws, he made a shift and joined Golden Harvest (HK) Limited. Hui wrote and directed *Games Gamblers Play* (1974) under his own production company, the Hui's Film Company. This Cantonese comedy, starring both Michael and Sam, broke the Hong Kong record and scored over HK\$6 million at the box office. Their collaboration in the following year, *The Last Message* (1975) also became the top grosser of the year. In 1976, *The Private Eyes*, in which his brother Ricky joined them in the lead, earned a record high of over HK\$8 million. *The Contract* (1978) and *Security Unlimited* (1981) again topped the box-office chart in their respective years. *Security Unlimited* is another record-breaker grossing over HK\$17 million, and brought him the accolade of Best Actor at the inaugural Hong Kong Film Awards in 1982. He later wrote, directed and starred in *Teppanyaki* (1984) and *Happy Din Don* (1986) for Golden Harvest. His films were not only big hits in the local market, they had further successfully tapped into the Taiwanese, Japanese and Southeast Asian markets.

Hui also starred in and participated in writing box-office hits such as *Mr Boo VIII Chocolate Inspector* (1986) and *Front Page* (1990), both directed by Philip Chan; as well as *Chicken and Duck Talk* (1988) and *Mr Coconut* (1989), both directed by Clifton Ko Chi-sum. In the 1990s, apart from *The Magic Touch* (co-scripted with Dayo Wong, 1992) in which he wrote, directed and acted, he only appeared occasionally in films. His recent major performance was a Taiwanese film entitled *Godspeed* (2016).