



## Ricky HUI 許冠英 (1946.8.3–2011)

### Actor

A native of Panyu, Guangdong, Hui was born in Guangzhou. He moved to Hong Kong with his family in 1950 and worked at the Agence France-Presse in 1967 after graduating from secondary school. In 1971, he enrolled in the inaugural actors' training programme co-organised by Shaw Brothers (Hong Kong) Ltd and Television Broadcasts Limited (TVB), and earned an actor's contract from Shaws upon completion. He was then cast in several Shaws titles such as *The Generation Gap* (1973), *Illicit Desire* (1973), *Rivals of Kung Fu* (1974). Hui later joined Golden Harvest (HK) Limited and began to garner attention with his performance in *The Private Eyes* (1976), directed and written by his brother Michael Hui. Since then, he was frequently featured in Hui Brothers films including *The Contract* (1978) and *Security Unlimited* (1981).

His first lead role came in *The Pilferers' Progress* (1977), a comedy directed by John Woo that made HK\$5 million and topped the box-office chart of the year. He went on to star in a number of Golden Harvest comedies by Woo, namely *From Riches to Rags* (1980), *To Hell with the Devil* (1982), *Plain Jane to the Rescue* (1982). He subsequently took part in Golden Harvest horror-comedies such as *The Trail* (1983), *Mr. Vampire* (1985) and *The Haunted Cop Shop* (1987); among which *Mr. Vampire* set off a craze for vampire features. Hui later also took the lead in *Chicken and Duck Talk* (1988), *Mr. Coconut* (1989), *Front Page* (1990), *Mr. Vampire 1992* (1992) and *Laughters of 'Water Margins'* (1993).

Typecast as a timid, good-hearted everyman, Hui's best achievement was in comedy. Since 2000, he only appeared occasionally on screen and his last acting credits were *Super Model* (2004) and *Forever Yours* (2004). Hui died from a heart attack in Hong Kong in 2011.