



## YAM Bing-yee 任冰兒 (1931-2022.5.21)

### Actress

A native of Nanhai County, Guangdong Province, Yam has been acclaimed as the 'The Queen of Second Lead Actresses'. Her husband is famous Cantonese opera performer Sek Yin-tsi. Yam moved from Guangzhou to Macao at age 5. She studied at Colegio de Santa Rosa de Lima, and followed Siu Mang-ha to perform Cantonese operas. She made her stage debut at age 11, and played *meixiang* (supporting female roles) along Ho Fei-fan and Tang Bik-wan. In the mid-1940s, Yam joined the New Voice Opera Troupe in Macao. After Hong Kong was liberated from Japanese occupation, she followed the troupe and relocated to Hong Kong. Yam has continued to perform since then.

In 1956, Yam was promoted to the second lead actress in the Sin Fung Ming Opera Troupe which was founded by Yam Kim-fai and Pak Suet-sin. By 1969, when the troupe was dismissed, Yam had acted in such notable plays as *Mistake at the Flower Festival*, *Dream of the Western Chamber* and *The Romance of the White Snake*.

Yam's first film was *Good Girl Covers for Both Sides* in 1948. She has appeared in *Thirteenth Sisters Adventure in Neng Yan Temple* (1948), *Three Blessings* (1953), *The Fairy of Ninth Heaven* (1959), *The Legend of Purple Hairpin* (1959), *The Funny Thief* (1963), *The Revenge Battle* (1964). The last film she appeared in was *Tragedy of a Poet King* (1968). Yam's favourite cinematic persona was always as a maid. The puritan girl in *The Revenge Battle* is one of her rare complicated characters.

Yam appeared on Asia Television (ATV) series *Heroic Legend of the Yang's Family* in 1994. She received the Award for Outstanding Contribution in Arts from the Hong Kong Arts Development Council in 2012.

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