



VETERAN ACTRESS

dies at the age of 100

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Qin Yi
Actress

Xu Wei

The Chinese film industry is mourning the passing of veteran actress Qin Yi in Shanghai on Monday.

The actress was 100 when she breathed her last at Huadong Hospital.

Qin, celebrated as a “People’s Artist” and “The Most Beautiful Struggle,” was witness to the growth of the Chinese film industry and had contributed extensively to its development over the last few decades.

The Shanghai-born actress is best known for her work in films and television, namely, “Railway Guerrillas,” “Malan Blossom,” “Women Basketball Player No. 5” and “Northland Jiangnan.”

After a brief marriage to theater performer Chen Tianguo in 1939, she married actor Jin Yan in 1947. Jin died in 1983. Their son, Jin Jie, suffered from

schizophrenia. Arnold Schwarzenegger paid US\$25,000 for one of his paintings. The Hollywood star commended Qin’s devotion to her son.

Qin left her mark on the screen with her choice of films, often reflecting the bravery, tenacity, optimism and elegance of women, that touched and inspired generations of people.

Qin never stopped her pursuit of excellence in film art. At the age of 93, she wrote the script for the film “Qinghai Lakeside” and starred in it despite her advanced age. The film was mainly shot at the high altitudes of Qinghai-Tibet Plateau.

In 2019, she also played a role in the public-interest film “For Love With You.” Qin shot her portions of the film while convalescing in the hospital. The film was successful in raising public awareness about the importance of caring for senior citizens.

Qin, who began her film career in

1939, picked up several awards in her long career. At the 27th China Film Golden Rooster Award in 2009, she was given the Lifetime Achievement Award.

In interviews, Qin said that cinema was her lifelong pursuit and encouraged young people to wholeheartedly embrace their careers in it.

“As an actress, I hope to spread the power and spirit of outstanding work to people, and I think they will be enlightened and inspired,” Qin said.

The veteran actress reiterated that the most important things in life were not wealth and fame, but what one could create for the world and its inhabitants.

“Qin has created many classic images of women on the screen, but perhaps the most notable and beautiful image she left behind was one of herself,” said Ren Zhonglun, chairman of the Shanghai Film Association.