



# Will Yun Lee

**⚠ This is an old revision of this page, as edited by 189.27.88.56 (talk) at 21:17, 2 July 2018 (→*Early life*). The present address (URL) is a permanent link to this revision, which may differ significantly from the current revision.**

**Will Yun Lee** (born March 22, 1971) is an American actor and martial artist. He is best known for his roles as Danny Woo in the supernatural drama series *Witchblade* and Jae Kim in the science fiction drama series *Bionic Woman*. Lee has also portrayed notable roles in the films *Die Another Day* (2002), *Elektra* (2005), and *The Wolverine* (2013).

Lee plays a recurring role as Sang Min in the police drama series *Hawaii Five-0*, and has also voiced Wei Shen, the protagonist of the video game *Sleeping Dogs* (2012).

## Early life

Lee was born in Arlington, Virginia to Korean parents.<sup>[1]</sup> His parents are mother Jing Ja Lee and father Soo Woong Lee, a Taekwondo grandmaster.<sup>[2]</sup> He first began training at just three years old and spent a portion of his youth teaching at Lee's Tae Kwon Do training facility, his family's business in Napa, California. Lee attended UC Berkeley with a full athletic scholarship to study political science and ethnic studies.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Career

Will Yun Lee had supporting roles in high-profile films such as *Die Another Day*, *Torque*, *The King of Fighters* and *Elektra*. He has also acted on FX Network's mini-series *Thief* and ABC Family's TV movie Mini-series *Fallen*. He recently guest starred in *Hawaii Five-0* as recurring character "Sang Min", and in *True Blood* as "Mr. Gus". He also played Kenuichio Harada in James Mangold's *The Wolverine* (2013).<sup>[4]</sup>

He provides the voice of the protagonist in Square Enix's Hong Kong open-world crime game, *Sleeping Dogs* as undercover cop Wei Shen.

### Will Yun Lee



Lee in 2013

<b>Born</b>	Lee Sang-wook (이성욱) <div>March 22, 1971</div> <div>Arlington, Virginia, U.S.</div>
<b>Alma<span> </span>mater</b>	<u>University of California, Berkeley</u>
<b>Years<span> </span>active</b>	1997–present
<b>Spouse</b>	Jennifer Birmingham (m. 2010)
<b>Korean name</b>	
<span>Hangul</span>	이성욱
<span>Hanja</span>	이성욱
<span>Revised Romanization</span>	<i>l Sang-uk</i>
<span>McCune–Reischauer</span>	<i>Ri Sang'uk</i>

In 2002 he was named by *People* as one of their "50 Most Beautiful People", which quickly led to high-profile roles. In November 2007, he was again recognized by *People*, this time as one of the members of their list of the 15 "Sexiest Men Alive".<sup>[5]</sup>

Will Yun Lee is among the actors, producers and directors interviewed in the 2006 documentary *The Slanted Screen*, directed by Jeff Adachi, about the representation of Asian and Asian American men in Hollywood. He was in the music video of Mariah Carey's "Boy (I Need You)" as well as Ice Cube's "Roll Call".

## **Personal life**

---



Lee on the cover of *KoreAm* in 2007

In October 2010, Lee married actress Jennifer Birmingham in Shreveport, Louisiana.<sup>[6]</sup> Their son was born in June 2013.<sup>[7]</sup>

## Filmography

---

Film			
Year	Film	Role	Notes
2000	<i>Gung Fu: The New Dragon</i>	Danny	
	<i>What's Cooking?</i>	Jimmy Nguyen	
2002	<i>Die Another Day</i>	<u>Colonel Tan-Sun Moon</u>	
	<i>Four Reasons</i>	Buddha	<u>Direct-to-video</u>
2004	<i>Torque</i>	Val	
2005	<i>Elektra</i>	<u>Kirigi</u>	
2005	<i>The Seed</i>	Ken Marcado	
2007	<i>Hers</i>	Lucas	
2008	<i>6th and Santa Fe</i>		Short film
2010	<i>The King of Fighters</i>	Iori Yagami	
2011	<i>Where the Road Meets the Sun</i>	Takashi	
	<i>Setup</i>	Joey	
	<i>Five Star Day</i>	Samuel Kim	
	<i>Oka!</i>	Yi	
2012	<i>Total Recall</i>	Marek	
	<i>Red Dawn</i>	Captain Cho	
2013	<i>Superman: Unbound</i>	Parasoldier Leader	Voice role Direct-to-video
	<i>Make Your Move 3D</i>	Kaz	
	<i>Lost for Words</i>	Stanford	
	<i>The Wolverine</i>	<u>Kenuichio Harada</u>	
	<i>Four Assassins</i>	Marcus	
2015	<i>Spy</i>	Timothy Cress	
	<i>Power/Rangers</i>	General Klank	Short film
	<i>San Andreas</i>	Dr. Kim Park	
2016	<i>Restored Me</i>	Trevor Kang	
	<i>She Has a Name</i>	Akkarat	
2017	<i>Unspoken: Diary of an Assassin</i>		
2018	<i>Bangkok Love Story</i>		
	<i>Canal Street</i>	Officer Hank Chu	
	<i>Adi Shankar's Gods and Secrets</i>		

Television			
Year	Film	Role	Notes
1997	<i>Nash Bridges</i>	Quick	Episode: "Gun Play"
1998	<i>Profiler</i>	Andrew Young	Episode: "Ties That Bind"
	<i>Brimstone</i>	Roger	Episode: "Poem"
1999	<i>V.I.P.</i>	Bobby Wu	Episode: "Mao Better Blues"
	<i>The Disciples</i>	Yoyo Lee	TV movie
2000	<i>Witchblade</i>	Danny Woo	TV movie
2001	<i>The Agency</i>	Sam	Episode: "The Year of Living Dangerously"
2001–2002	<i>Witchblade</i>	Detective Danny Woo	23 episodes
2002	<i>Face</i>	Daniel	
2003	<i>10-8: Officers on Duty</i>	Detective Danny Chang	Episode: "Let It Bleed"
2004	<i>Threat Matrix</i>	Danny Roh	Episode: "PPX"
	<i>Law &amp; Order</i>	Hiroji Yoshida	Episode: "Gaijin"
	<i>10-8: Officers on Duty</i>	Detective Danny Chang	Episode: "Love Don't Love Nobody"
2006	<i>Thief</i>	Vincent Chan	Miniseries
	<i>CSI: Crime Scene Investigation</i>	Dennis Kim	Episode: "Time of Your Death"
	<i>Tsunami: The Aftermath</i>	Chai	Miniseries
2007	<i>Hustle</i>	Shiro	Episode: "Conning the Artists"
	<i>Fallen</i>	Mazarin	4 episodes
	<i>Bionic Woman</i>	Jae Kim	7 episodes
2008	<i>Finnegan</i>	Taki	TV movie
2010	<i>Boston's Finest</i>	Eddie Lao	TV movie
2010–2017	<i>Hawaii Five-0</i>	Sang Min	11 episodes
2014	<i>The Novice</i>	The Big Bang	TV movie
	<i>True Blood</i>	Mr. Gus	5 episodes
	<i>Intelligence</i>	Jin Cong	2 episodes
2015	<i>Strike Back: Legacy</i>	Kwon	5 episodes
	<i>Dr. Ken</i>	Kevin O'Connell	Episode: "Kevin O'Connell"
	<i>The Player</i>	Liu Zeng	Episode: "House Rules"
	<i>Warrior</i>	Susano	
2016–2018	<i>Falling Water</i> <sup>[8]</sup>	Taka	Main Role
2018	<i>Altered Carbon</i>	Takeshi Kovacs	4 episodes
	<i>The Good Doctor</i>	Dr. Alex Park	

Video Games			
Year	Title	Role	Notes
2011	<i>Saints Row: The Third</i>	Pedestrian and Character Voices	Voice role
2012	<i>The Amazing Spider-Man</i>	Additional Voices	Voice role
	<i>Infex</i>	IngenBio Guard	Voice role
	<i>Sleeping Dogs</i>	Wei Shen	Voice role
	<i>Sleeping Dogs: Nightmare in North Point</i>	Wei Shen	Voice role
	<i>Sleeping Dogs: Zodiac Tournament</i>	Wei Shen	Voice role
2013	<i>Sleeping Dogs: Year of the Snake</i>	Wei Shen	Voice role
	<i>Saints Row IV</i>	The Voices of Virtual Steelport	Voice role
2015	<i>Mortal Kombat X</i>	Kung Lao	Voice role <sup>[9]</sup> <sup>[10]</sup>

## References

- Busch, Anita. "Asian Actors In Hollywood: Increased Roles Mark Industry Sea Change" (<http://deadline.com/2015/09/asian-actors-hollywood-roles-diversity-1201513765/>). *Deadline Hollywood*.
- Cha, John (March 28, 2014). "March Issue: Something Worth Fighting For" (<http://iamkoream.com/march-issue-something-worth-fighting-for/>). *KoreAm*. Retrieved July 4, 2015.
- Turner, Miki (November 25, 2000). "What's Cooking For Will Yun Lee?" ([http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2000-11-25/news/0011250288\\_1\\_parents-nash-bridges-family](http://articles.chicagotribune.com/2000-11-25/news/0011250288_1_parents-nash-bridges-family)). *Chicago Tribune*.
- Eisenberg, Eric (July 9, 2012). "The Wolverine Adds Will Yun Lee as Silver Samurai" (<http://www.cinemablend.com/new/Wolverine-Adds-Yun-Lee-Villain-31786.html>). *CinemaBlend*. Retrieved July 11, 2012.
- "Sexiest Man Alive 2007: Will Yun Lee" ([https://web.archive.org/web/20080117025942/http://www.people.com/people/package/gallery/0,,20154290\\_20159879\\_13,00.html](https://web.archive.org/web/20080117025942/http://www.people.com/people/package/gallery/0,,20154290_20159879_13,00.html)). *People*. November 14, 2008. Archived from the original ([http://www.people.com/people/package/gallery/0,,20154290\\_20159879\\_13,00.html](http://www.people.com/people/package/gallery/0,,20154290_20159879_13,00.html)) on January 17, 2008. Retrieved November 21, 2007.
- Wihlborg, Ulrica (October 31, 2010). "Nick Lachey Is Real-Life Wedding Singer" (<http://www.people.com/people/article/0,,20438286,00.html>). *People*. Retrieved March 16, 2011.
- Leon, Anya (June 6, 2013). "Will Yun and Jennifer Birmingham Lee Welcome Son Cash" (<http://celebritybabies.people.com/2013/06/06/will-yun-lee-jennifer-birmingham-lee-welcome-son-cash/>). Reporting by Julie Jordan. *People*. Retrieved July 4, 2015.
- Warren, Andrew. "A Tennessee tale: Dolly Parton's most famous story is coming to the screen" (<http://decoy.tvpassport.com/news/tennesse-tale-dolly-partons-most-famous-story-coming-screen?suid=national-00001>). *TV Media*.
- Brian Chard [@bcharred] (April 14, 2015). "Huge thanks to the stellar MKX voice actors: Troy @TroyBakerVA (Shinnok/EBLack/Fujin), Ronald M. Banks (Quan Chi); Ashly Burch (Cassie)..." (<https://twitter.com/bcharred/status/588004593700732928>) (Tweet). Retrieved April 21, 2015 – via Twitter.
- Brian Chard [@bcharred] (April 14, 2015). "...Nathan Hosner (Narrator); Kelly Hu (D'Vorah/Sindel/Frost); Phil LaMarr (Kotal Kahn); Will Yun Lee (Kung Lao); Patrick Seitz

(Scorpion)..." (<https://twitter.com/bcharred/status/588005876620890112>) ([Tweet](#)). Retrieved April 21, 2015 – via [Twitter](#).

## External links

---

- Will Yun Lee (<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0498449/>) at [IMDb](#)
  - Eichberger, Gaby; Schmidt, Christine (September 2011). "Interview with Will Yun Lee" (<http://www.willyunlee.mycoven.com>). mycoven.com
- 

Retrieved from "[https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Will\\_Yun\\_Lee&oldid=848579527](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Will_Yun_Lee&oldid=848579527)"

■