

= Si Ronda =

Si Ronda is a 1930 silent film from the Dutch East Indies which was directed by Lie Tek Swie and starred Bachtiar Effendi . Based on contemporary Betawi oral tradition , it follows the exploits of a bandit , skilled in silat ( traditional Malay martial arts ) , known as Si Ronda . In the lenong stories from which the film was derived , Ronda was often depicted as a Robin Hood type of figure . The production , now thought lost , was one of a series of martial arts films released between 1929 and 1931 . Si Ronda received little coverage in the media upon its release . A second adaptation of the tale , Si Ronda Macan Betawi , was made in 1978 .

= = Production = =

Si Ronda was adapted from a lenong ( a Betawi oral tradition similar to a stage play ) popular with ethnic Chinese and native audiences of the time . The Ronda stories follow the Betawi bandit of the same name , who is skilled at silat ( traditional martial arts ) and reputed to take from the rich to give to the poor . The Indonesian film scholar Misbach Yusa Biran suggests that Ronda was selected for adaptation because of its potential action sequences . In the domestic cinema , such sequences had generally been inspired by American works and been well received by audiences .

Similar stories to Si Ronda 's include those of Si Jampang and Si Pitung ; these stage plays centred on extraordinary men ( referred to as jago ) who , though living outside the law , generally fought for the common populace . Adaptations of the genre , manifested as bandit films , became popular in domestic cinema following the release of Si Tjonat by Batavia Motion Picture in 1929 . This release was followed by the Wong brothers ' Rampok Preanger ( also 1929 ) , and an adaptation of the Si Pitung stories in 1931 . Not all films in this genre , which consisted of a quarter of all domestic releases for 1929 ? 1931 , maintained the heroic qualities of the central character : the Wongs ' adaptation of Si Pitung , for instance , portrayed him as a simple bandit and not the Robin Hood figure of stage .

Si Ronda was directed by Lie Tek Swie and produced by Tan Khoen Yauw of Tan 's Film . The two had previously worked together on the company 's highly profitable Njai Dasima in 1929 . Cinematography was handled by A. Loepias . Shot in black @-@ and @-@ white , this silent film starred Bachtiar Effendi , a set decorator with Tan 's , in his on @-@ screen debut playing the title role . It also featured Momo , an actor who had appeared in the film Njai Dasima .

= = Release and legacy = =

Si Ronda was released in 1930 ; Effendi stated that it was released before Tan 's Nancy Bikin Pembalesan ( Nancy Takes Revenge ) , a sequel to Njai Dasima , began screening in May 1930 . Dutch newspapers indicate that it had screened in Medan , North Sumatra , by 1932 . Biran writes that the film received little coverage ; he notes that Sinematek Indonesia has no news clippings related to Si Ronda .

After Si Ronda , Lie and Tan collaborated on three further films . Lie left Tan 's in 1932 , reportedly as his approach no longer matched Tan 's low @-@ class target audience and caused the works to go over budget . Effendi continued to work with Tan 's until 1932 , when he left to head the cinema magazine Doenia Film . Momo continued acting until 1941 , first with Tan 's and later with Standard Film . The film is likely lost . The American visual anthropologist Karl G. Heider writes that all Indonesian films from before 1950 are lost . However , JB Kristanto 's Katalog Film Indonesia ( Indonesian Film Catalogue ) records several as having survived at Sinematek Indonesia 's archives .

Another film based on the Ronda stories , titled Si Ronda Macan Betawi ( Ronda the Betawi Tiger ) , was released in 1978 . Directed by Fritz G. Schadt , it starred Dicky Zulkarnaen in the title role and Lenny Marlina as his lover . In this adaptation Ronda uses his silat skills to fight corrupt land owners and colonial government workers .