

= Star Film (Dutch East Indies company) =

Star Film was a film production company in the Dutch East Indies . Established by Chinese @-@ Indonesian businessman Jo Eng Sek and Chinese cameraman Cho ' Chin Hsin in 1940 , it produced five black @-@ and @-@ white films in 1940 and 1941 ; two of these were directed by Jo , and the remainder were directed by Wu Tsun . Another film was under production when the studio was closed following the Japanese occupation of the Dutch East Indies . Star helped establish the careers of actors such as S Waldy and Elly Joenara , and produced screenplays written by Rd Ariffien and Saeroen ; its output , however , is probably lost .

= = History = =

Star Film was established by Jo Eng Sek , who had previous film experience as co @-@ producer of Si Tjonat (1929) , and Shanghai @-@ based cameraman Cho ' Chin Hsin ; for much of the life of the company , Jo would take the role of producer while Cho ' would be on camera . The company 's headquarters were located at Prinsenlaan , Batavia (now Mangga Besar , Jakarta) . The company released its first film , Pah Wongso Pendekar Boediman , in April 1941 . For this detective film , Star signed L. V. Wijnhamer Jr . , an Indo social worker popular with the ethnic Chinese community . The film was a commercial success , allowing the company to expand .

Later Jo signed Rd Ariffien as a screenwriter ; the studio touted this as a victory , owing to Ariffien 's wide network as a journalist . He wrote a single work for the company , Tjioeng Wanara , based on the Sundanese legend as retold by M. A. Salmoen in a 1938 Balai Pustaka @-@ published edition ; this was directed and produced by Jo . Several actors cast for the film continued with Star for the remainder of its existence , including comedian S Waldy and future film producer Elly Joenara . However , Ariffien left Star owing to dissatisfaction over Tjioeng Wanara .

Star continued expanding , and Jo brought aboard Chinese director Wu Tsun , whose first film for the company was Lintah Darat . It had begun production before the release of Tjioeng Wanara and dealt with a family torn apart by dealings with a loan shark . This production received positive reviews . Star then produced a sequel to Pah Wongso Pendekar Boediman , again with Wu at the helm , and drew the journalist Saeroen as writer . In this film , titled Pah Wongso Tersangka , Star emphasised comedy , relying on the interactions between Waldy , Pah Wongso , and the comedian Sarip .

Saeroen wrote one more film for Star in 1941 , Ajah Berdosa , before leaving the company . This film , which follows a villager named Mardiman over a period of several years in which he loses everything owing to his infatuation with a " modern " woman , was advertised as " an extremely simple and touching story " and received positive reviews . By late 1941 , Star was producing an adaptation of the One Thousand and One Nights , titled 1001 Malam . At the time several contemporary works were being adapted from Nights , including Tan 's Film 's Aladin and Koeda Sembrani , Populair 's Film 's Moestika dari Djemar , and Java Industrial Film 's Ratna Moetoe Manikam .

By early 1942 , the colonial government of the Dutch East Indies had become concerned with the possibility of an invasion by the Empire of Japan . This fear reached the general populace , and the February 1942 edition of film magazine Pertjatoeran Doenia dan Film reported that several studios would move away from the colonial capital of Batavia or go on a production hiatus . Star , though production of 1001 Malam was incomplete , was reported to be preparing to move . When the Japanese occupied the Indies in March 1942 , Star was closed , never to reopen .

= = Filmography = =

Star Film produced six films in two years . All were feature length , black @-@ and @-@ white works , receiving wide releases in the Dutch East Indies . Some , such as Pah Wongso Pendekar Boediman , were reportedly screened as far away as and British Malaya , China , and Singapore . Though its films were screened at least into the late 1940s , the company 's output is likely lost .

Pah Wongso Pendekar Boediman (1940)
Tjioeng Wanara (1941)
Lintah Darat (1941)
Pah Wongso Tersangka (1941)
Ajah Berdosa (1941)
1001 Malam (unfinished)

= = Explanatory notes = =