

= Wim Umboh =

Ahmad Salim ( 26 March 1933 ? 24 January 1996 ) , better known by his birth name Wim Umboh but also known by the Chinese name Liem Yan Yung , was an Indonesian director who is best known for his melodramatic romances .

Born in North Sulawesi , Umboh was orphaned at the age of eight and later adopted by a Chinese @-@ Indonesian doctor . After high school , he moved to Jakarta and found work at Golden Arrow Studios as a janitor and , later , translator . In 1955 he made his screen debut as a director with Dibalik Dinding ( Behind the Walls ) . During his career , which spanned more than forty years , Umboh directed close to fifty movies , which garnered 29 Citra Awards from the Indonesian Film Festival . He was diagnosed with liver cancer in 1978 but , after recovering , he continued to work until his death from complications of diabetes and a stroke . Umboh was married three times and had two children .

An authoritarian director who strove for perfection , Umboh was known for experimenting with different technologies and , according to fellow director Teguh Karya , memorised the entire dialogue of his films during shooting . He preferred medium and close @-@ up shots . Umboh influenced numerous Indonesian directors , including Karya , Slamet Rahardjo , Garin Nugroho , and Arifin C. Noer , and his work launched the careers of several Indonesian stars , including Sopha Sophiaan and Roy Marten . Among his most famous works are Pengantin Remadja ( Teenage Bride ; 1971 ) , Mama ( 1972 ) , and Pengemis dan Tukang Becak ( The Beggar and the Pedicab Driver ; 1978 ) , the last of which was Umboh 's personal favourite .

= = Biography = =

= = = Early life = = =

Umboh was born in Wauilinei , Manado , North Sulawesi , Dutch East Indies , on 26 March 1933 to a Chinese @-@ Indonesian family . He had 11 siblings . When Umboh was seven , their mother died , and when his father died the following year Umboh was adopted by a Chinese @-@ Indonesian doctor named Liem . After being adopted , he received the Chinese name Liem Yan Yung and began learning Mandarin . While working part @-@ time as a shoemaker , he finished high school ; in high school he began writing scripts for stageplays . In 1952 Umboh decided to go to Jakarta .

Umboh was introduced to the film industry in 1953 by Boes Boestami , who secured him a job as a janitor at Golden Arrow Studios , owned by Chok Chin Hsin ( also known as CC Hardy ) . He later became a Mandarin @-@ Indonesian translator for imported films and studied filmmaking from Chok . In the 1950s , he was a member of the Senen Artists ' Group , a group which met at Senen in Jakarta .

= = = Career = = =

Umboh made his directorial debut with Dibalik Dinding ( Behind the Walls ) in 1955 . This was followed in 1956 by Terang Bulan Terang di Tengah Kali ( Moonlight Shining in the Middle of the Stream ) , which also marked the first acting role of future director Sjumandjaja . That same year , he married R.O. Unarsih , with whom he had had a daughter named Maria the following year ; the couple divorced in 1957 . Umboh founded Aries Film together with Any Mambo in 1960 , and the studio released its first film , Istana Jang Hilang ( The Missing Palace ) . Three years later , he directed his daughter in Bintang Ketjil ( Small Star ) .

Umboh 's film Sembilan ( Nine ; 1967 ) was the first fully Indonesian film to be both in colour and CinemaScope ; it was released at a time when the Indonesian film industry was incredulous of the profitability of colour films . Umboh released Pengantin Remadja ( Teenage Bride ) in 1971 , which went on to win the Asian Film Festival ; the film cast Sopha Sophiaan and Widyawati in its starring

roles and led to the pair taking romantic roles together several more times . Umboh 's 1972 film *Mama* was the first local production shot in 70 mm film and stereo sound . The film was also shot without a screenplay ; instead , Sjumandjaja wrote the script while shooting was in progress . In 1973 Umboh cast Sophan Sophiaan and Widyawati together again for his film *Pernikahan ( Wedding )* , which went on to win eight Citra Awards at the Indonesian Film Festival ; the win was a record which held for 13 years , until Teguh Karya 's *Ibunda ( Mother )* took away nine Citras in 1986 . On 23 May 1974 , he married actress Paula Roemokoy , a divorcée 17 years his junior , in a civil ceremony in Jakarta .

Umboh fell ill around the time he was filming *Pengemis dan Tukang Becak ( The Beggar and the Pedicab Driver ; 1978 )* , which starred Christine Hakim and Alan Nuary . According to Sophan Sophian , Umboh fell in the bathroom when the film was being shot in Surakarta , Central Java , leaving Umboh was unconscious for eleven days . The film was finished by Lukman Hakim Nain , and Umboh was sent back to Jakarta after several blood infusions in Surakarta . He was treated at Husuda Hospital in Mangga Besar and diagnosed with aggressive liver cancer . At Husuda , he spent a week in the intensive care unit , during which time he lost 9 kilograms ( 20 lb ) , before being put in a regular room . The hospital stay devastated him financially , which led to a 2 @-@ year struggle with the tax office over back taxes . A heavy smoker , after his struggle with cancer he cut back on the habit .

By August 1980 Umboh had recovered enough strength to direct his next film , *Disini Cinta Pertama Kali Bersemi ( Here Love Bloomed for the First Time )* , based on the novel by Mira W. Shortly before directing *Putri Seorang Jenderal ( A General 's Daughter ; an adaptation of Motinggo Busye 's novel of the same name )* in 1981 , Umboh divorced Roemokoy . Umboh converted to Islam in 1983 and changed his name to Ahmad Salim . On 24 August of the following year Umboh married Inne Ermina Chomid , a police officer 's daughter of Sundanese descent 28 years his junior . As his health was improving , Umboh continued to make films , including *Kabut Perkawinan ( The Fog of Wedlock ; 1984 )* . Umboh and Chomid had a son , William Umboh Ikhsan Salim , in 1986 .

== Later years and death ==

After the Indonesian film industry crashed in 1992 Umboh directed two television serials : *Pahlawan Tak Dikenal ( Unknown Hero ; 1994 )* and *Apsari* . The crash , along with his long illness , led his finances to destabilise , to the point where he lived in government housing . In 1994 *Suara Pembaharuan ( now Suara Pembaruan )* , inaccurately reported him having died , a claim which Umboh publicly refuted . Umboh died at 4 : 45 am WIB ( UTC + 7 ) on 24 January 1996 in Jakarta of complications from diabetes and a stroke . He was buried in Jeruk Purut Cemetery , South Jakarta . Three weeks before his death , he was reportedly in good health and preparing to film a new serial entitled *Gejolak Kampus Muda ( Symptoms of a Youth Campus )* .

== Style ==

Umboh was an authoritarian perfectionist , who often reshot scenes he felt flawed and refused input from the actors . He sometimes worked together with other directors , including Sjumandjaja , Misbach Yusa Biran , and Arifin C. Noer , to improve the film 's flow . These collaborations influenced the atmosphere of the films ; for example , films shot with Noer like *Sesuatu yang Indah ( Something Beautiful ; 1976 )* came across as surrealistic , while collaborations with Sjumandjaja were more realistic . Shooting scripts were often prepared minutes before shooting , but , according to Karya , Umboh memorised each line of dialogue and used his recollection during dubbing .

Most of the films directed by Umboh were romantic melodramas , a genre which had existed in Indonesia since the 1950s but was refined by Umboh . However , he preferred shooting films with a social message ; he considered *Pengemis dan Tukang Becak* his favourite film . When shooting , Umboh minimised his use of master shots , instead preferring to use medium and close @-@ up shots ; his obituary in *Kompas* notes that around 80 per cent of any given Umboh film used these latter two shots .

## = = Legacy = =

Kompas notes that several Indonesian directors have been directly influenced by Umboh . Slamet Rahardjo and Garin Nugroho have continued his exploratory shooting techniques , while his editing and framing methods were further developed by Teguh Karya , Sophian , and Noer . The careers of numerous actors were launched by Umboh 's films , including Sophiaan , Roy Marten , Tanti Yosepha , and Yenny Rachman . In a 1996 interview with Republika , Widyawati credited Umboh for her marriage to Sophiaan as he had introduced them for Pengantin Remadja . In a eulogy at Umboh 's funeral , Rahardjo ? then head of the Television Actors Guild ? said that the Indonesian film industry would be " nothing " if it were not for Umboh 's contributions .

## = = Awards = =

During his career , Umboh 's films received 29 Citra Awards , nine of which were specifically for Umboh as director or editor . Award @-@ winning films he directed include Pengantin Remadja , Mama , and Pengemis dan Tukang Becak .

## = = Filmography = =