

## LI BINGBING



## **BIOGRAPHY**

Li Bingbing is one of China's most famous and celebrated actresses. But it wasn't until she graduated from high school, and a friend persuaded her to join the Shanghai Drama Institute in 1993, that she discovered a passion for acting that would change her life.

Her debut role in Zhang Yuan's Seventeen Years in 1999 earned her a Best Actress award at the Singapore Film Festival and kick-started her diverse and critically-acclaimed film and television career. In 2001, she joined the cast of the hit TV series Young Justice Bao in a role that made her a household name in China.

In 2004, Li starred in the romantic comedy Waiting Alone, which received three Chinese Academy Awards. She went onto win Best Actress at the 2007 Huabiao Awards for the role, and at the 2008 Hundred Flower Awards for her performance in The Knot (China's entry for Best Foreign Film at the 2008 Academy Awards).

In 2008, she starred with Jet Li and Jackie Chan in The Forbidden Kingdom, which introduced her to global audiences. The next year, her powerful performance in The Message earned her a Best Leading Actress award at the Golden Horse Film Awards. Soon after, Li took her first lead role in an English language film in Snow Flower and the Secret Fan, which screened at the 2011 Cannes Film Festival. Next up, she will collaborate with Jackie Chan once more to produce and star in 1911, scheduled for release in September 2011 to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Xinhai Revolution.

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When she's not acting, Li devotes much of her time to environmental causes. As a UNEP (United Nations Environment Program) goodwill ambassador and a WWF Earth Hour global ambassador, she is committed to raising awareness about climate change, urging governments in developed and developing nations alike to take action. Li also loves to play sports, to keep herself strong and focused — "It helps me bring even more passion and energy to my career," she insists.