





en Hom OBE is a bone fide culinary legend. In 2019 he celebrated his 70th birthday and almost 60 years of professional cooking, during which time he has become a household name, teaching Britain how to cook Asian food with his landmark BBC TV series Ken Hom's Chinese Cookery. The accompanying cookbook of the same name has gone on to sell over 1.5 million copies worldwide and continues to be a best seller after more than three decades in print. He introduced the nation to stir fry cooking, with one in seven homes in the UK owning a Ken Hom wok.

Hom resides in France and Thailand but, as

a travelling celebrity chef, maintains involvement with restaurants worldwide. These have included the Yellow River group and the Oriental Restaurants group in the UK and the Ken Hom restaurant at the Bandara Hotel in Bangkok. Most recently, he launched MEE restaurant at the Belmond's Copacabana Palace in Rio de Janeiro, which became one of only six restaurants in Rio to be awarded a Michelin star, still retained, for dishes such as spicy Thai salad with tangerine and Kobe beef tataki with ponzu sauce. The restaurant opened in 2014 and from 2015 started to win a string of awards, including best Asian Restaurant in Rio in the Eat and Drink awards and Restaurant of the Year by the Brazilian Government Tourist Board. (Hom has since retired from being a consultant to the restaurant in order to concentrate on other projects).

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Hom began cooking at the age of II at his uncle's restaurant in Chicago. In what turned out to be a life changing decision, he gave cookery

lessons in order to pay his way as a student in California which ultimately led to a profile in the New York Times in 1981. The BBC TV series soon followed and over the years, Hom has presented a further six series including Exploring China: A Culinary Adventure. He is the author of over 30 books, including his 2016 autobiography My Stir Fried Life.

In 2018 he received the Outstanding Contribution to Food Award from the inaugural Golden Chopstick Awards and a Lifetime Achievement Award for Services to Culinary Culture by the Hurun Report, the world authority for Chinese high net worth individuals.

