

Sharon Cuneta at MegaThirty



Sharon Cuneta

AND yes, it has gone on and on for the last 30 years. But even after establishing her name as an actress, singer, TV host, and product endorser, Sharon Cuneta admits to having “no more ambitions.” “This is all I know and will want to do. I’m happy where I am,” she shares. And who wouldn’t be? The megastar mom has several acting awards tucked in her belt, countless hit movies, and a long-running TV show. Showbiz aside, she’s blessed with a picture-perfect family: three wonderful daughters and a loving husband.



KC Concepcion



THE UNSTOPPABLE POP PRINCESS SHINES ON CITIZEN PINOY THIS SUNDAY! One of the biggest names in Philippine entertainment — “Pop Princess” SARAH GERONIMO (2nd from right) joins “attorney-to-the-stars” Michael J. Gurfinkel (right) for an entertaining and informative encore episode. Sarah’s parents, Delfin (left) and Divina (2nd from left) also take part in the lively discussion as they talk about how they got their US visas. The most popular immigration program on television — Citizen Pinoy — airs this Sunday, at 5:40 pm (PST) with a replay on Tuesday, at 11:35 pm (PST) on TFC. Citizen Pinoy also airs on ANC-US every Sunday at 12 midnight with replays on Sunday at 8 am and Thursday at 7 pm, all PST; and on ANC-Philippines every Sunday at 4 pm with a replay at 12 midnight on Monday (Manila time).

Of late, she shares, her two younger daughters, Frankie, seven, and Miel, now four years old, are having a blast spending time in their Laguna home. It is there where they get to be regular kids, going camping and flying kites. Away from Manila, where their coolest *tambayan* is the local drugstore, the little girls get to eat *pan de coco* at the bakery, and cook vegetables grown in their own backyard. “Simple joys,” Sharon describes.

Eldest daughter KC, whose beautiful, all-too-perfect face is splashed on billboards, television ads, and magazines all over the country, is now making the most of her time in showbiz. Besides that, what makes the mega-mom even more proud is that KC has been chosen as an Ambassador Against Hunger by the United Nations.

“*Di naman naging guarantee yung pangalan niya; hindi porket sikat ka, ikaw na.* She was really being graded by these people, and she was chosen. She’s been really taking it to heart,” adds Sharon. Feigning a heart attack (“*Mamamatay talaga ako*”), she mentions that KC went to Sulu recently for a feeding activity for school children. “It’s so ‘her’ to be doing this, but the only reason she likes the public attention is to get other people to be involved.”

And then there’s husband Kiko. You have to give it to the senator to be able to live with Sharon’s megastar-dom without any insecurity. “I love him very much,” Sharon sighs, as if talking about a secret crush.

Her Rock, Her Fortress

“Sometimes it bowls me over, being married to someone like him,” she continues. After 12 years of marriage - “14 years *kung kasama yung mag-boyfriend*,” - it seems nothing can shake this relationship. Yes, not even rumors of a third party. “His strength is his family, *kaya ‘yun ang tintibag; ‘yun ang pilit binubuwag.* We’ve been waiting for evidence - *may MMS naman*, Internet, e-mail - but they never show us pictures,” she laughs. Yet even without any proof, Sharon says, “When you’re the wife, you’ll know. You’ll feel it in your partner.”

Of course, Sharon will be the first to admit that her relationship with Kiko is far from being one hundred percent perfect. “*Nagkakainan din kami, pero may flaws naman lahat ng tao,* says Sharon. For one, Kiko hates that she’s such a packrat. “It’s part of being obsessive-compulsive eh! If people can’t do it your way, you want to wait when you can. But of course, on a *sked* like mine, the stuff ends up as *kalat*,” she adds.

“*Isa pa naming pinag-aawayan, yung insomnia ko.* I just like being up at those hours because everyone’s asleep! Nobody bothers me; my phone is off, I’m happy. I can read, I can watch in peace or write,” she enumerates. But it’s just “*babaw* things like that” that get between her and Kiko. Otherwise, “it’s been years and years of just supporting each other.”

“He maybe quiet, but he’s a real strong fortress. I call him the best in the world, and I’m proud to be married to him,” Sharon adds.

Mega’s Little Darlings

“I’m an ‘in-the-middle’ type of mom, Sharon confesses. Not too strict, but not too lenient either. But she also admits that she’s more relaxed now, raising Frankie and Miel, because she already has experience in bringing up a daughter.

“My Frankie has so many talents! As KC put it a long time ago, ‘I think this is the one that’s going to Harvard, mom!’” Frankie is smart, to the point of being too advanced for her age. Sometimes, Sharon would have to remind her, “It’s not nice to say that, you’re only seven *eh! Para siyang matanda.* She’ll make a lot of sense.”

When Frankie got an iPod nano for Christmas last year, she was so proud and responsible. “She’d tell me, ‘mommy, not too many songs *ha, baka hindi na magkasya.* Only this song; *baka* you can remove *na* the others,’” Sharon relates. In that way, Frankie seems to take after her dad.

But for Sharon, if there’s only one thing Frankie should know, it’s this: “It doesn’t make you better than other people just because you come out on TV, or people know who your parents are, or not even that you have a nice room, good food, and nice toys,” Sharon says seriously. Sharing with others and being thankful for God’s blessings are two things that Sharon teaches Frankie. “She’s a good kid all-around, too energetic for us. That’s my Frankie. Like me, she has to multi-task or she’ll faint,” she says with a laugh.

Four-year-old Miel, on the other hand, is Sharon’s sweet mini-me. “She’s our baby. I look forward to her hugs, especially when we’re about to sleep. She wakes up in the middle of the night and looks for your face and touches it so tenderly. She whispers, ‘I love you Mama’, hugs you tight. She’s a baby in every sense of the word.”

Being the *bunso*, Miel is everyone’s favorite- “We love her to bits!” She’s also the performer in the family, lipsynching songs she doesn’t even know. “Miel loves her *ates* so much! I love watching her idolize them,” adds Sharon.

Sharon at MegaThirty

Come June 12, 2009 at 8pm -- Sharon will celebrate her 30 years in showbiz in a concert aptly billed *Sharon at MegaThirty* at the prestigious Shrine Auditorium. Touted to be a mega event of sort, it highlights the best of Sharon’s career in singing and on the live stage as a concert artist par excellence.

Special guest is no less than KC Concepcion. The executive producer of the concert is KATZ Entertainment. Produced in association with FLB Corporation (nationwide international sales and installation services) and Brad’s Entertainment. It is also presented by Seafood City Supermarket. Sponsors are Asian Journal, The Filipino Channel, Tribune USA and Weekend Balita.

For concert info, you may call KATZ entertainment at (562) 219-7235; Jackie Regala (562) 787-9030; Kaye Morales (562) 881-9712; Brad Dizon (310)972-1178 and FLB (310) 816-9371. Tickets are priced at \$100-78-68-58-38. Also available at Ticketmaster.com.

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