

GETTING TO KNOW FASO

by CYNTHIA DE CASTRO
AJPress

Andy M. Tecson - Violinist

Andy Tecson is a man with many talents. Aside from singing as tenor with the Philippines Concert Choir, he also plays the violin, guitar and mandolin. Tecson has likewise built a reputation for himself as a professional photographer, a financial planner, an insurance consultant, and an accountant. An active community leader, Andy has been actively involved in the association of FilAms from his hometown in Nueva Ecija, having served as the past president of Cabiao USA.

Having studied violin at an early age, Andy was already an accomplished violinist when he entered the University of the East (UE) to take up Business Administration, major in Accounting. While in UE, he played second violin in the UE Symphony Orchestra.

In 1972, Andy immigrated to the US. In LA, he became a successful financial and insurance consultant, several times awarded as Agent of the Year by the Sotiangco Insurance Agency. He has also qualified for the Million Dollar Round Table for 15 years and has thus been considered a Lifetime Member of the prestigious circle.

Andy eventually married another musician, Elizabeth Fortun, a graduate of Music from UST and a piano and music teacher. They had four children: Cecile, a visual effects film artist; Armando, also a photographer like his dad; Samuel, film sound engineer; and Joseph, multi-media artist.

Aside from his success in the insurance business, Andy has also excelled in the field of photography. His training started with his father, Lauro Tecson, who was an accomplished artist and protégé of Philippine National Artists, Fernando Amorsolo; besides being a portrait painter and photographer. Andy is a member of the Professional Photographers of America (PPA) and Wedding Photographers Club- Los Angeles "Salamin", and the chief photographer of Asian Journal Publications. His photographs have been featured in the covers of magazines and newspapers like the People Asia and Inside Wedding magazines. Andy has been awarded by Reflections as Photographer of the Year and he did the wedding album of Lea Salonga and other celebrities.

Andy's love for music has developed through the years. He has been a guest violinist at the annual dinner program of the Philippine Consulate during Independence Day celebrations. He is also a part of the Music Ministry in St. Brendan Catholic Church in LA, playing his violin and mandolin during Wednesday novenas and the annual Simbang Gabi. Likewise, he plays during community and social gatherings of family and friends, like birthdays and weddings.

As a founding member of FASO, Andy is proud to have been a part of history in the making. "I am so excited to be a part of the orchestra. Whenever the FASO plays during rehearsals, it never fails to move me since I have truly seen a dream turn into reality right before my eyes. This is why I am looking forward to a successful gala concert on May 17," said Andy.

Gina Gutierrez - Violin



Julia Ataat



Andy Tecson

Gina Gutierrez was born in Carson, California on August 13 1988, to Leticia and Feliciano Gutierrez who are both from the Philippines. She has an elder sister, Mary.

Gina started playing the violin at the age of nine. She studied with Dorothy Douty, Angela Amin, Dr. William Doyle and Chika Emori. She went to Carson High School and the Los Angeles Music Conservatory, playing the violin, piano and the guitar. She won music scholarships from Nissan and Toyota. Currently a junior at the University of California, Irvine, Gina is majoring in Aerospace Engineering.

A violinist at the St. Philomena Church choir in Carson for the past seven years, Gina has also played with the El Camino South Bay Youth Orchestra for 7 years with Dr. William Doyle. She has played with

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Fiesta Celebration

Seafood Bami
Combination of Canton & Sotanghon noodles topped with shrimps, mussels, squid & fishballs. Serves 2.

Rellenong Bangus
Home-made style stuffed milkfish as served during fiestas. Completely boneless, serves 4.

Bagoong Fried Rice
Fried rice with salted shrimp fry, Lechon tidbits and scrambled eggs. Serves 4.

Pinaputok na Bangus
Grilled to order Milkfish stuffed with tomatoes, onions, ginger, and wrapped in banana leaves. Completely boneless, serves 4.

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