

Sharon & KC: Mega-Tandem in Paris Las Vegas

Sharon Cuneta admits she is selfish. But only as far as her songs and movies are concerned. She's sensitive about hearing her songs revived, seeing her movies remade. "They mark certain important moments in my life and career," she explains to Maridol Ranoa, writer for the Philippine Star. So, like a mother protecting her child, Sharon doesn't want just anyone to put another stamp on them.

But Sharon is bending her self-imposed rule for daughter KC, who has turned recording artist recently.

"Only she has the right to revive all my songs," asserts Sharon. That's a tall order, considering that Sharon started singing the wish-



Sharon Cuneta and KC Concepcion

ful Mr. DJ at age 12.

No problem, the Megastar will tell you. KC, she crows, fetches a whopping 11 (out of 10) ranking as a recording artist. Her girl is more talented than she is, adds Sharon.

It's in her genes — on both sides of the family, at that.

KC will show off those genes Mom is so proud about when she guests on Sharon's concert, Megathirty (for her 30 years in showbiz) on May 23, Saturday, 8 pm at Les Theatre des Arts (Main Showroom) of Paris Casino in Las Vegas. The show set at 8 pm is produced by Jackie Regala and Gerry Katigbak of KATZ Entertainment and associate, Ellen Sarmiento.

The MegaThirty concert in Las Vegas is also presented by Seafood City, the Asian Journal Publications and The Filipino Channel.

Ticket prices are \$158, 128, 88, and 58. For info, you may call KATZ Entertainment (562) 219-7235; Jackie Regala (562) 787-9030; Dina Maningas at 702-873-6828; Seafood City (702) 851-0021 and Goldilocks Bakeshop (702)368-2253. Tickets may also be purchased

at Paris Box Office at 1-(888)-746-7784.

During the concert at Paris Las Vegas on May 23, Sharon will go back in time and sing her original songs as well as remakes.

Sharon and KC will have what the former describes as a "very touching" duet. KC will also have her own share of the limelight via a solo spot.

The mother-daughter bonding on stage must be nothing short of dramatic. The mother, looking fondly at her daughter, lets her eyes speak for themselves. The daughter, taking it all in, responds with love and gratitude.

But that one moment in time should never be misconstrued as some sort of turnover rites. Thirty years in showbiz doesn't mean Sharon is just about to retire.

The success of Star Cinema's *Caregiver* won't give her that luxury. Sony BMG, her recording outfit, won't allow that too. *Her Isn't It Romantic?* series has turned platinum and is about to release a third volume of OPM tracks soon.

"Whenever I think of slowing down and retiring for good, God sends me huge signs not to. The first time was *Madrasta* and the second time was *Caregiver*. I don't have control over things. I cannot claim to be the master of my longevity in showbiz. I can only see God's hand that has moved everything," she muses.

God's hand continues to move and show her that those 30 years in showbiz must be extended. Star Cinema just told her it is reviving her team-up with Richard Gomez. Sharon is also looking forward to a movie with her idol, Vilma Santos, next year. Then, there are projects with Dolphy, Robin Padilla ("he makes me feel like a princess") and Aga Muhlach waiting to be done.

Sharon is also raring to make a movie under GMA Films. That's not merely wishful thinking for a Megastar who, by her own admission, can choose the movies she wants to make.

Also in her wish list is a sitcom with Gloria Romero. "That would be fun!" Sharon's eyes light up.

Would she be as eager if her younger daughters, Frankie and Miel come up to her one day and tell their mom that they also want to be in showbiz?

"Like with KC, there's a right time for everything. I know that because I went back to school (University of the Philippines-Open University) at my age and it's very difficult because I'm a mom and I have responsibilities. *Kaya pala kailangan* after high school, *dumiretso ka na ng college* because it's the perfect time to do it," says Sharon.

Read: Frankie and Miel must follow in their Ate's footsteps and study first. After that, they can do whatever they want the way Sharon is setting KC free to pursue her dreams.

Why, KC can even get married tomorrow if that's what she wants. Mom Sharon won't stand in the way.

After all, KC is already 23, and she knows what she's doing. As Sharon says over and over, her KC has not done drugs nor played truant.

She can wear a two-piece for a pictorial and Sharon won't raise hell. KC can take care of herself. She's a good girl with a groovy (Sharon's words) mom.

A happy home life. A career that shows no sign of slowing down, even when the movie industry is dying and piracy problems hound the recording business. What else can a Sharon Cuneta want?

Her answer is quick: To give back. And she doesn't mean public office, even if others are egging her on to try politics.

"Maybe parang Spiderman: With greater power comes great responsibility. That's true for all of us, especially for those in the business. I can use fame and fortune to reach out," she says.

Sharon has found her reason for staying on. And it's the right one. ■

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