



Hi!
Society

By **MONET LU**

At times in our lives, we easily get caught up in the busy-ness of our careers, our chores, the things we feel we need to do to progress, which is very human nature.

I must admit *na merong mga panahon na* I let the chaos get to me. I'm sometimes guilty of taking for granted that the million things on my "To Do" list are not so much "tasks" but are in fact blessings.

Sometimes I forget that the more I have meetings, the more I have a tight schedule really means more opportunities to grow my business and myself as a person.

When I feel myself beginning to stress, I turn on my Joel Osteen recordings. His words put me back on track. I also turn to my friends for guidance and comfort. *Kapag may mga tanong ako* about life and faith, I seek out a special person, my very good friend Ms. Kuh Ledesma.

Kuh always has the answers for me. *Hindi niya nakakalimutang ipaalala sa akin na ang Diyos ay may plano para sa akin, para*

sa ating lahat.
Her words uplift me and make me realize how lucky I am to be a part of this universe and to be given a purpose.

In her 25-year career as a prolific musical artist, Kuh has had an image of being a "diva," "ice queen" and other labels but the Kuh that I sit down with in our long conversations about faith is nothing like her image in showbiz.

To me, she's a woman who lives to serve the Lord, and she's not ashamed to admit this. She's a warrior. In her concerts, she dedicates songs to the Almighty to honor Him.

Years ago, it was my good friend Rio Diaz Cojuangco who encouraged me to renew my faith. Unfortunately, I lost Rio to cancer. But in her place, I feel like in some way God sent me another sister in faith through the person of Kuh. To you Kuh, may God continue to bless you and your family. I salute you!

Another remarkable woman in my life that I turn to for comfort is my long-time friend, Mila Dela Cruz. I call her *Ate Mila* but really, she's been like a second mother to me.

We first met many years ago when she applied for a job

Kuh: A blessed Diva



as cosmetologist in my salon. And we have been together ever since. *Masipag, matiyaga, maaalalahanin, tapat—iyan si Ate Mila. Kasama ko siya nung unang naging successful ang negosyo ko* in the 90s through my first salon on Beverly Blvd., *hanggang sa mag-open ako ng ibang branches.* During rough times, especially when my business and personal life collapsed, *kasama ko pa rin si Ate Mila.*

Dito ko talaga napatunayan ang kanyang katapatan bilang kaibigan.

Walang iwanan, sabi nga nila. Marami na kaming pinagdaanan together. We might disagree sometimes, but we know that our friendship is solid. *Ate Mila*, I want to thank you for being there for me not just as a valuable employee but as a trusted friend. *Maraming salamat!*

I also acknowledge a remarkable couple that I'm blessed to be friends with—Atty. Joe Sayas and Ana Sayas. I've known them since the very first Reflections Awards started 20 years ago.

As professionals, they are good role models for our *kababayans*. As friends, they are a delight to be around.

Star Magic at 17

In celebration of its 17th year, a star-studded extravaganza on *ASAP '09* ushers ABS-CBN Star Magic's grand anniversary celebration on June 21. *ASAP '09* shall present superb production numbers showcasing the talent and beauty of the Star Magic artists. Expect to see Star Magic artists who are the young royalties of today's showbiz in a glamorous fashion show with outfits from top-caliber designers with Noy Volante with his band Rhythmic Circle providing the music. There will also be song and dance numbers ranging from high-energy, standards and inspirational. Footages of the Star Magic basketball and volleyball teams, rehearsals and acting and dance workshops shall also be shown. After the anniversary kick-off in *ASAP '09*, the Star Magic artists shall leave for the US for the much awaited *Star Magic, The World Concert Tour*.



For the first time, Star Magic artists will get to showcase their talents. All in one night, All in one stage.

With more than 40 artists coming, Piolo Pascual, John Lloyd Cruz, Kristine Hermosa, Bea Alonzo, Sam Milby just to name a few. *TFC, Asian Journal, ALAS Cargo* and The law offices of Michael Gurfinkel proudly bring you the concert event of the year! VIP tickets have been sold

out but there are still some great seats left. Be part of history being made. Get your tickets now. Don't forget June 27, 2009 7pm at The Citizens Business Bank Arena in Ontario, Only 30 minutes away from downtown LA plus Free Parking. This show is also brought to you by ARKO foods, RCBC Remit center, Oliver Tolentino, Cherrys Salon, Sheraton Ontario and All Access. For tickets, call (909) 592-8951 now or visit our website at www.starmagicworldtour.com Later this year, the stars shall once again come down from the heavens as they party the night away in the 3rd Star Magic Grand Ball.

17 years of Star Magic...17 years of discovery, management and development of artists. Star Magic has truly gone a long way from the time when then ABS-CBN President and Chief Operating Officer Freddie Garcia and Johnny Manahan hatched the idea of creating a stable of new stars exclusively for ABS-CBN. 1992 was the magical year as ABS-CBN Talent Management and Development Center was given life. October that same year, *Ang TV*, the hit youth afternoon show that spawned many mall shows, live concerts and record albums, was launched. *Ang TV* was also the door for the likes of the young Claudine Barretto, Angelica Panganiban, Rica Peralejo, Kaye Abad, John Prats, Angelu de Leon, Victor Neri and many more to enter showbiz.

Later in November 1995, Star Circle Batch 1 was launched, led by the late Rico Yan. The magic continuous with ABS-CBN Star Magic! So remember watch *ASAP '09* this coming Sunday at 12 noon on TFC, then watch them LIVE! At the Citizens Business Bank Arena on June 27, 2009 7pm for Star Magic! The World Concert Tour!

(Advertising Supplement)



Modern Full Service Salon & Day Spa
FOR WOMEN & MEN
YES! YOU CAN...LOOK GREAT AT ANY AGE!
RESTORE YOUTHFUL APPEARANCE WITHOUT SURGERY!
SAFE, NON-SURGICAL, NON-INVASIVE, EFFECTIVE TREATMENTS

20% OFF SKIN TREATMENTS

CHRISTINA
Master Hair stylist & Aesthetician
20+ YEARS EXPERIENCE

Precision/Personalized Haircuts, Color, Corrective Coloring, Perms, Make-up, Make-over, Waxing, Wedding Packages

Special Package Pricing. Call now or come in for your **FREE CONSULTATION!**

BEAUTY CENTER SALON & SPA
8140 W. TROPICANA AVE. (NW CORNER)
CENTEX BLDG IN SMITH SHOPPING CENTER

702.498.0644

Employment Opportunity

As part of our expansion, the Asian Journal Publications is now hiring:

ADVERTISING MANAGER

for our **LAS VEGAS OFFICE**

Fax resumé to:

702.792.6879

or mail to:

3700 W. Desert Inn Road
Las Vegas, NV 89102

Jethro: The illusionist headlines The Dymonds—Las Vegas Magic Revue show at The Royal Resort



LAS VEGAS—Jethro, Illusionist and Prestidigitator, enhanced his knowledge in magic when he graduated at Chavez Studio of Magic in La Verne, California under the instruction of Dale Salwak.

Creating a different style in Magic that is truly mind-blowing, entertaining and lots of surprises keeps his audiences off their feet, leaving them with a sense of wonder.

"How did he do that?" That is the question on people's minds after watching the show.

Jethro can entertain his audiences of all ages. The show

involves lots of audience participation. Performing his pure sleight of hand manipulation act done with cards, coins, balls, production of live animals, mind-blowing Vegas style illusions before your very eyes.

Featured in several Newspapers and TV Shows, ... "The magician who's drawing Oh's and Ah's during his performance!"—*Los Angeles Asian Journal*

"... I just got the chills down my spine, that is CRAZY!"—Christine Dolce a.k.a. Forbidden, Forbidden Radio / Playboy Model

"Love the Jethro magic, there's

nothin' better!" - Josh Rubenstein, *KCAL9 News*

Appearing as a guest performer at the headlining show, The Dymonds—The Las Vegas Magic Revue at The Royal Resort, Las Vegas, Nevada on August 16-17, 2009.

Show starts at 7pm. Tickets are sold at the Royal Resort box office (702) 809-2243.

Royal Resort is located at 99 Convention Center Drive, Las Vegas, NV 89109. For more information, contact JA Entertainment through e-mail Cookie_305@yahoo.com. www.jethroalcuaz.com.

Zsa Zsa sings about unchanging love

There is a new CD by Zsa Zsa Padilla in the stores. It is her first solo studio album after seven years. The last ones she did were mostly songs from the soundtracks of soap operas she appeared in. This one is titled *Unchanging Love*. It should be a big hit soon what with her heart-felt rendition of the Ronnie and Gigi Cordero composition, *Hanggang*, the same one first popularized by Wency Cornejo, getting very good airplay.

Now, as is usual with most hit albums during these difficult days, some of those who want to listen to Zsa Zsa will download from the Net, copy from somebody else's CD or worse buy one from the vendors of pirated films and sounds. But those of you who are thinking of doing any of those had better think twice. You do that and you will miss out on the original packaging. Made out to resemble an old-fashioned photo album with corner frames, it has several of the most beautiful photographs taken of Zsa Zsa.

Life is unfair, would be the normal reaction to those pictures. Given the fact that she has been in the music business for over 25 years, not counting her Hotdog days, and that she has

a very grown-up daughter in singer and actress Karylle, we can assume that Zsa Zsa is now on the far side of the big 40. But she looks positively gorgeous. Drool boys and get jealous girls. She looks so much better than many of you who are decades younger. And judging from the pics in the sleeve, it seems like she will remain that way for many more years.

Of course the lady sings, too. That, after all is what this piece is about, Zsa Zsa's latest CD, *Unchanging Love*. It is a mixed bag of OPM love songs. Some new, *Pagmamahal Na Walang Wakas*, a Christine Bendebel composition. Some old, *Muli* by the departed Greg Caro. Most of the songs were written by Filipinos but two fall under the adaptation category. Not American or British but Asian, reworked by Filipinos, which in a way, also makes them Filipino originals.

Zsa Zsa's singing has not lost its charm and its expressiveness is what holds the album together. But there is something else. It is how most of the songs celebrate love, unchanging and true. Zsa Zsa also has that and she is sharing that with us with this CD. (*Philstar.com*)