

# [Showbitz!]

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## Boy Abunda tries his hand as a film producer

Boy tells Philippine Entertainment Portal that venturing into film production has long been his dream. His first project was supposed to be a film with a script written by acclaimed theatre director Bobby Garcia but it didn't work out. Now, Boy is all too happy that he has gained another chance. "Gusto kong matuto dito sa negosyong ito. Malapit sa puso ko yung independent films kasi kayang-kaya, di ba? Ima-market namin ito sa mga eskwelahan. Mayroon na kami pangalawang material, pero hindi pa final. Pero itutuloy namin hanggang makakayanan namin," he says. ■

## Gina Pareño wins in Asian Oscars

ACCLAIMED actress Gina Pareño won Best Supporting Actress for her work in Dante Mendoza's controversial film *Serbis* at the 3rd Asian Film Awards held in Hong Kong last March 23. This marks the second international recognition for Pareño's performance in *Serbis*, the country's entry in the main competition section of the Cannes Film Festival last year. She also won Best Actress at the 6th Pacific Meridian Film Festival in Vladivostok, Russia, along with Mendoza who won Best Director.



Gina Pareño

The Asian Film Awards, which is simultaneous with the Hong Kong International Film Festival, is dubbed by organizers as the region's version of the Academy Awards. ■

## Concert Review

# Divas 4 Divas Concert, Fabulously Sensational!

by BOBBY T. YALONG

THE spring of 2009 already ushered in a spectacular show of gigantic proportion in just its very first weekend as the Fabulous Four, Pop Diva Kuh Ledesma, Divine Diva Zsa Zsa Padilla, Concert Queen Pops Fernandez and Asia's Songbird Regine Velasquez, collectively dubbed *DIVAS 4 DIVAS*, gave a captivating performance at the Boardwalk Hall of Atlantic City last Saturday, March 21 to a literally filled-to-the-rafters capacity crowd of diversely enthusiastic concert-goers.

Boisterous whistles and deafening chants wildly prevailed the air craving for the show's start since it was already delayed by half an hour from its supposedly scheduled curtain raiser... only to turn doubly wild when the Divas' curvaceous silhouettes took center stage in succession mysteriously garbed in identical loose toga-style costume complete with coiffured do's as they rendered their opening number, Queen's *We Will Rock You* and true enough, the fabulous Divas did rock the crowd.

Kuh solely owned the stage after their number as she passionately rendered her signature ditty *Dito Ba?* that segued to Pops and Regine's dual exposure (in mesmerizingly voluptuous fully sequined,



bare shouldered flaming red serpentine gown with sweeping train) as they did their own interpretation of Bryan Adam's *To Love A Woman* in such plaintive and incredibly soulful rendition that gave away their own personal experience as essayed in the essence of the song's every word.

Regine's solo number enabled her to profess her inner self when she did *And I Love You So* with great measure of intensity from a very emotionally rearranged composition... then an all-star-cast ensued in glitzy red gowns... virtually setting the stage on fire as they exhibited their moves and grooves to a medley of Diana Ross and the Supremes' 60's dance hits like *Baby Love* and *Stop In The Name Of Love*.

Zsa Zsa's *Hiram* was met with a thundering applause even with just its intro that seemed to inspire the Divine Diva to inject more passion and angst to the thematic piece. Together with Regine, the two gave the audience a bouncy number via *Point of No Return* and later joined by Pops and Kuh, all garbed in an Oliver Tolentino flowing ecru and beige chiffon gowns, as they paid tribute to the most important woman in their lives—heir mother... through the song, *Ugoy Ng*

*Duyan* while an overhead screen nostalgically flashed their baby pictures with their respective moms.

One of the show's highlights was when the Divas borrowed each other's hit song: Regine did Kuh's, Kuh did Zsa Zsa's while she did Regine's and the latter did Pops'. One time Metro Pop award-winning song, *Sino'ng Baliw*, was justifiably refreshing to hear from the well-blended vocals of Kuh and Regine as they gave way for Pops' solo spot rendition of a medley of 70's disco hits like Sheena Easton's *Telefone (Long Distance Love Affair)* and Cher's *Do You Believe In Love*, where the crowd irresistibly stood and danced with gusto in place.

Their next costume change was an oriental inspired golden silk kimono with matching rhinestone-cruled headdress and did a couple of Madonna's hits... and later, took off their tops that revealed an arabesque-cut mini-skirt profusely embellished with layers of metallic trimmings and strands of gold pearl beads. Unable to contain and hold back the stimulated exhilaration building up within them, the crowd (especially those in the front rows) turned wild and danced to the Divas' music.

The heat has already reached



AJPress Photos by Ria Marquez

its peak when the Divas introduced the show's special guest, Gabby Concepcion, who was met with thunderous applause by hysterical fans (old diehards and curious new ones) as he sung a couple of cuts from his recently released self-titled album that contains his personally chosen revival songs... the likes of *Iisa Pa lamang* and *Mula Sa Puso*.

The finale number was a bit anti-climactic when the Divas came out glamorously garbed in silver lame gown with wide metallic silver obi sash and flowing skirt from a generous insertions of the same fabric... as they high spiritedly gyrated, swayed and wiggled to *We Are Family, Souvenir, Never Can Say Goodbye, I Love The Nightlife*, and *Shake Your Booty*.

The usual encore number was no longer demanded by the audience for the nearly

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## Unrequited love

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but the afflicted individual is blind to this egocentric flaw in himself, thinking the world revolves around him. In today's world, there's opportunity to cash in on this human flaw and use vanity and self-image as hot buttons to sell their wares: beauty products and services, diet pills and machines and illusions of power and beauty, with remarkable success. Self-improvement is great but only if it comes from the inside out.

absorption. Self love taken to extreme, is something that might account for much of the social problems affluent societies with only one or two self-absorbed children per family, experience and suffer from today.

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## Overcoming the challenges...

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tors, your work revolves around people. Despite the fact that a lot of technical skills are demanded from you, your career's success is still dependent on your ability to work well with people.

Early in your career, learn how to work well with people, if this is one of your developmental areas. Enhance your personality by being friendlier, engage in conversations (when appropriate) with co-workers and peers and try to get to know them better. Understand people's behavior and recognize their differences from yours. As a care provider, you can only function well when someone actually and gratefully receives the care that you give. Your patients need your help at critical points in their life. The impact you can make in breaking or making a person's life is monumental. If you see people in your workplace as your partners on having a great health career and not debacles, you will behave differently and acknowledge the need to become a person who would value care not only professionally, but also personally.

Know that providing care is as much a character trait as it is a skill

You could have been trained for years to become the healthcare professional that you are or that you want to be. You may be the most knowledgeable nurse,

medical technician, therapist or hospital administrator your school has produced. You could even be the most qualified staff member to have entered your facility. School may provide you the training you need. It inculcated in you the skills and capacities for real world professional duties. But if you don't have the innate personality trait to care, then all your qualifications will be rubbish. The healthcare industry doesn't have the word "care" in it for nothing. It has, still is and will always be a profession in the world that involves caring for another and ensuring that the recipient of care receives what he needs. To succeed in this line of work, you need to have a genuine concern for others. It's not a career that deals with paperwork and processes; you are directly involved in influencing the well-being of an individual. A healthcare professional is literally entrusted with someone's life. You are partially, if not completely, responsible for whatever happens to your patient. They are not only the reason why you have a job but they are also the most important foundation of your industry. Your patients epitomize the purpose of your career—to give care.

Caring is first and foremost a trait. It so happens that this level of caregiving involves technical knowledge. You were not trained to monitor and track vital signs, perform medical procedures or

administer medications for the sake of doing it. You were provided this knowledge to be able to keep your commitment—to care for people and devote yourself to their welfare.

Challenges abound in life. Since most of us have an 8-15 hour daily schedule we have to keep called work, a lot of it can come from one's profession. But it's our attitude that will determine if we can overcome these temporary debacles. As a famous author has said, "Happiness is an attitude. We either make ourselves miserable, or happy and strong. The amount of work is the same."

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Charmaine Teodoro is the Senior Vice President of JUNO Healthcare Staffing, a group of companies that recruit RNs, LPNs, CNAs and allied healthcare professionals and deploys them to healthcare facilities on a full-time, part-time, per diem or travel assignment. It also sponsors foreign-trained RNs for immigration to the US. JUNO has offices in New York, and in New Jersey where it offers homecare services.

JUNO Healthcare Staffing Systems, Inc.  
411 Fifth Avenue, Suite 1006  
New York, NY 10016  
T 212-685-5866  
F 212-685-5867  
Website: http://www.junohealthcare.com  
JUNO Healthcare New Jersey, Inc.  
35 Journal Square, Suite 825  
Jersey City, NJ 07306  
T 201-239-9333  
F 201-239-9093  
Website: http://www.junohealthcare.com  
(Advertising Supplement)

## 'Boses' garners 12 nominations...

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a child made mute at the hands of his own father is sent to a shelter for abused children where he is cared for by social workers. Nobody can get through to Onyok until he meets Ariel a reclusive violin teacher. Although reluctantly at first as he himself is haunted by guilt and the memory of his dead girlfriend, Ariel discovers that Onyok is a gifted child. Together they battle their demons until they regain their voice, rediscover their spirit and realize that forgiveness is within their reach.

*Boses* will premiere in New York City on Friday, May 1. Sponsored by the Assumption Alumnae organization, the 4-hour

event will include a reception with Ricky Davao and Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil, Boses Director, a film screening and a musical concert by Ricky Davao. Also gracing the event is renowned Filipino musician Michael Dadap, the Artistic Director of the New York-based Children's Society Orchestra.

Proceeds will be shared with advocacy groups working to stop violence against children and Daang-Sine, the creative group behind *Boses*—in support of their mission to educate and create an awareness of social issues through their films. This film is endorsed by UNICEF. Rated PG 13.

**Details**  
\* TICKETS - \$25.00  
\* Contact Vina Francisco at 646-203-1611, vins\_nyc@yahoo.com  
\* Boses blog: http://booses-premieres-nyc-may1-2009.blogspot.com/  
\* Boses official trailer: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KfvmRXL5m8  
\* Time: 6-10pm (Film Screening to begin at 7pm)  
\* Place: Saint Paul the Apostle Church, 60th and Columbus  
\* Light refreshments will be served during the reception and a food concession (Cornucopia) will also be available throughout the evening ■