

# Sharon Cuneta and KC Concepcion together in Megathirty Tour 2009

by BOBBY YALONG

RARELY, if never at all, had there been a mother and daughter of Mega-stardom who simultaneously appeared and performed together on stage, sharing the same spotlight and receiving an almost equal amount of accolade and honor. Entertainment aficionados and concertgoers have long been waiting to see one. And to make that supreme rarity into an exciting most-awaited reality, MPG Global Productions, through the earnest initiative of its lady producer Mely 'Bing' Pechangco Gabriel, gathered all resources to be able to come out with another project after the very successful *Divas 4 Divas Concert*-- hence, the mounting of Megastar Sharon Cuneta's *Megathirty Tour 2009* with Mega-daughter KC Concepcion as special guest in NJPAC Prudential Hall on Sunday, May 31, at 3pm.

Nothing really excites an audience than watching a well-known celebrity of A-one caliber (like Sharon Cuneta) performing live before them -- interacting and sharing fun and amusement. Sharon has been basically branded as super *kalog* and *makwento* when it comes to performing and entertaining her crowd. Sometimes, in between numbers, her adlibs become lengthy due to her unrehearsed spiels and funny anecdotes. But her fans could not care less. They never tire of Sharon's funny antics. Everything Sharon does is a mega-treat for them.

Sharon's more than fifty (50) movies, 8 Box Office Queen titles, 16 Best Actress Awards, and numerous related recognitions more than exalt her to a certain level of popularity that is sometimes almost trite-sounding and a feat hard to duplicate. Her being gifted with a striking personality, peculiar wit and intellect, and a fine sense of humor plus her wholehearted dedication to a career where she has poured out her best easily made her one of the most endeared personalities in the business.

For her *Megathirty Concert*, Sharon's repertoire is sure to include songs that have been distinctly associated with her; the likes of *Kung*

*Maputi Na Ang Buhok Ko*, selected pieces from her hit albums *Ngayon at Kailanman*, *Isn't It Romantic*, *25 Years, 25 Hits*, *The Mega Collection Double CD*, *The Best of Sharon Cuneta*, and definitely, some of her most requested recorded movie theme songs.

KC, on the other hand, is a breath of fresh air especially for Filipinos who are long time US residents. Some left the Philippines when Sharon had just married Gabby Concepcion or she might have just given birth to KC. Excitement builds up this early as fans want to catch a glimpse of the Megastar's Mega-daughter.

Peoples' awareness of her was merely provided by showbiz magazines and DVD's imported from Manila, television courtesy of satellite broadcasts and, of course, the internet. KC's career has been in a fast pace with recognitions and awards profusely coming... with the latest addition just received during the recently concluded 2009 Golden Screen Awards--- an acting trophy: Breakthrough Performance of an Actress for her first movie, *For the First Time*.

In her capacity as a newbie in the business that actually "nourished" and watched her grow, KC has proven her worth not only as Sharon Cuneta's daughter but somebody who has got



Sharon Cuneta



KC Concepcion

what it takes to be one and even much more. She has indelibly made a mark in so short a time with initially a dramatic exposure in *Maalaala Mo Kaya*, two movies with sole leading man, Richard Gutierrez (Star Cinema's *For The First Time* and GMA Films' *When I Met You*. It won't be far before KC becomes her mom's most capable heiress--- materially and professionally, that is!

"The Filipino audience deserves quality and well-conceptualized shows... ROI (Return On Investment) is always a major option but not a priority. Full satisfaction on the part of those who shell-out their hard-earned money to buy tickets and those who constantly support MPG-produced shows are our main concern!" Bing openly declares in a sincere tone.

Watch *Megathirty Tour 2009* and meet the Megastar up-close when she performs with her Mega-daughter KC Concepcion on

Sunday, May 31, at 3pm at the NJPAC Prudential Hall in Newark, New Jersey. MPG Global Productions, in cooperation with Asian Journal and Balikbayan Magazine assure everyone that the concert will be a very entertaining presentation and world-class production.

Save the date and reserve a seat now! Be part of another great event that comes with a mega package specially delivered for your pleasure. Tickets are still on sale and reasonably priced at: VIP, \$150, \$138, \$98, and \$78 and available at [www.mpgglobalproductions.com](http://www.mpgglobalproductions.com), or you can call NJPAC Ticket Services at 1-800-466-5722 or login at [ticketservices@njpac.org](http://ticketservices@njpac.org), [www.ticketonline.com](http://www.ticketonline.com) and [www.Pinoyticket.com](http://www.Pinoyticket.com)

For sponsorship and ticket information, please call: Bing: (732)668-8892, (732)533-8880, (732)651-8556 & (732)447-8678; Nel: (917)691-2335; Girlie: (703)304-0547 & (703)992-5441; Amy: (201)253-9405; Terry: (201)886-1705; Robert: (571)283-1330; John: (917)836-3122; Baby: (917)916-6770; Bobby: (201)239-5803, (201)239-7744 & (201)390-4983; and Oscar: (201)281-3561. ■



Hi! Society

By MONET LU

## RP's Top 10 Most Beautiful Celebrity Moms

IN THE SPIRIT OF MOTHER'S DAY, I offer this list of RP's Top 10 Loveliest Celebrity Moms. They juggle everything from work to kids and looking beautiful while being this busy. Of course, I'm not only referring to their beauty on the outside. These women also possess inner beauty that cannot be denied.

watches them:

1. **Ruffa Gutierrez** - Still holds the top spot for being the loveliest celebrity mom. Everyday of the week, she's preoccupied with filmings, tapings, commercials and yet she manages to stay fresh. She's the proud mom of the super *kulit* but adorable kids Lorin and Venice. She's a very busy multi-tasker who makes an effort to create a balance in her life.

According to this young mother, "This year, I would like to be more centered and lead a more balanced and healthier life." Right on, Ms Ruffa!

2. **Dawn Zulueta** - This gorgeous mom is a top commercial endorser. Her face brightens up billboards across Metro Manila's major thoroughfares. Her face, her body, and her fashion choices are always topnotch. She has regal and classy look *na hindi talaga kumukupas*, in addition to being a great actress.



Dawn Zulueta

Charlene truly shines at everything she does, especially being mom to twins Andres and Atasha. I've known her since was just a budding beauty queen. Very down-to-earth and unassuming--you really wouldn't expect this from such a beautiful girl. Aga, you are so blessed!

6. **Pops Fernandez**- This sexy mom of grown-up children is one of my top picks for best dressed celebrities. Also known as the concert queen, Pops continues to wow me with the evolution of her style. Whether performing in sold-out concerts or guesting on tv, her style stands out.

7. **Donita Rose** - Her beauty is very serene. Definitely one of the most beautiful faces even without make-up. She lives a balanced life--being wife, mother and celebrity. A deeply spiritual person and it shows by the level of peace you can feel when you're around her.

8. **Lucy Torres** - The picture that comes to mind is porcelain-white, flawless skin. All through the years, she's maintained her figure and is

3. **Gretchen Barreto** - This celebrity mom is as glamorous as ever. She continues to dazzle the Philippine entertainment scene. Her fashion statements as well as verbal statements are explosive. The world listens when Gretchen talks. She may be controversial at times but otherwise she wouldn't be Gretchen Barreto.

4. **Lorna Tolentino** - Some time after the departure of her beloved husband Rudy Fernandez, we can now slowly see that LT has made peace with his passing. She continues to honor his legacy with her acceptance and renewed positive outlook in life. Seeing LT with her two adult children, gosh, you might mistake them only as her brothers. She has one of those faces that refresh.

5. **Charlene Gonzales** - as beauty titlist, movie actress and host,



Gretchen Barreto

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### JUNO CONNECTION



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WoFinding the right caregiver is an important key in making sure that your aging mom or dad gets the care they need. Your caregiver is an extension of the attention, love and concern you give your parents in their most critical years. The quality of service they can give and their capacity to attend to the most important needs of your parents should naturally be a high priority for you, especially since you are the one who selects them and supervises their performance. Proper research, thorough understanding of the provider's background and knowing the right questions to ask is essential in meeting your parent's needs for companionship, activities of daily living assistance and other matters.

In the previous article, I explored why I believe it's better to work with a licensed agency when searching for a caregiver, rather than choosing to hire an independent homecare provider on your own. Whether or not you are opting to hire a caregiver from a licensed and bonded agency, or you choose to hire an independent caregiver, these suggestions will still serve you well.

The first thing you need to do is to thoroughly assess the needs of your parents. Determining their specific needs holistically will allow you to identify what type of skill set, training background and character profile your caregiver should have. The more in-depth you are in identifying the care needs of your Mom and Dad, the better your chances are of finding the right person who

## Finding the Right Caregiver for Your Parents

will effectively care for them. A planned approach is important in order to save yourself the hassle of potentially getting the wrong caregiver. Seeking recommendation from your parents' physician with regards to their needs and daily activities will give you insight into the type of care they may require. You can also consult a hospital professional who can recommend homecare providers or facilities for your parents based on their needs. Other sites, like ElderCare.com, have articles and information on finding caregivers. A simple Google search will also help you find homecare assessment programs, with forms you can fill out to effectively gauge Mom or Dad's need for homecare.

After a thorough assessment of your parents' needs, it's time to identify if you will need someone for the long-run or short-term only. You should weigh the benefits of a short-term care provider vs. a long-term caregiver relative to the immediate and future needs of your parents. Take into account the differences in tasks they can provide. First, a short-term caregiver will only deal with simple domestic activities after a patient has undergone hospitalization, which includes services like respite care. If long-term care is what your parents need, then you have to make sure that the person you are hiring is skilled in assisting with long-term illnesses and issues. The length of time that a caregiver will render services is a determinant in the form of care they will provide.

Third, you should have in-depth knowledge on the background and skills of the caregiver you will be hiring. When approaching a homecare agency or interviewing a potential caregiver, have a list of questions ready that will deter-

mine whether or not the homecare provider has the skills you need. Below are some questions from an article on ElderCare.com entitled, Finding the Right Caregiver. These questions will be useful whether working with a Homecare agency to get a caregiver, or directly hiring an independent homecare provider.

**Interview questions to an agency or independent homecare provider**

*Interview Questions for a Home Health Agency*

If you have decided to utilize an agency to find an appropriate caregiver, ask the owner or agency manager some questions before hiring a homemaker or home health aide. Here is a sample list of questions to ask an agency:

*Is this agency licensed and bonded?*

*Are all of your homemakers licensed and bonded?*

*What kind of training, if any, do the home health aides and homemakers have? (some home health aides may be a Certified Nursing Assistant, for example)*

*Do you have any caregivers that have experience with dementia?*

*How many years experience do your homemakers and home health aides have?*

*How long have you been in business?*

*Is there a minimum of hours?*

*How much does it cost?*

*What if the person gets sick at the last minute and can't make it?*

*Do you have an R.N. on staff?*

*Is live-in care available?*

*Do you have homemakers and home health aides who can drive?*

*If so, do you check their driver's license and insurance?*

*Interview Questions for an In-*

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