

KC CONCEPCION

Bound to shine across the miles

by BOBBY T. YALONG

ARARE FIND, INDEED! This bundle of gorgeous personality with exceptional talent is a whole package of a glistening chunk from two grandiose blocks (Megastar Sharon Cuneta and matinee idol Gabby Concepcion's best genes), meticulously carved, polished to perfection 'til it emits the desired brilliance with great illumination. The Megastar's daughter is, unquestionably, a rara avis. A rare gem of a star... with such rarity that's even rarer than any naturally developed mineral matter if her strong capabilities are to be considered. Undoubtedly, KC Concepcion (born Kristina Cassandra Concepcion) epitomizes the truest inspirational spirit of a modern-day youth this generation desperately needs.



How much of KC's personality is made up of her mom and dad's traits? Easily, her facial features give away the clues although in an instant glance, Dad Gabby's strongest features unmistakably send the striking resemblance. Talent? Well, both parental genes have it but the truth becomes obvious when she sings, for her mom's vocal prowess was undoubtedly directly passed on to her.

KC has got a certain kind of early foundation that's prolifically proportionate to her growing up and formative years. Her Lola Elaine (Sharon's mom) was always around whenever Mommy Shawie's hands were full of shooting and taping schedules. She has obviously absorbed only the best of everything about social graces and womanliness from her fashionably sociable Lola while from Lolo Ambo (former Pasay City mayor Pablo Cuneta), she keenly observed the ultimate essence of social interactions and human relations having had witnessed and closely observed her Lolo's dealings with different people from all walks of life in the political arena. The Cuneta household in its entirety became a conducive setting of diverse environmental elements that contributed to the formative years of KC's developing personality.

But Sharon, with her innate motherly nature, more than make up for lost times she wasn't with her first born. And if there were really lighter schedules, she would bring young KC to the set or to any of her place of work, just to have that much-needed bonding moment between them. The studio sets and location shoots automatically became KC's playground, which, in time, gave her the idea of her mom's nature of work. Having had practically grew up in such environment, showbusiness and all its ins and outs, KC has considered it almost a second home and when the right time came for her to step into the limelight, facing the camera was merely a second nature.

Having partly reared in an unlikely environment (showbusiness) which for others find unfit for a growing up kid, it became quite ironic that her former "playground" is currently her

demanding workplace like her mom.

With her effervescent youth, ethereal beauty and a very promising career (although she has proven her real worth after numerous product endorsements, a special feature in *Maalaala Mo Kaya?* and two movies), KC has still a whole lot world of limitless possibilities awaiting in the offing. She is definitely bound to shine not only at home but across the miles, as well.

Catch her up in person when she performs together with her mom in the latter's *Megathirty Tour 2009* on Sunday, May 31 at 3pm at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJPAC) Prudential Hall, One Center Avenue, Newark, New Jersey (07102) and get that rare chance to watch her exhibit her own brand of entertainment. Treat yourself to a lavish weekend by capping it with an entertainment package that seldom comes your way or it might not cross your path again.

Curtain raisers and front act numbers will be provided by enticing chanteuse Cielo Tuazon and MPG Global Production's in-house dancers. Without any doubt, you are in for a great show!

Megathirty Tour 2009 is another grand presentation of MPG Global Productions in cooperation with *Asian Journal* and *Balikbayan Magazine*. Sponsors include S.C. Cabalfin Services, Christy's Kitchen (Home of Filipino Home-cooked Cuisine), and Exquisite Concepts, International.

Save the date and reserve a seat now (at the NJPAC Prudential Hall in Newark, NJ). Be part of another great event. Tickets are on sale now and priced at: VIP, \$150, \$138, \$98, and \$78 and available at www.mpgglobalproductions.com, or you can call NJPAC Ticket Services at 1-800-466-5722 or login at ticketservices@njpac.org, www.ticketatnonline.com and www.Pinoyticket.com

For ticket reservation and 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. ■



CITIZEN PINOY LIVE IN THE BAY AREA ON MAY 31!! Kapamilya from the San Francisco Bay Area are invited to be part of the live studio audience of Citizen Pinoy on Sunday, May 31 at the ABS-CBN Global Studios at 150 Shoreline Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065. Taping will be at 12nn; 2:30pm; and 4:30pm. Leading US immigration attorney Michael J. Gurfinkel will be there to answer your immigration questions and provide relevant information that you will all find useful. As a public service from the TFC and the Law Offices of Michael J. Gurfinkel, seats are FREE, but you need to reserve now at www.citizenpinoy.com or you may call toll free 1-866-487-3465. Citizen Pinoy - airs every Sunday, at 5:40 pm (PST) with a replay on Wednesday, at 12:15 am (PST) on TFC. Citizen Pinoy also airs on ANC-US every Sunday at 12 am with replays on Sunday at 8 am and Thursday at 7 pm, all PST; and on ANC- Philippines every Sunday at 4 pm with a replay at 12 am every Monday (Manila time).



THE SUPERSTAR FINALLY SPEAKS OUT! She is many things to many people. Multi-awarded actress. Controversial persona. Legendary icon. The one and only Superstar of Philippine entertainment! Ms. Nora Aunor -- "Ate Guy" to her many fans -- finally speaks out on all the controversy and the issues that have haunted her in the past years. Be there when hosts Attorney-to-the-Stars Michael J. Gurfinkel (right) and broadcast personality Gel Santos-Relos (left) get up close and personal with the Superstar (center) in a tell-all exclusive. Watch this special encore presentation of Citizen Pinoy - airs this Sunday, at 5:40 pm (PST) with a replay on Wednesday, at 12:15 am (PST) on TFC. Citizen Pinoy also airs on ANC-US every Sunday at 12 am with replays on Sunday at 8 am and Thursday at 7 pm, all PST; and on ANC- Philippines every Sunday at 4 pm with a replay at 12 am every Monday (Manila time).

'Citizen Pinoy': Live in the Bay Area on May 31

REDWOOD CITY --- As ABS-CBN's The Filipino Channel (TFC) celebrates its 15th year of committed service to the global Filipino, *Citizen Pinoy* embarks on its eighth season of public service to Filipinos around North America and their families back in the Philippines - by giving them valuable immigration information that could eventually help in reuniting them with their loved ones.

As it opens its new season, the most popular immigration program on television returns to the Bay Area to provide answers to your (immigration) questions. Kapamilya from cities surrounding the San Francisco Bay Area are invited to be there at any of the three scheduled live studio tapings on Sunday, May 31st at the ABS-CBN Global Studios at 150 Shoreline Drive, Redwood City, CA 94065. Taping will be at 12:00 noon; 2:30 pm; and at 4:30 pm. Leading US immigration attorney Michael J. Gurfinkel will be there to listen to your immigration concerns & provide relevant information that you will all find useful. As a public service from the TFC and the Law Offices of Michael J. Gurfinkel, seats are FREE, but you need to reserve now at www.citizenpinoy.com or you may call toll free 1-866-487-3465.

Citizen Pinoy's new season is sure to provide more relevant immigration information to our ka-

pamilya viewers. For several years now, the program has constantly been a genuine commitment to public service on the part of ABS-CBN International's The Filipino Channel (TFC) and the Law Offices of Michael Gurfinkel. TFC subscribers and their families and loved ones around the world benefit from the helpful advice and counsel learned from the show.

Citizen Pinoy is made possible with the support of friends who are committed to giving back to the Filipino community: Asian Journal -- with circulation in Northern and Southern California, Nevada, and in the East Coast and Arko Foods of Glendale. *Citizen Pinoy* is also supported by ABS-CBN Global's key product offerings: Star Kargo, Starry Starry Store, ABS-CBN Telecom and TFCDirect.

Informative. Entertaining. Inspiring. Tell your family and friends around Northern California who have immigration concerns to reserve their seats now and be there when *Citizen Pinoy* returns to the Bay Area on May 31st at the ABS-CBN Global Studios in Redwood City.

Citizen Pinoy - airs every Sunday, at 5:40 pm (PST) with a replay on Wednesday, at 12:15 am (PST) on TFC. *Citizen Pinoy* also airs on ANC-US every Sunday at 12 am with replays on Sunday at 8 am and Thursday at 7 pm, all PST; and on ANC- Philippines every Sunday at 4 pm with a replay at 12 am every Monday (Manila time). ■

indiobravo
2009 Film Festival
Philippine Cinema's Next Wave

June 11- 14, 2009
New York City

THURSDAY, JUNE 11
MUSEUM OF MODERN ART
(11 West 53rd St. bet. 5th and 6th Aves.)

7:15 pm **BALER**
9:30 pm **100**
(Special Appearance by Mylene Dizon)

and 13 other award-winning Filipino films on
Friday, June 12- Sunday, June 14
Visual Arts Theater
333 West 23rd Street bet. 8th & 9th Aves.)

For schedule and tickets, visit:
www.indiobravo.org

To purchase tickets by phone, call:
1-800-838-3006

Use promo code ASIANSBRAVO
for discounted tickets!

Love of
COUNTRY
is back in
Style

www.balikbayanmag.com
A SITE TO BEHOLD. VISIT.

balikbayan
THE ASIAN JOURNAL MAGAZINE

Hurry home, your country is waiting.

Now available on print in the USA and the Philippines and online everywhere.