

Zsa Zsa: Marriage is no longer a priority

By MARIDOL RAÑO-A-BISMARCK
Philstar.com

WHEN it comes to love, Zsa Zsa Padilla has been there, done that. Six years after waiting for her marriage annulment case in Parañaque to prosper and years after her wedding with Dolphy went pfft, Zsa Zsa just shrugs when asked about marriage.

"It's not my priority anymore," she shoots back.

Gone is the down-and-out feeling after her wedding to Dolphy fizzled out. Everything was set—her wedding gown, the invitations, etc. All she and Dolphy needed to do then was send out the invitations.

"Good thing we didn't send them out," Zsa Zsa looks back.

Good thing, too, youngest daughter Zia, now 18, comforted her distraught mom.

"It was Zia who opened my eyes," relates Zsa Zsa. "She told me people get married to make a fresh start: Seal a relationship, have a family. I did the reverse. I already have kids (three to be exact: Karylle, Nicole and Zia)."

And so, Zsa Zsa—and Dolphy—has nothing more to prove. So why worry about getting married?

What matters most is what she and Dolphy have in their hearts. And it's been there for more than two decades, long enough to be as permanent as indelible ink.

Zsa Zsa has a term for it: Unchanging love. Dolphy, so wrote Zsa Zsa in her latest album and debut CD for PolyEast Philippines, is "what unchanging love is all about."

"You continue to inspire me with the unconditional love that only you can give," she wrote of Dolphy in her album sleeve.

And so *Unchanging Love* is not only the title of her comeback album. It's also one of the tracks in the album, and indicates how much she values her 26-year-old singing career.

She's been around for so long, Zsa Zsa jokes, the new writers in the recent album launch must be more familiar with her daughter Karylle than they with her (Zsa Zsa's) songs. New composers, new technicians, new everything have emerged.

"I learned my lesson," Zsa Zsa says about her long absence in the recording scene. "I didn't know my Viva (recording) contract bound me for five years."

So she's making up for lost time. She's packing in the revivals in the *Unchanging Love* two-CD special edition. It's the in thing these days. So you hear remakes like *Memories* (Joey Albert), *Nais Ko* (Miguel Vera), *Nasasaktan* (Reuben Laurente), *Muli* (Vina Morales), *Changes* (Carla Martinez), *Ikaw Lang* (Chad Borja) and *Kung Alam Mo Lang* (Joanne Lorenzana).

Yes, *Unchanging Love* may be an album of revivals. But that



Zsa Zsa Padilla

doesn't mean Zsa Zsa has forgotten her OPM roots. After all, it was good old OPM numbers, like *Mambobola*, *Hiram* and *Ikaw Lamang* that made Zsa Zsa a household name back in the mid-'80s.

So she threw in three new OPM ballads, *Ibigin Kita Muli*, *Kung* and *Pagmamahal na Walang Wakas* in her new album's playlist.

Next time around though, she promises to return to OPM mode. And that means her next album will be as OPM as can be.

This much, she owes herself—and her fans. ■

Celebs' fun moments in school

By DOLLY ANNE CARVAJAL
Inquirer.net



Ogie Alcasid



Christian Bautista



Eugene Domingo



Jed Madela



Dingdong Dantes

SINCE it's back-to-school time, I asked some celebs about their funniest moments when they were still students. Laughter helps us cope with lessons in and out of the classroom.

Ogie Alcasid: My craziest college moment was when I cut class in UP to play piano at the

president's house and jam with my classmates.

Christian Bautista: I can't help but laugh when I remember the time in high school when I went up the water tank tower and screamed at the top of my lungs.

Eugene Domingo: When vandalism was rampant in high school, my classmates and I were writing on the comfort room's walls: I love so and so. I went crazy and wrote: "I

love Eugene Domingo, from all high school students." My classmates accused me of being an attention seeker and I cried like a dramatic actress in the corridor.

Jed Madela: In high school, I spearheaded a movement for all the 4th year students to skip class the whole afternoon to watch *Home Alone*.

'Heaven is an illusion' Dingdong Dantes is raring to

portray Cholo in the *Pinoy* adaptation of the hit Korean telenovela, *Stairway to Heaven*.

What's "heaven" to him in terms of his love life? "Heaven is an illusion," he muses. "But what comes close to it is when everything is reciprocal in love."

Won't it be less of heaven 'cause he won't be working with his favorite leading lady Marian Rivera? "It won't be the same without her,"

he says. "But being linked to and having a partner are two different things. Having a partner is the cause and then being linked romantically can be an effect." What did he and Marian promise each other before they parted ways as a love team for the meantime? "We promised to try and make our next projects the best in all aspects." With each other for inspiration, how can Marian and Dong not outdo themselves? ■

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