



celebrity world

By Ferdie Villar

'Summer Night of Music with Divo Bayer' wows Bay Area audience

A MULTITUDE of concerts and shows have graced different venues in the Bay Area and most of them either banked on the star performer's popularity or ephemeral hype, but the talent and showmanship delivered during the actual show are either mediocre or just pure entertainment.

Last Saturday evening, August 8 at the South San Francisco High School auditorium, *Summer Night of Music with Divo Bayer* may not have filled rafters, but the audience opted to take the opportunity to watch and experience a tour d'force performance. Divo Bayer proved himself to be deserving of the tag 'Emperor of Soul' and more so as Celebrity Awards Entertainer of

the Year, for his showmanship can demand multiple standing ovations.

Divo can belt out any music genre—from pop to classical opera. The audience was soothed by his rendition of his early hits like *Ngayong Nandito Ka* and his *Star Quest* medley. But what really brought the audience to their 'hold-your-breath' syndrome was when he sang *Sometime, Somewhere*, an original composition of maestro composer Ryan Cayabyab. His heart-stopping version was worth the money one paid for the tickets to his show.

Even guest singers like Sage, Miss RP-USA 2009 Trina Dimaranan, Arianna Tolentino and Arnel Rosanes were real troopers themselves, as they shared their vocal talents, making the audience proud to be



Celebrity Star Awards 2009 Entertainer of the Year Divo Bayer, was among the performers who paid tribute to the late President Cory Aquino in 'Summer Night of Music with Divo Bayer' last Saturday, August 8 at the South San Francisco High School Auditorium. Shown in photo are (L-R) Asian Dolls Shalimer, Trisha Badong, Noelle Bonus, Divo Bayer and stage director Noel Nuguit.

Filipinos. However, it was the all-male chorus of Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW) from Saudi Arabia known as the Prime Note Ensemble that roused the audience during the opening when they sang *Star Spangled Banner* and our Philippine National Anthem, *Lupang Hinirang*. The ensemble then followed these

with their hair-raising rendition of *Circle of Life*. When Divo joined the group in singing *Nessun Dorma*, the audience was treated to a moment of musical greatness.

Seen in the audience were Daly City Councilman Dave Canepa, California State Commissioner Ray Satorre, businesswoman and Fashionable

Lady of the Year Susan Pacifico and many more prominent personalities of the Filipino-American community.

Kudos to stage director Noel Nuguit and producer Teresa Labitoria for making this musical show a reality! It is seldom that the Bay Area audience gets a chance to watch this kind of musical journey. ■



Asuncion "Gwen" Diaz, managing director of Roberto's Restaurant, will celebrate her birthday on August 15 with her husband Ric and children. In photo with Mrs. Diaz is actress-singer Ara Mina.



Hermie Revilla Lavaras, deputy sales district manager of the Philippine Airlines office in San Francisco, is shown being serenaded by her daughter Rosalyn Lavaras during her 65th birthday celebration held recently at the Philippine Consulate General Social hall in San Francisco.



Sidney Wood, daughter of Jukebox King of the Philippines Victor Wood and Ofelia Ponce, is now here in the Bay Area. Miss Wood is expected to perform in events and concerts in the near future.



Nicole Munoz Roco, only daughter of Dr. Carmelo Roco and Bernadette Munoz of Oakland Hills, recently celebrated her 15th birthday with a dinner party with her relatives and close friends held at the Roco residence.



Ching Evaristo, one of the most successful businesswoman and real estate broker in Daly City, will celebrate her birthday on Monday, August 17, with her family.



Prime Note Ensemble, a Filipino choir composed of Overseas Foreign Workers (OFWs) from Saudi Arabia, were among the singers who performed at the 'Summer Night of Music with Divo Bayer' last August 8. Shown with the group are Margie Cuenca and concert organizer Vanessa de Lara.



Senator Leland Yee headed the prominent guests of Hermie Revilla Lavaras during her 65th birthday celebration at the Philippine Consulate General Social hall in San Francisco. Shown in photo are (L-R) Senator Yee, beauty impresario Ferdie Villar, Daly City Councilman Dave Canepa, Consul Alfonso "Day" Ver, Bobby de Lara, Claire Viray and Club Royale dame Jet Viray Navarro.

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