

# Chinoy

The Official Publication of the Ateneo Celadon

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*A Different Path*

ATENEO DE MANILA  
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES



# Editor's note

It has long been said that in anything, the road less travelled is never the easiest or most predictable path to take, and those who choose to set out on it are met with frowns by the few who choose to stay inside the lines. In my case, the decision to join Celadon three years ago with neither a hint of Chinese ancestry nor knowing anyone definitely seemed like such an uncertain, verdictless road.

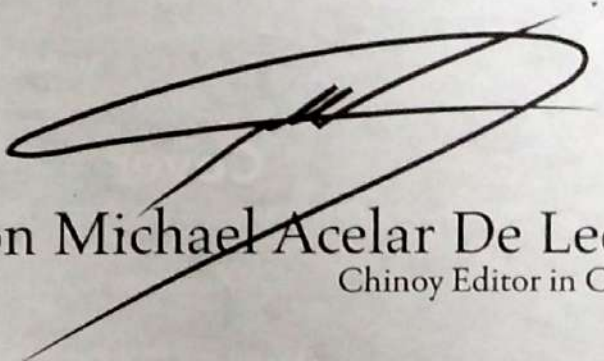
But my passion for cultural diversity and meeting new friends kept me from turning back and inspired me to know more about what I got myself into. Now, with three years of the most treasured friendships and memories I have ever made in my college life, I leave the Ateneo knowing that taking the unpredictable path toward Celadon was one of the best decisions I have ever made in my life thus far.

This issue brings to you inspiring stories of taking the risk toward a different path. While many consider the road of business and entrepreneurship as the staple, if not the absolute path that Chinese Filipinos should take in life, the individuals showcased in this issue will show you that with passion and hard work, it is indeed possible to shine in varying fields like music, fashion, social action, the arts, and show business, among many others. In so doing, we hope to show you that while the pressure to take the predictable is very strong, something beautiful and meaningful can come out of choosing the unforeseen. All you need is the courage to try it out for yourself; the rest will fall into place.

Be different, be great. Carpe diem!

Enjoy the issue!



  
Don Michael Acelar De Leon  
Chinoy Editor in Chief



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Ateneo Celadon is the official Chinese Filipino Organization  
of the Ateneo de Manila University  
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Chinoy is published twice a year and is the official publication of the Ateneo Celadon,  
located at Rm 208, Manuel V. Pangilinan Center for Student Leadership,  
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Many have been called, but few have been chosen. Of the chosen, less accept. Fewer still, succeed. We hear about everyone who succeeded, but we should realize the importance of being chosen as well. In being chosen, we are given the chance to succeed. How much we accept that fact will determine how deep our success will be.

There will always be a different path in front of us, some may not be as obvious as others, but they will always be there. Every time we create something we like, we are called to pursue it. With our hands we can shape so many things we can only dream of if we stayed in the comfort of tradition. Most of us have been called to take the road less traveled.

# DIFFERENT PATHS

By Dan Caw

Art by Jessika Chan

To some that may mean being a leader, or simply taking some responsibility. Some would understand that as simply doing something different.

We've always been thought of as businesspeople. We are usually raised with the idea that with money comes happiness. For some, that may be true, but for select others, the call is different.

Art is something our historians are proud of. Sculptures and tapestries unearthed from long gone eras serve as our only connection with the past. Within imperial China, there was the path of the artisans and scholars, many of whom are more remembered today than any businessmen of their time. We talk of a life spent seeking wealth and success, but few of us care to walk in the path of creating immortality, or paving roads so that others can walk our path more easily. It only takes someone to walk that path before people notice that they can walk down there as well.

However, it is true that we don't usually hear about the performers and artists among our friends as much as those who are academically competent in their management courses. Most of the conversations we have usually contain some form of unease with another person's success in the same fields as us. But whenever that rare opportunity that a friend manages to achieve something in a field we don't know much of, we would usually go "Wow."

When you hear about people who create sculptures, the first impulse would be to ask how they learned how to do that given that we weren't taught how to make those in school. The school itself didn't push for competence in the arts, but some managed to find a different path.

You would often talk about fashion with your friends, probably mostly about buying something you like or seeing something that you think looks good. Rarely do you hear about one of your friends designing something.

Can you name a Chinese Filipino stage

performer? Would you even care to learn about one? Maybe you just don't know you do, it's all part of being presented the opportunities and simply not choosing to benefit from them.

Throughout the rest of the articles, you are presented with people who took different paths. It's a simple call to simply make use of an opportunity given to you. For some, the idea of taking two paths doesn't seem logical, so they won't bother learning of another path. However, it's an opportunity to learn, an opportunity for a new choice.

A different path may seem like an uncertain choice. Most of us are content with simply staying on our current paths because it's all we know how to do. I would believe that, but I also believe that it is something we choose to do as well.

All you need now is the time and the patience to learn about what others have done, and in doing so learn about what you can do. Perhaps not for the rest of your life, but at least for the time when there are so many opportunities that are available. If you are just one to read the first article, and then look at the comics at the end, then you are missing out on an opportunity. For once, take a different path, like so many others before you. Let's learn about them together.





# The Story of Mimi Tiu

By Ailyn Lau

This is an ordinary story. It is a story with a beginning like all other stories—one where the protagonist is oblivious to what is about to happen. Although the most thrilling stories are those with the most dramatic turning points, the most exciting climaxes, and the most unexpected catch, this isn't one of those stories.

This is an ordinary story of a woman who chose to do what she loved to do. This is the story of Candy Magazine Managing Editor, Mimi Tiu.

## Exposition

Mimi Tiu studied in an exclusive Chinese high school. She wouldn't call herself popular, but she was visible. She was part of the school music crew and the parish choir. She was also an intramurals volleyball player, but she joked that she spent most of the playing time on the bench. Her friends were also friendly so they weren't bullied and they didn't bully—at least she hoped they didn't. Academics aside, Mimi's friends noticed her love for magazines. During those times, the Philippines' industry for lifestyle magazines was still getting underway and Mimi had to go to the lengths of ordering from abroad just to get the magazines she wanted.

Going into college, Mimi didn't know what course to take. Her

mother wanted her to be a doctor and Mimi did her daughterly duties of choosing courses in medicine as she applied for some colleges. Thinking she wouldn't pass Ateneo, Mimi leisurely browsed through the brochure of courses it offered and decided that Communication Arts sounded fun. She passed Ateneo and forever bid the dream of becoming a doctor goodbye. Unlike many of her high school friends who only stuck to fellow Chinese, Mimi saw college as an opportunity to expand her network and avoided any reason that will cause people to call her "China Town." This steered her to immerse herself in a culture different from her Chinese roots. She was part of Tunong Dunong

and joined Tanghalang Ateneo. At that time, she was unaware that her involvement in Tanghalang Ateneo provided her with the people skills that she needed in her future job.

## Rising Action

It was in college that Mimi discovered that she actually liked writing. During her 3rd year in Ateneo, she interned for Candy Magazine and maintained contact with some of the people working there, including then editor in chief Mia Fausto. The summer after her graduation from college Mimi was hired as a nursery teacher, but after that stint, she took a break from work. At that time, Mimi's sister worked for a Gokongwei company and informed her of an opening of a new



Miguel Villaruel



## Chinoy 2009-2010

magazine, *Seventeen*. Mimi did not hesitate to apply for the job, saying, "as long as it sounds fun, I'm up for it." But when *Seventeen* editor in chief Maya Calica read Mimi's work, she felt that *Candy Magazine* was a better match for Mimi. With Maya's suggestion, Mimi became a permanent part of the *Candy* team.

### Climax

Mimi's friends believe it was fate that led her to where she is now. From the little girl who used to order magazines from abroad, Mimi is now part of a team that makes one. But fate is no fairytale; working for a publication is not a job without challenges. Dealing with advertisers, getting complaints from readers and worrying about getting good numbers of

shared an anecdote of a time when she was out with her friends and there were two teens who held a copy of *WITCH* and kept looking at her and at the magazine to see if it's really Mimi Tiu they're seeing.

### No Denouement Yet

When asked what her greatest achievement is, Mimi answered without hesitation, "It's being able to do what I want to do." She loves traveling and she makes sure to have an adventure at least once a year. She feels lucky that her job allows her to do exactly that. Side by side with doing what she wants, she's also proud that their publication touches other people's lives and how it sets an example for teens and kids.

This ordinary story will leave no falling



sales are just a few of the problems Mimi has to face. Luckily, good things do come too and these are what keep Mimi going. Although she has been part of the same team for Summit Media for almost a decade now, her job description has changed throughout the years—from editorial assistant to lifestyle editor to managing editor. A few years back, she was also given a job as the editor in chief of *WITCH* Magazine. These changes have kept things far from mundane. She also loves hearing from the readers. She shared that while she was editor of *WITCH* Magazine, they used to have events where she got to meet the kids who read the magazine. Many kids also wrote letters to say how *WITCH* had changed their lives and how they really looked up to the characters of the story. For *Candy Magazine*, the letters are more on about changes in teens—how they became more vocal and closer to their families or how they coped with problems. Being famous also came with the perks. Mimi actually finds it funny that people know her because she doesn't think being an editor is comparable to being a celebrity. She's really candid when she's out with her family and friends, making it awkward when people recognize her. She even

action and no denouement, for the protagonist is still at the climax. Instead, it will leave a lesson.

Mimi believes that anyone can be creative and Chinese are no exception. Unfortunately, not all Chinese are given the chance to be creative. Tradition still dictates that they must live the only story deemed practical: a career in business. Mimi is lucky that her family has always supported her decisions. Her family used to own an upholstery business, but her parents didn't want their children to depend on it so Mimi and her siblings were forced to choose their own careers. When Mimi chose a career path far from business, she wasn't met with disappointment. Her fame and success in the magazine industry fill her family and friends with pride. For those who are not so lucky, Mimi gives her advice, "Ideally, it's 'do what you want', but in reality, you have to learn how to compromise." There's no greater happiness than doing what you love to do, but we do not live only for ourselves. Quoting philosopher Alisdair MacIntyre, "only in fantasy do we live what story we please." We are never the sole authors of our stories, and the only solution to not being able to pursue our passion is to find happiness in everything we do. ●



# FIRST TIMER: Shan Dong Winter Camp 2009

By Michelle Ty

"O, ano pupunta kayo Shan Dong?" I heard Honey Sy (IV BS CS) addressing the other seniors in Celadon Room. Despite being busy with my Chemistry lab report, I couldn't help but ask Charmaine Sy (II BS PSY) what they were talking about. "Shan Dong?" I asked, "What? Saan yun? Ano yun?" Now, I'd have to say, being a Chinese Filipina and having studied China's geography during my fourth year high school, it was embarrassing that I didn't know where Shan Dong was. "I sent you an email about it!" Charm told me. "Oh," I replied with a sheepish grin. "All right, I'll check it out later."

When I got home that night, I opened my email and began sifting through my many unopened mail from different yahoogroups until I found it. SHAN DONG WINTER CAMP, the subject read, and the email had only 165 words. What got my attention was: "Fee of PHP 35,000.00 is inclusive of plane ticket, travel tax, visa-processing fee, jacket, souvenirs for Chinese authorities, and other miscellaneous fees. Accommodation and other expenses in the specified venue are all FREE!!!" It was sponsored by The Overseas Chinese Affairs Office of the State Council of P. R. O. China through the Philippine Chinese Education Research Center. I blinked, unsure whether what I read was right. My momentary excitement was suddenly dampened by the fact that



Photos courtesy of Michelle Ty

I would never be allowed to go on something like this; besides that, how was I to convince my parents to let me join when the application deadline was fast approaching. I was about to close my email when I told myself, "What the heck, let's give it a try." I sent the email to my dad. When he got home, I told him about the camp, and asked him if he could check his mail. I didn't think much about it afterwards. Roughly after around 2 hours and 20 minutes, at 10:49 PM of November 9, I received an email from my dad, saying, "GO FOR IT.... though I will miss you very very very much..." This time, I had to blink; I rubbed my eyes, making sure I read the email right. A big smile spread across my face and I ran to his room. "Seryoso ka?" I asked him. He nodded and said, "Oo."



Though NAIA was brimming with many people, it wasn't difficult to locate the group we were supposed to be with. Mark Dychauco (IV AB IS) and I instantly saw the same yellow-green jackets we were given during the orientation being worn by other students. Soon enough, seven of us from Celadon were in the departure area, playing Taboo. At that moment, we knew that boredom was not going to be an issue for the next 10 days.

We weren't laughing, however, when we



arrived at the Guang Zhou airport with only two hours before our next flight to Ji Nan. We saw the long lines in the different counters, and we actually thought we might not make it in time. In the end, we didn't have worry, after all. We reached our gate and had 30 minutes to spare before our boarding time. It was still an experience, dividing the big group to two (one in-charge of the check-in process, and the other in-charge of lining up for immigration) and fearing that we'd all be stuck in the airport overnight.

We were expecting dormitories or cheap hotels when we got to Ji Nan, so lo and behold when we saw four big stars above the Reception Counter. Our lodgings during the whole trip were always hotels. There was this one time, however, when we had to carry our luggage across four flights of stairs. Despite that, we always had internet access. Too bad we couldn't access Facebook or plurk because of the Great Firewall of China.

Our first task in Shan Dong was to find somewhere we could have dinner at 10 PM. Tired, cold, and hungry, we braved through the strong and icy wind. We couldn't believe our luck when we found a Noodle Restaurant that sold a bowl of Beef Noodle Soup for only RMB 6 or Php 36. It was the first and last night that we had to look for our own dinner, because the succeeding meals—breakfast, lunch, dinner—were either buffer or lauriats that always had us filled. The only that was always lacking was the amount of rice we got. We would always ask for a second serving. Ah, well, we were Filipinos after all.

Our Winter Camp officially started on December 21. We had our Opening Ceremony which was followed by an outdoor group dynamics. We were divided into two groups, asked to make flags, a group song, and a group cheer that would serve as our identity for the challenges that day. As a group, we had to stand on a long wood that had metal rings attached to it, and as a group we had to all lift our feet and our hands at the same time, so that we would be able to move. But the scariest activity for most would have been the Trust Fall. There were some of us who were fortunate enough to have experienced having a trust fall before, but it was still an altogether different experience when you have people you've barely known for 24 hours tasked to catch you as you fall.

The next few days was a test on our endurance and stamina. When we reached QuFu, we had to walk continuously for 5 hours straight in the cold outdoors, to be able to see the Temple of Confucius', the Cemetery of Confucius, and the Kong Family Mansion. Despite the long walk, we were all able to

joke around. Someone from the group said, "Hawakan niyo yung puno na yan pagkatapos ilagay mo sa ulo mo! Baka mag4.0 ka!" It was also during this time that cameras were being brought out, proving just how much picture-addicts we all were. Cameras were all forgotten, however, when we spotted Yam carts: the hot, sweet, melt-in-your-mouth carbohydrate warmed us. The yams and the street food at night (pig tripe, different kinds of mushroom, barbeque lamb all dipped in steaming hot sauce) were truly unique experiences, because we didn't have them here in the Philippines. The next time you visit QuFu, look for a Milk Tea Shop there with post-its all over the walls, you'll see a post-it obviously written by Celadonians.

Tai Shan Mountain was our stop the next day. Snow ball fights, cable cars, and "Tara, picture tayo!" We took so many pictures of ourselves and landscape shots that our tour guide actually got mad at us because we were always far behind. We were all so proud of ourselves when we stepped on the 1540 meter mark on the mountain. During our ascend down,

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...we found a Noodle Restaurant that sold a bowl of Beef Noodle Soup for only RMB 6 or Php 36..."

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we discovered this nai cha advertised by Jay Chou ("May nata de coco! Woah cool!" we all gushed) that had us all addicted to it to the point that we all made sure we had something to drink at home when we were back in the Philippines. Nai cha was just one of the things we brought home. On the other hand, our pasalubongs were mostly food. Nicole Ang (III BS Management), my roommate and I, were rather disappointed by the lack of stores we could go to since they would close at 9 PM. And because our dinner usually ended around 7 PM and our hotels were usually far from the shopping districts, we really weren't able to look around in terms of shopping.

Yes, we didn't have academic classes, but we didn't know we had to learn Wu Shu for two whole days and perform it afterwards. Nor were we aware that we were supposed to sing five songs on stage in front of a whole school. Surprise surprise. From those two events, however, we learned a lot about the lives of students in Shan Dong. When we stepped out of the bus, we saw kids all lined up, awaiting our arrival, with all their cheeks red, their bodies shivering from the cold. Our group couldn't stand still in the cold.





and those kids younger than us were forced to stand in the cold and greet us in welcome; we felt really bad. The children and teenagers we met were all very disciplined; in fact, we learned Wu Shu from local students there who were the same age as most of us were. Our jaws literally dropped when we saw them doing stunts that were way beyond our capabilities.

On the third to the last day, something happened that caught us off-guard. Everyone was inside the bus, and we were finally leaving the hotel where we had to manually carry our luggage up four flights of stairs, when our bus wouldn't start up at all. We couldn't believe it. After all this time, our bus suddenly didn't want to start. Someone from the group said, "Bakit ganun? Dapat nung Wu Shu nalang tayo nasiraan." We all laughed, and despite being stranded for half a day we managed to entertain ourselves by playing Wolf, Bridge, and some even visiting the nearest arcade. Finally, we reached Tsing Tao, which only meant we would get to visit the Tsing Tao Beer Factory. I know you are dying to ask, "Did you get free taste?" Yes, we did, and we weren't limited to just one glass.

When we sent in our application forms, only 7 of us knew each other from Celadon: Sharmaine Lee, Honey Sy, Mark Dychauco, Charles Chua (IV BS CS), Hans Ang (IV BS ME), Nicole Ang and me. And while the group consisted of grade school, high school, and us college students, by the end of the trip we didn't want to part. The funny thing was, all of us, in one way or another, were connected to each other. Either there were some of us who were classmates, who were neighbors, who

came from the same high school, etc. In fact, 10 of us were from Ateneo: in addition to the seven of us Mishianne Chua (I BS Management), Santhiel Chua (II BS ME), and Justine Go (I BS ME) were also part of the tour. In the end, we were just one big group of people who were bonded by the 10 days we had in Shan Dong. Ever since we came back, the Shan Dong group 2009 has had dinner twice and celebrated two

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"...we reached Tsing Tao, which only meant we would get to visit the Tsing Tao Beer Factory... we weren't limited to just one glass..."

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birthdays totaling to four bonding moments. So many changes have happened since we first met each other; we've all become closer in ways we could never have imagined. We all can't wait for December 2010!

When I asked my dad if I can join the trip again this December and bring my brother Andre (I BS CS) along, but expressed my hesitance over the expenses, he said, "Don't worry about the expenses. Go join again next year. The things that you get from this trip, your experiences, the friendships you make, are all priceless. It's a memory you'll always cherish and look back to." Thanks, Dad. Thanks, Celadon. If it weren't for you guys, I wouldn't have had the opportunity to experience that. ☺

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Art, for its sake, can barely be considered a stable job opportunity.

Sure, it is a nice hobby and fall back to take away life's baggage whenever time permits, but surely not a life-long commitment. Painting, sketching, drawing, filmmaking or whatever art form you think of takes not only talent which we all innately have, but it also takes patience, perseverance, persistence and a lot of sleepless nights. We have had our share of great painters, sketch artists, filmmakers, songwriters, musicians and photographers in our time and yet they pass us by, one by one. And yet, art continues to inspire us with awe and exhilaration, even as most of us could only doodle in our notebooks. As the British sculptor Henry Moore explains, "There's no retirement for an artist, it's your way of living so there's no end to it." Yet there are those who

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"Most of my art is meant to be socially conscious because we all go for social change and issues these days."

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break the mold of what we perceive as artists.

Katarina Ongaigui is not your usual artist in that she doesn't seem your usual artist. A 4th year Information Design major, you wouldn't realize what she does in her spare time unless you start talking to her. The third in a group of four children, she started developing her artistic talents back in high school as part of her school paper's Art staff. But it was in college that she started realizing she is meant for more than pen and paper. "There was

this time in Animation class that our prof showed us some techniques on [Adobe] Photoshop," explains the ACTM Lumina contest winner, "I was amazed at how he could do some work and I sought to teach myself do digital art." From this inspirational point, she continued to develop her repertoire of skills, which now includes photo manipulation, basic vectoring and web designing. "Most of my works are really inspired by the things around me, so I am quite spontaneous and am always looking for different subjects," as she explained her artistic style, "however you'll see that my works are not that colorful and are dark, mysterious and gothic. I was also inspired by Natalie Shaw (her idol) on deviantArt because her works were very different and I liked her unique style." Indeed her works range from environment themed advertisements for a cup noodle brand to macabre, pedophilic horrors that display babies with cracked skulls. "Most of my art is meant to be socially conscious because we all go for social change and issues these days."

But it wasn't always easy doing the genre of art she loves. "The kind of art that I do is not what Filipinos are used to. The most popular art form in the Philippines is still pop art." She said that after joining numerous digital art contests, she has been turned down time and time again against what she deems as "colorful, more pleasing art." Her family did not fully support her decision to be an artist until she joined the Lumina contest. "They didn't really fully support me in my craft until I won the [ACTM] contest. After I won the prize they realized that I had the potential to be good and they became proud of me." After bagging the prize, to further bolster



her fame, some of her works were featured and an article was written about her in Manila Bulletin's Picture Perfect segment last August 2008 along with another feature for Graphika Manila. "After my works were published [in the newspapers], I realized how much people do really appreciate the work I do. These moments really made me proud and confident," she said with a big smile on her face.

In a future that seems as bright as the sunsets she can stroke with a digital brush, Katarina doesn't really see herself as a professional artist. "I do a lot of freelance work for different clients and am just building up my portfolio. Creating art has become quite addictive for me, but it's hard to survive on art alone [in the Philippines.]" On that note and given the social and economic climate of our country, after graduation she'll enter the corporate world and see how she fares. "I'll go corporate and see what happens. I do hope that I can still do art in the future

and open up my own exhibit!" In the end, it seems that creating digital wonders using software and a computer are all but a passing phase for Katarina. However it may seem, she would still want to continue doing what she loves. "I'm actually doing a new artwork using Alice in Wonderland [a new movie coming this March] because I really love the movie. It's projects like these that keep me moving."

When asked about what 'perfect art' is for her, she exclaims, "If you really want perfect art, it has to continue to challenge you and lets you start thinking. It can be difficult at first but with a lot of practice, you can be good and everything will be easy." For an accomplished artist and with hundreds of hours of computer usage under her belt, she is set to continue to blaze a trail for other artists like herself. "Breaking from the traditional norm and doing my own thing is what I do best." It will probably stay that way for a little bit longer. ☺

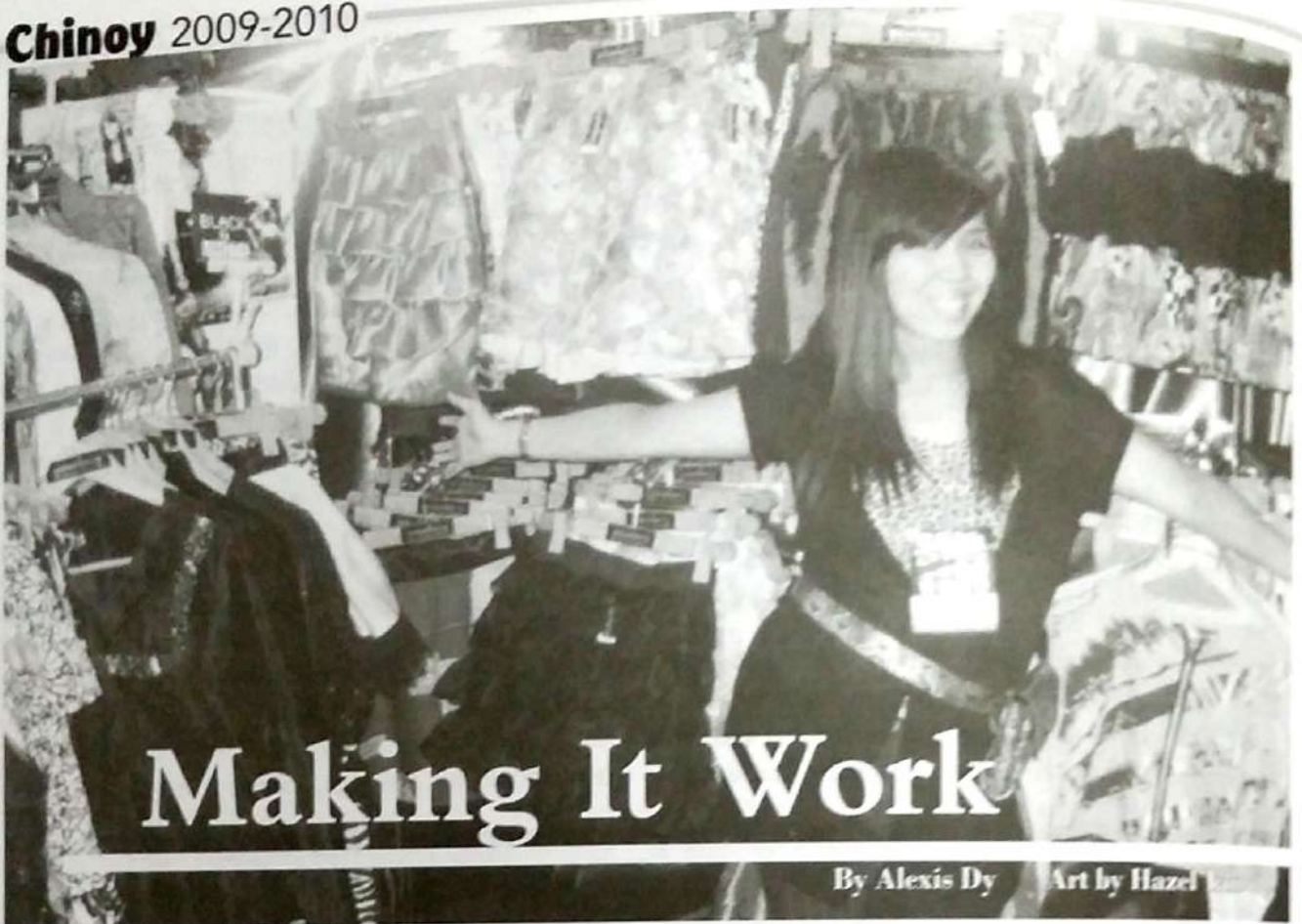
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"If you really want perfect art, it has to continue to challenge you and lets you start thinking. It can be difficult at first but with a lot of practice, you can be good and everything will be easy."

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By Alexis Dy

Art by Hazel

# Making It Work

Thanks to social networking sites like Multiply and Facebook, it has become easy for first-time entrepreneurs to set up their own businesses. Most of the time, items for sale are brought in from abroad, but like many other young designers, Rachel Lim (IV BS COMTECH) recognized the opportunity to pursue something she loves doing: fashion design. The result? Poisonberry Manila, with its fun, flirty designs taking the local fashion scene by storm.

**Were you always into fashion and designing clothing?**



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Fashion was always a huge part of who I am since I was always more inclined towards the arts. Initially I wanted to do advertising and publicity more but the love for fashion prevailed and I realized that a career out of fashion could very well work

**How did Poisonberry start?**

Poisonberry is the brainchild of both my partner [Angelica Ong] and myself. We wanted to earn extra money on the side doing something we both loved so we decided to come up with a brand.

**Why the name Poisonberry?**

The name Poisonberry is inspired by a fruit called Boysenberry. Few may know it but it's also an ice cream flavor found abroad.

**Take us through the process of conceptualizing a line to finally getting everything out to be sold.**

First you have to consider branding, as well as the image you want to create for your line. Next comes materials sourcing, coming up with designs and the most crucial part – to find a good seamstress. From there on the marketing part follows as well as proper record-keeping.

**How big has Poisonberry gotten?**

We never expected it to grow this big but the response we've been getting is overwhelming! We get a lot of good feedback from people from the fashion industry as well as local celebrities.

**Best part of the job?**

The income that comes with it of course. It gives you a feeling of independence, being able to earn your



own money at this age.

**Worst part of the job?**

Having to manage it alongside your studies! It's not an easy task but there's no room for complaining so I just do the best I can.

**How does it feel pursuing a career that isn't a conventional choice for Chinese Filipinos?**

Personally there isn't anything such as conventional or not. A career is something that you will do daily, on a regular basis so it shouldn't be something you don't feel passionate about. What's important is knowing what you want to do and to just go for it.

**What's next for Rach, and Poisonberry?**

I'll be moving overseas for a year or two to study fashion further at the same time continue to manage Poisonberry. I've been doing this for a while now so why not add another year or two, right? When I get back Poisonberry will go through an expansion plan that I'm already starting to work out on.

Visit the Poisonberry online store at <http://poisonberrymanila.multiply.com/> and stay updated through <http://twitter.com/poisonberrymla>. ☺



Photo courtesy of Rachel Lim and Alexis Dy



## *The Celadon Executive Board 2010-2011!*

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Photos courtesy of Janeena Chan



## Janeena Chan: Definitely More than the Usual

By Don Michael Acelar De Leon  
Art by Jerusha Ong

From her enthralling singing voice, charming personality, to her natural passion for performing, rising star Janeena Chan is ready to show the world that the Chinita is more than just the typical gorgeous headturner you see in malls, billboards, and magazines. Chinoy catches Janeena, ever the busy bee, to get an inside look on the life and perks of this all-around-performer, commercial model, and budding teen journalist!

What's the story behind Janeena the singer, model, actress, and broadcast journalist? Where did it all begin?

When I was still in pre-school, my teacher asked me to join the singing contest in school. I was 5 back then I think, and it was my very first singing experience ever. Fortunately, I won and it inspired me to keep on singing. From then on I would always represent my class and school in and outside the campus for various English, Filipino or Mandarin singing competitions. At age 7, I joined the search for The Disney Singing Princess in SM Malls. I won representing SM Southmall where I sang Part of Your World. And at age 14, I joined High School Musical On Stage held at the Meralco Theater, it was such an experience for me and that was when I realized that staging in theater musicals is one great passion of mine. After that, I had some shows in Enchanted Kingdom for Enchanting Teens Musical. we were also invited by the local officials of Ormoc City to perform.

I started modeling at age 9, the first being for Barbie. There, I was professionally trained how to walk, have good posture, project well and also discipline and time management. Other brands like W.I.T.C.H Magazine, Bayo, Bratz Dolls, came along. I also started modeling for print ads that year. Some of my print exposures are for Red Mango Yogurt, Valentino Watches, Natasha Catalog and Juicy Cologne.





started commercial modeling at the age of fourteen with Rexona Teens Sistah Fun as my first project. Then came along my commercials with Jollibee, Juicy Cologne, Ponds and Creamsilk, Anti Cervical Cancer.

At age 11, I started hosting for a TV telemagazine show called Kids TV. Then it was followed by Newswatch Junior Edition and now I'm with the main news program in RPN 9 called Newswatch as the only teen reporter for my segment, Teen Watch. I've been a host for Guess Jeans events and also for SM MOA's Science Discovery Center with their planetarium show premieres. Just last year, I also joined Magic 89.9's search for the new batch of Junior Jocks. Out of 200+ hopefuls, 30 made it through the first cut and now only 11 of us are part of Magic's Junior Jocks batch '09. We have been currently undergoing training on the board and we get to go on air with the Magic Jocks. It's been such a privilege to be part of this. Public communications and music in one! That's both of the things I love to do combined!

**You have appeared in Disney's High School Musical onstage in the Philippines, and you have also been awarded for your hosting endeavors. Which achievement or performance do you consider the most memorable?**

Everything I did was very special. I put a lot of effort and did my best. Each one contributed and lead to another one. It is actually so amazing how everything is all interconnected. I consider all of them as special. Having the Star Awards for TV as one of the Best Children Show Host is something to be proud of though. It was also hard to get into Disney's High School Musical On Stage. Out of hundreds and hundreds of hopefuls, only 30 of us got in.

**What inspired you to pursue a career in the arts?**

I really love to perform! Singing and being on stage is such a happy high for me. Actually it is such a great career to pursue because it doesn't feel like work at all. Same with hosting and reporting, I do it out of love and to learn more and gain experience. At the same time, I get to meet a lot of wonderful people, reach many different places and enjoy. It's actually enough of a bonus to get paid for something you love doing.

**How has your family supported you in your career?**

My family is very supportive. Dad informs me about sudden opportunities he reads in the papers or watches on TV. Mom takes care of the details and always has my back, ready to support. My sister does the behind the scene work like my set cards, portfolio, minus ones, CDs and the like. I sometimes tag them along in my shoots and assign them to be my extras for my materials in my segment reports.

**How "Chinese" and "Filipino" do you see yourself, on a scale of 1 to 10?**

Maybe both 8. I grew up in a mixed culture environment. Growing up in Chinese community in school and my early exposure to the industry and the many different people helped shaped me to have the proper identity of being a true "Tsinoy."

**Have you ever been typecast due to your prominent "Chinita" features?**

Yes, but they have been in a positive light so far. One instance was in the Rexona Commercial, the first commercial I did and the other



instance was for Juicy Cologne. Both products really intended for a Chinita model to fit in their desired look for one of the 3 lead roles. Typecasting is not so much of an issue because some make up artists can really make my eyes look bigger anyway. Haha!

**Most Chinese Filipinos are seen following the road of business and entrepreneurship. How does it feel to be taking a different path from the rest?**

It is actually not very common for most Chinese Filipinos to pursue this field in the arts. But it never made me feel inferior to still try at the start and keep on doing what I love to do now. Most have good words with what I am doing. Everyone has been very encouraging. And I think this would hopefully broaden their minds to being open in this field. I also do believe that this would inspire the 'typical Chinese thinking' community that it is alright to do what you love and excel in this path.

**What advice can you give to those who want to follow in your footsteps and move beyond the traditional road?**

First of all, develop and enhance your skills and

keep on learning. Also have a strong personality and have faith. Have faith in yourself and just believe you can. Your strong personality will devour criticisms that you surely would encounter along the way. But it's all part of it. Just keep your head up high. If you really love it, then it's all worth it.

**What's next for Janeena Chan?**

By mid this year, Gimik 2010 will be introduced in ABS CBN and I will be playing a role more or less similar to Blair Waldorf of Gossip Girl. My character is the mean girl at the start of the season but by the middle of the show, she will have a new twist and you'll love her too. It is definitely a challenging role.

You'll see more of me in the Natasha Cataog, Coca Cola print ad, Sexy Heels Collection, Valentino watches. And hopefully I would be able to get hold of telemagazine projects like travel shows that'll surely be more exciting. I also am really hopeful to have a singing career as well, with an album and shows and all that rockstar glitz and glam. I am grateful for all the blessings that are truly heartfelt and for all the people who have been continuously supporting me through it all. ☺







# a call to social awareness: an interview with nathalie ting

By Samantha Bautista  
Art by Jacqueline Tanliab

"Diba hindi naman nabuhay ang tao para kumita lang? Nabuhay ang tao para makita ang kapwa tao niya." Nathalie Ting, a recent graduate of AB Political Science who currently works for the Office for Social Concern and Involvement, tells me this during our interview that mainly revolved around her work, social awareness, and the Chinese Filipino.

## OSCI for the Uninitiated

OSCI is the social arm of the Ateneo de Manila University tasked with disaster management and the social formation of the students of the Loyola schools. Spearheading various programs and activities, OSCI is in charge of managing the freshmen's Introduction to Ateneo Culture and Traditions (INTACT) program and exposure trip, the sophomores' National Service Training Program (NSTP), the juniors' Junior engagement program (JEEP), and the seniors' immersion. According to Nat, OSCI's call for social awareness is a gradual process that tries to instill social awareness more and more as the years pass and in doing so, hopes that it becomes natural to the students.

Specifically, Nat is a JEEP facilitator and INTACT formator for the office. When asked about her job, she answers, "Basically, I coordinate the jobs and areas the students are assigned to (JEEP mainly involves giving students the opportunity to experience blue-collar work). However, it's not like you're just focused on the task assigned to you. The success of an office depends on the collaboration of its workers and we find ourselves helping each other out a lot."

## Her Journey to OSCI

Sad as it may seem, the truth is that lately, few people have the propensity for social involvement Nat has. Upon being asked how she gained her acute awareness and concern for social issues and how she

wound up in OSCI in the first place, Nat claims that social awareness is not instant – there was no one event that opened her eyes, it was a series of events and an evolution of her way of thinking.

It began in her childhood, Nat said. Her family's



Miguel Limjap-Andre





Miguel Limjap-Andres

television would be on almost 24-7, so she would be tuned in from the cartoons to the soap operas to the evening news. Occasionally, she would chance upon documentaries focused on issues relevant to that time and she would find herself thinking about how unfair people were treated sometimes. This was further enhanced by the fact that she was a political science major, who was introduced to many details of the Philippine condition in her years of study. All these elements combined convinced her that what she wanted to do after graduating, was to work for non-profit non-governmental organizations. Thus, this began her road to OSCI.

"Initially, I was supposed to join JVP or Jesuit Volunteers Program," She confessed. However, because it entailed going to places far from the Metro like Mindoro to become a trainer or facilitator for nearly a year, her parents, uncomfortable with her being so far away from home, didn't allow her to go. But that didn't stop her from fulfilling her goal of working for a socially-oriented cause. She soon applied for OSCI, and here we are today.

#### **Social Awareness and the Chinese Filipino**

When asked if her Chinese Filipino background helped her as she worked for OSCI, she said: "A bit." She admitted that being Chinese helped her relate to the students more because she could empathize where they were coming from. As a formator, their

shared cultural background contributed to her job of helping them to be more socially aware.

Acknowledging that Chinoy have a tendency to lean towards the business side of things, Nat shared that business and social involvement need not be separate. "It doesn't really mean that if you're socially aware, you're not going to succeed in business, right?" She shared that she too wished for success in the future, but understood that it involved more than just the work or the money. There are also your employees, your bosses, the government, and all the concerns that surround them. Being socially aware will help you in your business, not exactly money-wise, but definitely people-wise. And that is often what is most important. And this is when she said: "Diba hindi naman nabuhay ang tao para kumita lang? Nabuhay ang tao para makita ang kapwa tao niya." And how true that statement is.

#### **Door to Unlimited Possibilities.**

To end the interview, I asked Nat what made her happiest about her job. She answered with a smile and one word: "opportunities." The opportunity to help not just the people you know, but a whole lot more in the people you meet. The opportunity to form your students, to help them grow and know themselves more. The opportunity to form the right network to work for an NGO one day. The opportunity to learn about people by being with people. ●



# Hitting the High Notes

By Esme Fong

Art by Jerusha Ong



Success, in the traditional Chinese Filipino mindset, has always been about how high one's grades are or how big the size of one's bank account is. Following such a line of thought, most Chinese Filipino college students pursue high-paying careers whether it is in line with their interests or not.

How many Chinese Filipinos today have an aim of helping independent musicians find their spotlight? I don't think there would be as much, or even half, of those who wish to land a job in a multinational company. Nonetheless, there are still some who dare to redefine this so-called pragmatic point of view.

Right inside the Ateneo are two young Chinese-Filipino entrepreneurs who dare to differ and found their passion toward success in the field of music – Perth Anthony L. Salva (IV BS MIS) of Perthman Records and Genevieve Deniece D. Go (IV BS CTM) of Roller Toaster Records.

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Perthman Records is "a recording/rehearsal studio for independent bands who want reasonably priced rates with access to top-notch gear. Some of the services offered include: Recording, Mixing, Mastering and Vocal Dubbing."

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Perth narrates the beginnings of Perthman Records, "All this started out because of some stupid high school gig that required us to submit a demo for their event. Being thrifty Chinese boys, my band couldn't reconcile shelving out cash to record in a fancy studio. So we utilized a chat microphone and a mouse-infested basement. Having never been satisfied with the quality of what I mixed. I relocated to different rooms, upgraded my microphones, hung out more with musicians, listened to more music, abused my parents' generosity, bought a bunch of books and now, I'm out to prove myself."

Perth's parents seem to be a little less traditional than most Chinese Filipinos. He mentions that the business is a compromise between his parents' desire of him becoming an entrepreneur and his passion for music. On a continuing talk about his parents, he says in jest, "I've been blessed with really great parents who half-heartedly support what I do and if they start deciding not to, that's when I start recording Beatles covers for Father's day." Perth admits that he himself is unsure whether or not Chinese Filipino elders have a point in being fastidious with the kind of business to run. At present, all he knows is that he's enjoying what he does as a college student while earning, regardless of how much, is just a plus.



A word of advice from the man behind Perthman Records: "Never start with 'money' as a priority because chances are, you will get disappointed, but don't miss the real value in what you do, and that value is 'experience'. Most of the mistakes you experience are universal and will be applicable to any type of business you decide to go into eventually. It's more important to learn about 'what not to do' than 'what to do'."

Looking on to the future, Perth sees his business as a source of additional income or sideline while it is in its early stage. Even so, he looks forward to his business reaching a crescendo and focusing on it fulltime eventually.

While Perth is still wavering about taking on a path that is quite different from the Chinese-Filipino norm, Gen heads for it with much conviction.

"Roller Toaster Records is a Metro-Manila-based independent record company that aims to find Filipino talents in music and aid them in the production, marketing and distribution of their original records. We provide a launch pad for these artists to break into the industry, as well as offering them a more personalized service that caters to their specific needs."



Photos courtesy of Roller Toaster Records

Gen has always been an artist ever since she was little. Coming from a traditional Chinese family, it was never easy for her to pursue what she loves when considering her parents' desires for her. So how did she end up running a record company?

Like any passionate artist, Gen and her business partners were drawn together by their love for music while strongly holding on to their beliefs. "We believe that we could create a company that could take a different approach to the way music companies do

things currently. We believe that by nurturing young artists and helping them make a name for themselves, we can also espouse the empowerment of the youth and support for their talents," says Gen.

Although driven by passion and committed to her goal, there were some difficulties she and her business partners encountered in running Roller Toaster Records. Among these are dealing with government regulations, copyrights and licenses which slowed their business during the startup stage. Moreover, the need for resources to fund recordings, events and promotions is also a big drawback.

Challenging as it may seem, Gen finds it worthwhile whenever they discover great talents during auditions as she says, "One of the things that I love most is being able to find talented musicians and helping them – it was a novel and exciting experience for us at the beginning, having open call auditions and unearthing great sounds." To top it off, having the final product made definitely gave her a feeling of fulfillment.

Gen doesn't see the end of Roller Toaster Records any time soon. In fact, she sees the business expanding into other non-conventionally Chinese Filipino fields such as design, advertising, film to name a few possibilities. Gen adds, "One thing we want to keep at the core of everything though, is the passion for being able to empower the country's youth, and that value is something we won't ever lose."

As a message to hesitant Chinese Filipino entrepreneurs to-be, Gen boldly emphasizes the power that this generation holds in evoking change. "Although I don't think my parents will ever be a hundred percent happy with my less-than-acceptable interests, I think that by sticking with my goals and by really showing them that I'm serious and passionate about what I'm doing, they will also come to realize that the "normal" path is not the only way to be happy (or in their book, "successful"). I know how hard it is to go against generations of tradition, but I think that our generation, more than any other, has the power and the drive, not to mention the talent, to really break free from that and show them that prosperity in life is not just based on the size of your bank account, or how many kids you're going to have, or how many As you've collected from grade reports. And although the threat of being disowned is always there for a lot of us, (in fact, it seems to be a common threat thrown upon the seemingly-"black sheep" of the family) if you're brave enough to go after what you want, your family will eventually (and hopefully) see the light and give you their blessing and support." ☺



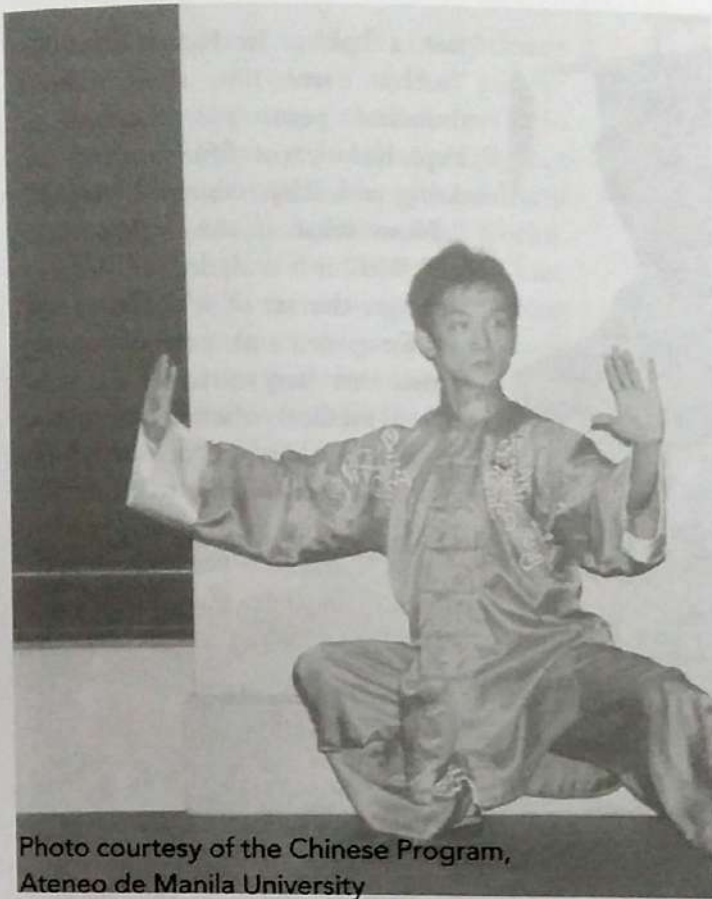
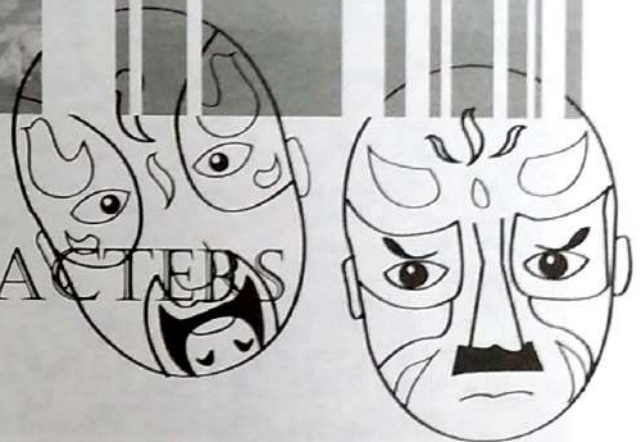


Photo courtesy of the Chinese Program,  
Ateneo de Manila University

## FIVE MILLENIA OF CHINESE CHARACTERS

By Christa Uymatiao

Art by Kim Ng



On November 26 2009, the Chinese Studies Program of the Ateneo de Manila University, in partnership with the Confucius Institute, welcomed the Hanban "Five Millenia of Chinese Characters" art troupe.

Composed of students from different institutions across China, the troupe travels around the world promoting Chinese culture outside of China. The Hanban troupe brings together students who are skilled in various Chinese arts, indeed bringing together a variety of cultures all over China. Consisting of dancers, singers, actors, martial artists, instrument players and more, the HanBan artists gave a most invigorating performance to those who were able to watch the beautiful showcase of talent, skill and hard work.

In their movements – strong, swift, precise, dainty, soft, flowing, agile – one cannot help but feel the passion that the performers put into their show.

The displays of traditional and modern Chinese culture all blending into one performance, was indeed a sight to behold. Despite how age-old some Chinese performances were (imagine that some songs, dances, and special performances like the mask/face-changing portion of the show, are skills and techniques that have been handed down for over one thousand years), one cannot help but fall in love once again with the timeless Chinese culture. True to their name, what had been presented was a culmination of more than five millenia's worth of Chinese culture and tradition, a presentation of different Chinese characters immortalized through various art forms. ☺



Photos courtesy of Kylo Chua



## Sculpting the Plan

By Andre Ty

Art by Dave Chua Yap

The Ateneo de Manila University is home to a staggering number of exceptional students. Now, for every student currently studying in Ateneo there is such a thing called "The Plan." This is everyone's own version of how they will live out their life starting from first year in college up until they what they will do when they graduate. This is done so that when these students leave the Ateneo, they will become successful young men and women strongly rooted in Ignatian values and traditions.

Kylo Chua is no exception to the rule when it comes with having "The Plan." His version of the plan involves him getting his Bachelor in Fine Arts for Information Design and working for an advertising company. What is not part of the usual plan is his current 'hobby' which earns him a little extra spending money.

You may be wondering how much money can one earn with

just a hobby. In Kylo's case, his 'hobby' earns him about fifteen thousand pesos per commission. Yep, Kylo earns fifteen grand for doing a hobby which he enjoys!

Now what is this hobby Kylo has? Well, it is sculpting. In this day and age, the art of sculpting is not yet foregone, and it is something which one may earn off of. Kylo uses a method wherein he draws, makes a mould of this drawing, then uses powdered marble to finish his artwork. Simple as that may sound; it takes Kylo about a month or so to finish just one statue about a foot high.

Most might think that Kylo is an expert sculptor who started out at a young age honing his skills as an artisan. What most people do not know is that Kylo merely started sculpting in 2007, selling his first piece that same year. Like all budding young artists, he has someone to look up to, and for Kylo's case, he looks up to his father, a fellow sculptor. His dad introduced him to sculpting after forming a group called 'Art Venture Artists' on 2006. The rest, as they say, is history.

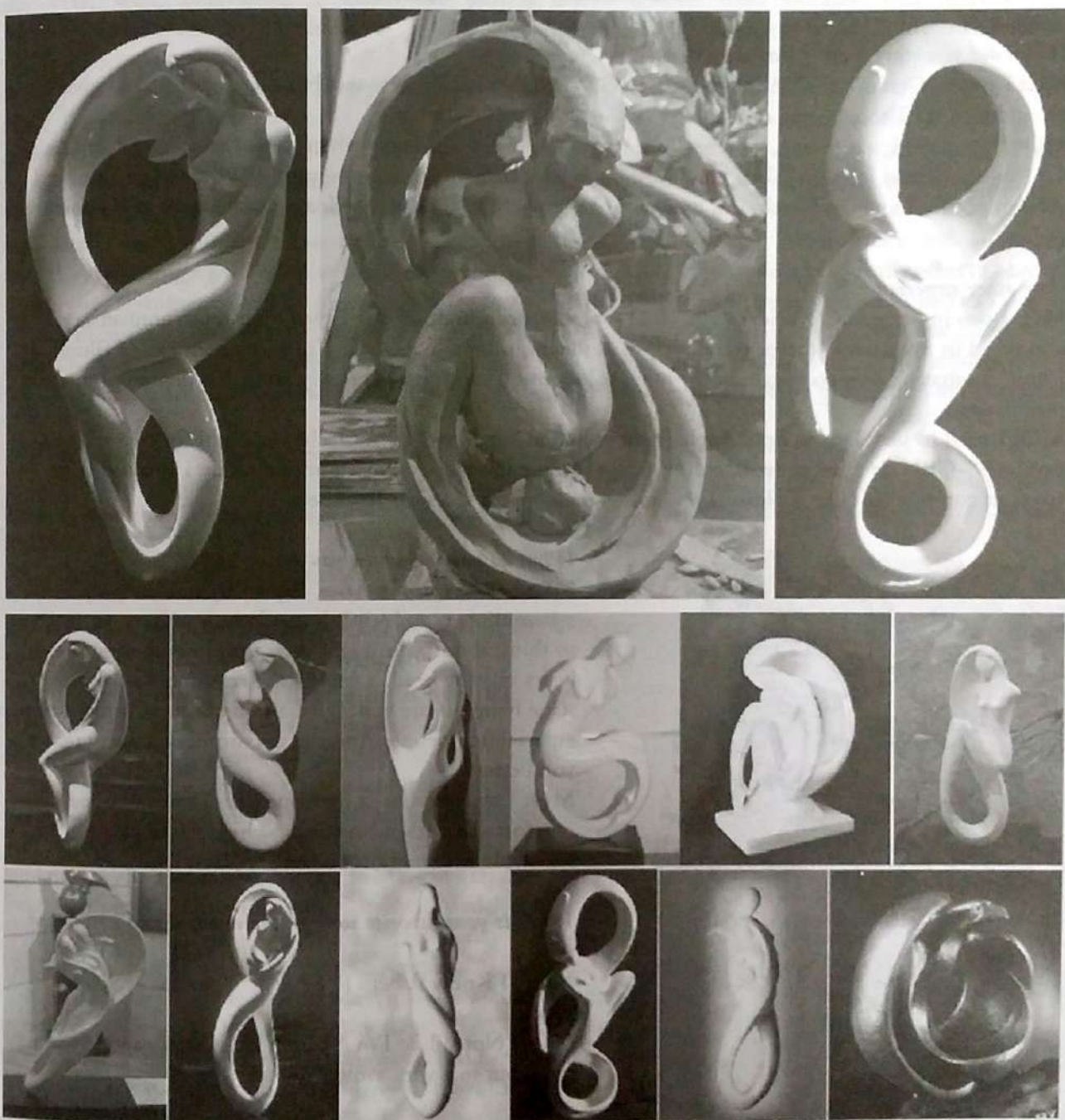
No matter how good Kylo is at sculpting, he still thinks of it as a hobby, something to pass the time and to earn a little extra income when he needs it. The funny thing about this hobby is that, if it is not a commission, he only sells his pieces which for him are not perfect but which the buyer still think looks great. Always seeking perfection, Kylo has only about three or four statues which he was completely satisfied with, and these statues are kept at home. All his other pieces are held in display in various places, one of which was Ateneo only last year. These 'imperfect' pieces, or so he says but which I or any other person would say looks perfect, are then auctioned off, with the price ranging from PhP12



000 (his first piece) to Php20 000 (current selling price of some of his pieces).

How does this young artist find time to do his sculptures? Kylo says that it isn't really that hard to find time for this hobby of his, unless of course he is busy with Acads (i.e. Hell Weeks).

If you want to know more about Kylo Chua, or would like to commission something from him, you can reach him at [kylochua@yahoo.com](mailto:kylochua@yahoo.com), or visit his site at [www.kylochua.com](http://www.kylochua.com). Also, if you would like to see his works first hand, then visit Art Asia Gallery on the fourth floor of SM Megamall bldg. A.







# Chinoys Take to the Stage

By Aloy Chua Art by Paul Kaw



IT has often been told how or where the Chinese-Filipino community can escape from a "box" and question whether a certain path is the one they really want, or just because their parents or society pressured them into it. Such insights are quoted from our very own Maria Adela (or Madel) Ching (4 AB POS) and Marvin Ong (4 AB COM), two prominent youth in the field of theater, the former for playing Tracy Turnblad and the latter Tobias Ragg in Manila productions of *Hairspray* (2008) and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (2009) respectively. Chinoy looks into the experiences of these two promising stage performers and discovers the Madel and Marvin behind and beyond the makeup, costumes, and glittering lights of theater.

## *When did you start theater, and why theater?*

**MC:** I was in Grade 7 in ICA at the time. At first I really wasn't interested, but then I decided to give it a try and sign up. Then, I grew to like it.

**MO:** Ever since I was young, I always liked singing. I joined Trumpets when I was ten years old, in Grade 4. My good friend Joaquin Valdez "discovered" me and convinced me to sign up as Edmund in a musical version of *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, especially since he needed a replacement as his voice was changing.

## *Any other experiences?*

**MC:** I was in Stage FX [Xavier's stage club] when I was in high school. It was their tenth anniversary. I also acted in my friends' theses and directing productions here in ADMU. I'm also a member of BlueRep. I quit Tanghalang Ateneo because they [tend to] focus on social issues heavily, and I felt depressed in their productions.

**MO:** I used to play Tim in *Epol Apple* [a show like *Sining Skwela* that teaches English] for two seasons, until ABS-CBN decided to replace everything because the kids couldn't understand us. I also did voice-overs in commercials like Colgate. I also make guest appearances on Trumpets.

## *What do you feel when you are on stage?*

**MC:** I always feel nervous. Especially in *Hairspray*, where it's two and a half hours long, you have so much to think about: you might mess up, remembering the lyrics in your head... And in the opening, I'm alone on stage lying on the bed. But I also feel happy, happy to be entertaining people. And the nervousness actually makes you better.

**MO:** I was nervous at first, but then I started to feel comfortable with it, especially when you're playing the same role over and over again for 15 times.

## *What is your favorite song in the musical you performed in?*

**MC:** "I Know Where I've Been." I like the lyrics so much.

**MO:** "Not While I'm Around." It's a very calm love song, but in a very violent scene.





*How can you identify yourself with the character you played?*

**MC:** I'm a playful person, so I like to "play" roles. Tracy's also perky and happy.

**MO:** Tobias has the mind of a 12-year-old. I'm also childlike in a way – I collect toys.

*What was it like before performing?*

**MC:** I remember cutting classes for the first two weeks for rehearsals. But my friends helped me by photocopying notes so that I could catch up. Well, the opportunity was right in front of me...

**MO:** Acting isn't hard if you like it, but it takes a toll on you, especially since I kept singing. Yes, there were times I lost my voice.

*Are there any other musicals you want to be in?*

**MC:** Dreamgirls. Like Hairspray, it's really lively, and it tackles a social issue without making the play, well, depressing. I don't like playing more serious roles because they depress me.

**MO:** I really want to play Judas in Jesus Christ Superstar. He's a character with lots of emotion.

*Aside from theater, what do you plan to do?*

**MC:** Ever since I was a child, I really wanted to become a lawyer. I remember the sounds of the courtrooms and all on TV. It seemed like I already planned my life since I was young – part-time theater actress, part-time law student. I also like fashion, and I look for plus-size girls on my Lookbook and comment like "Good job!" on their pictures. I want to break the stereotype – you know, only slim girls can be in the lead and all. That's also why I love Tracy and Hairspray.

**MO:** I've been singing since I was young, representing Xavier in a singing competition. I really want to become a professional singer. I also play piano, and sing with it. Teaching's just an alternative, but if I had to I'd want to be a music teacher in Xavier. Business is closed to me, but my dad and I put up a production company – MW Productions – and we hope to produce events and hopefully manage artists. My dad's my manager now, actually. I also want to experience being behind the scenes, which is why I took up production in my course.

*Who or what do you credit for your success?*

**MC:** I focus on what I can do, what my natural talents are. I'm not a good singer, but I love to dance. [Of her first audition] When they asked me if I could dance, I said, 'I can dance better than I can sing.' So they made me dance."

**MO:** I focus on becoming as good as I can be.

*What advice can you give as role models for the Chinese-Filipino youth and the youth community in general?*

**MC:** Play to your strengths. Experience is really the way to success; it made me who I am today.

**MO:** First, know you love something. Then be better at it. Then experiment, and when you've got it, take risks. I stopped my piano and voice training to experiment with them.

Despite all these, Madel and Marvin remain very nice, humble, and down-to-earth; both Madel and Marvin were very much themselves and completely modest about everything, laughing off my endless praises about their work.

If I could identify Madel and Marvin with a current pop song, it would be Jennifer Lopez's "Jenny from the Block." The song talks about J. Lo's rise to fame, but at the end of the day, she is still that same girl she always was, Jenny "from the block." Truly, "Madel" and "Marvin from the Block" are guiding lights to not just all young Chinoys, but to the youth community in general. ☺



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## Leadership Development Program 09: The Building Blocks of Tomorrow *The Foundations of Celadon*

By Ailyn Lau

"EVERYONE HAS LEADERSHIP potential." This is the belief of Lester Sy, one of the co-heads of this year's Leadership Development Program (LDP).

True enough, the participants of the LDP are a mix of unique people—mostly active members who were invited and members who wanted to participate in the event. Titled "LDP 09: The Building Blocks of Tomorrow, this year's LDP was held at Boso-Boso Highlands in Antipolo on November 14-15, 2009. The pollution-free and peaceful environment was conducive to the smooth interaction and effortless fellowship of the participants. A series of group dynamics and talks were prepared by the team behind the success of LDP, headed by Mindy Bautista, Albert Ong Lopez, and Lester Sy. They also made sure that the activities are aligned with the objective of the LDP to develop the leadership potentials of the participants and empower them, specifically to become future leaders of Celadon.

Michelle Ty, an LDP participant shares the most important thing she learned from the program, "You can't survive alone, especially in an org thing. If you want something to be successful, you have to learn to depend on others. There's also the matter of fear. You can't think that something will fail when it hasn't started yet, because that kind of thinking will surely get you nowhere." The theme of this year's LDP is precisely to remind the participants and members that they are the "building blocks" of Celadon—its foundation. Only in working together will lead to success. For Lester Sy, every leader has to start somewhere and LDP is the springboard for these potential leaders.

One of the main problems of most leadership programs is the lack of follow-through. This year's

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"You can't think that something will fail when it hasn't started yet, because that kind of thinking will surely get you nowhere."

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LDP created a solution for this—it was designed to guide the participants until they are equipped with the right skills to be leaders of the organization. The LDP did not end after the two days in Antipolo, the program continued by assigning each participant to a different project of Celadon. In essence, the goal is for them to practice what they have learned under the tutelage of the current Celadon officers and make their marks as prominent figures inside the organization.

For Lester Sy, the LDP was an overall success in the sense that it helped the participants realize how they are integral to the future of Celadon, but there's always room for improvement. "LDP can still be bigger and better in terms of venue and budget," says Lester Sy. However, for participant Michelle Ty, she came home with so many new friends and realizations that there was only one complaint: She wished that the LDP could have lasted longer! ☺





# FRED THE WOLF

By Rollence Elloyd Shih Chiusineo

Looking back at the good old days, it seems that the wonderful organization of Celadon truly comes alive in the weeks culminating in the end of the year. Almost like a fire lit right under the figurative seat of our collective butts, the lightning rod that is Celadon week always brings home to reality of work and fun to be had.

So it is under the auspicious stars of the culturally relevant Chinese New Year Celebration that the Celadoneans once again come together to the center of the Zen Garden to set-up the occasion. This year, Celadoneans were led by the crack team of Celadon managers—a mix of people from all 5 departments of the organization, composed of: Jessika Chan, Nadia To, Scott Uy, Cherry Albano, Albert Ong Lopez, Nicolle Co, Scott Si, Matt Young, Vernon Intoc, Keith Yap, and Shanelle Tan. It was up to the managers to bring together the many difficult aspects of the week and come out with one big bang.

This year's Celadon Week was especially significant, given that it was just a day's breath after the Chinese New Year Celebrations, as well as Valentine's Day. Nevertheless, the members and managers of Celadon flocked to the location to play Mahjong, eat at the various food stalls, have their fortunes taken by the already-popular Ate Lenlen, or simply pass the time with friends and company.

Of course, celebrations were not limited to the Zen Garden activities – the entire week was booked with activities that both celebrated Chinese-Filipino and the Ateneo-Celadon culture. Monday was the day of the Commencement Activity at the SEC-field. Performers and singers, ranging from the St. Jude delegates, to the Ateneo-Celadon's own band, came to perform and join Celadon in welcoming the week's worth of celebration.

Tuesday, on the other hand, featured the presentation of the Chinese film "Electric Shadows," at the Ching Tan room. Wednesday featured a talk on media and Chinoy by the esteemed Lisa Gokongwei-Cheng. Lastly, Thursday

was the grassroots-led Chinese Games tutorial, hosted by Celadoneans Bradford Dytoc, Ryan Uy, and Dan Caw.

All in all, the Celadon week proved a very entertaining and rewarding activity. This year's crop of project managers were put up against a battery of obstacles. Nevertheless, these difficulties were part of the heyday of Celadon Week planning – Project Manager Jessika Chan remarks that "Organizing Celadon Week was never easy- there were mountains to climb and turbulent rivers to wade through. But it was worth it, especially if you have an amazing and wonderful team to back you up." Celadon Executive Vice President Paul Kaw agrees: "Celadon week only proves the indomitable resilience that is present in all Celadon projects, that no matter how ridden with difficulties projects face, as with everything else, the show must go on."

Indeed, the story of the Celadon Week is always a story of grappling and prevailing over the adversity of the situation. Year after year, the project involves a great deal of time, attention, and love, and Celadon managers have time and again been up for the task. Year after year, Celadon Week continues to come out stronger and better than ever.

As the school year brings itself to the inevitable close, the Celadon Week serves as a wonderful time to think back upon the year, and celebrate the happy memories that we have filled our bags with for the years to come. ☺





# seeing Red

Miguel Villanabel

By Rollence Elloyd Shih Chiusinco

This year's Rose Sale was put down on a rather precipitous time: Valentines Day proper did not set down on the week of the Rose Sale (February 8-12), but rather on the Sunday thereafter. Nevertheless, Celadon project managers Alyssa Dykimching, Franchesca See, and Leslie Cua were undaunted from their task to bring to life the Celadon classic.

Traditionally, the Celadon Rose Sale sets up shop at the Zen Garden, with the purpose of helping cupid out with flaming up young Atenean love with a number of convenient and timely services. Would-be suitors find in the booth a variety of flowers, accessories, and other small trinkets to give to their special someone. More enterprising individuals seeking to impress could "borrow" the musical skills of the Celadon Choir, who were available to sing everyone's favorite harana songs.

And so it was as well for this year, as Celadoneans gathered at the Dog House in order to do as much as they can to keep the romance in the air – be it through taking down orders, delivering flowers to customers, or merely just sticking around and making the atmosphere lively and engaging.



Art By Daichi Lim

As for the suitors themselves? Celadon's own Ryan Uy can help elaborate: "It's that special time of year when Roses are truly red and when the word 'budget' is not included in a man's vocabulary." It appears that wherever a person with a pocketful of love (as well as money) is in need of help, Celadon will definitely be there to help you those three words get across. ☺





# SWAPPING SCHOOLS; SWAPPING STORIES

By Samantha Montaña  
Art by Katrina-Tee



The Celadon Swaps events are a vital part of any good Celadon year. Held annually, they are a series of interschool interactions between students from each school's respective Chinese-Filipino student organizations. For one day, the students walk in their counterpart's shoes to see how their universities are and meet new acquaintances and friends along the way.

This school year was a particularly successful year for the Swaps events as Celadon interacted with students from four different schools: the University of the Philippines on July 27, De La Salle University on September 18, University of Asia and the Pacific on December 16, and the University of Santo Tomas on January 28.

There are two variations to Swaps events: first is when Celadoneans host the event, and second is when they are the guests. Throughout the school year, numerous Celadoneans were able to visit the campuses of UP, DLSU and UA&P and were treated with an exciting welcome and a jam-packed day of activities. As hosts, Celadoneans treated students of the visiting universities to a fun lineup of events consisting of various tours, group dynamics, a screening of the Ateneo orientation video, and various culturally-oriented activities that encouraged unity and interaction between the students of participating universities.

One of the highlights of the event was the Speed Dating activity, where students were paired up and given three minutes to get to know each other. A flurry of lively music, chattering people and a loud



Photos by Miguel Villarroel and Ryan Joeyson Uy



## Chinoy 2009-2010

buzzing sound causing people to leave their chairs and companions to find another one, this served as a great icebreaker to ease the awkwardness of meeting strangers, and began the transition to making friends. This was an excellent way to begin each Swap day as it paved the way for easier interaction as the participants strolled around the Ateneo campus, finishing the stories they failed to tell in those three minutes.

At the end of each swap, each participant was given a souvenir to remember the day by, but they walked away with much more than that. They walked away with new friends, because the Celadon Swaps caused more than just let students swap universities for a day. They've swapped cell phone numbers, Yahoo! Messenger IDs, and fun stories. And that's something they won't soon forget. And this, we believe, gives project managers: Coleen Bunao, Kenrick Nocom, Miguel Villarroel, and Jhenel Wong, something to be proud of. ☺







Photos by Ryan Joeyson Uy, Miguel Limjap-Andres, and Miguel Villaruel

The Atrium of the Shangri-La Plaza was ablaze in a sea of red on the eve of February 3, 2010 as several famous faces from the Ateneo de Manila University as well as of the Chinese Filipino community gathered together for the Gala Night of this year's Spring Film Festival.

Attendees included Loyola Schools President Fr. Bienvenido Nebres, Leong Center namesakes Dr. Ricardo and Rosita Leong, and famous chinoy cosplayer Alodia Gosiengfiao, among many other noted personalities.

The Ateneo Celadon has been cooperating with the Ricardo Leong Center for Chinese Studies to bring the Spring Film Festival to life every year for three years running. The first film festival of 2010 to be showcased in the Shangri-La Plaza mall, it features four critically-acclaimed Chinese films brought to the big screen for the first time on Philippine shores.

The eventful night began with a Chinese painting exhibit featuring the works of Dr. Alex Chan Lim, a Chinese Painting professor at the university, and his students, as well as several noteworthy Chinese artists. After a ribbon-cutting ceremony and opening remarks from the event's major sponsors, cocktails were served and attendees were guided to the theater for the invitational film screening of *Seventeen Years* by director Zhang Yuan. Celadon members served as ushers for the event. ☺

By Charles Kenrick Chua





# Repertory Philippines' Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

By Bryan Jimenez

photo by  
LORENZO



Photos courtesy of Repertory Philippines

When I heard that Repertory Philippines was staging Sweeney Todd here, I was very excited. I loved Tim Burton's 2007 film adaptation, which starred some of my favorite actors (Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham-Carter, and Alan Rickman). So when I found out my old college org, Ateneo Celadon, was getting one of the shows, I didn't hesitate to get tickets. I was finally able to watch Repertory Philippines' performance of Sweeney Todd, and I have to say, it was pretty darn epic.

Sweeney Todd is the tale of Benjamin Barker, a young barber with a beautiful wife whose life is torn apart by a lustful and jealous Judge Turpin. Falsely charged and imprisoned, Barker returns years later as Sweeney Todd, and is intent on exacting his revenge. He is aided by Mrs. Lovett, a

meat pie shop owner, who together with the mad barber, hatch a scheme that channels Todd's rage into killing his barbershop's patrons and turning their remains into meat pies, while waiting for another chance to deliver his vengeance against Judge Turpin, and rescue his daughter, Johanna.

My experience of this dark tale has been confined to the movie, but I was very curious about how the original musical went. After all, the special effects and movie sets aren't available for a theater production. Repertory Philippines was able to tone down the violence inherent in the show's premise, but masterfully so that it wasn't really missed. What I was very impressed with was how the sets were utilized to their full potential, moving around onstage and transforming in seconds into the different areas where the story takes place. They also had a working barbershop chair! The costumes, make-up, and lighting were great too - the details on the costumes were great, and every character in the play seemed to have a ghastly pall to their skin, with the scenes where the ensemble sings "The Ballad of

#### **RATING: A+**

**Starring** Audie Gemora, Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo, Franco Laurel, Robbie Guevara, Rem Zamora, Roger Chua, Joy Virata

**Directed by** Baby Barredo and Michael Williams

**Conducted by** Gerard Salonga of Filharmonika

**Based on the musical "Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street" by Stephen Sondheim and Hugh Wheeler**





"Sweeney Todd" seemingly straight from a nightmare.

Of course, the most important parts of the musical would be the actors and the music. Repertory brings the entire musical in its entirety, so those who have only watched the movie (like me) will be pleasantly surprised by the other musical numbers and scenes which did not make it to the final cut of the film. Some of the songs are also extended (notably "The Contest" between Mr. Todd and Adolfo Pirelli), providing for more entertainment for the audience. The performance of "A Little Priest," one of my favorite songs, was also spot-on. The best part of the music for me, though, was the lyrics to opening titles! While the film's opening credits made do with organ music and the stunning opening sequence, the musical opened with organ music and a performance of The Ballad of Sweeney Todd (absent from the movie, and which quickly became one of my favorite parts of the musical). I didn't expect that the haunting intro from the film had lyrics, and I loved the company's performance of it.

As for the acting, with theater vets Audie Gemora and Menchu Lauchengco-Yulo, how could you expect anything less than "awesome?" The two leads certainly delivered, and the supporting cast was stellar. I especially loved the performance of Ms. Lauchengco-Yulo as Mrs. Lovett - she had the role down pat, complete with the cockney accent and

the whimsical, deranged psyche. The performances of the actors who played Tobias "Toby" Ragg and Anthony Hope were also excellent, and Judge Turpin's "Pretty Women" was awesome.

For those who have only watched the movie (like me), think of this musical as an extended version of the movie, with more onstage time for the mad beggar woman (and resulting in much more sympathy and tragedy for the story), and with more development of the Anthony/Johanna relationship (well, what's developed of it, anyway - most of their time is spent with romantic tension and singing "kiss me!"). The ending (also different from the movie) was very creepily satisfying, much more so than the movie's ending, and I think was pulled off excellently by the cast. If there was anything that the movie did better, it was the performance of "By The Sea" - but, you can't fault the musical for not having the logistics for the costume and setting changes for that lone scene. Ms. Lauchengco-Yulo was still able to pull off that number excellently though, so not much is lost.

In summary, Repertory's Sweeney Todd was a very delightful performance of the tale of the Demon Barber of Fleet Street. The gruesomeness of the schemes of Mr. Todd and Mrs. Lovett are downplayed by the lack of over-the-top blood and gore, but the tragedy and comedy of the original are ever-present with strong performances from the cast, and great props and costumes that set the stage for an awesome tale. A must-watch for fans of the movie or the musical, or theater in general. So catch a ticket for this weekend's show, or for next weekend, before they're sold out! ☺

★ ★ ★

Follow BJ Jimenez at [pinoyidle.com](http://pinoyidle.com)





# THE CHINOY SIDE OF POLITICS

By Don Michael Acelar De Leon

Who says Chinoys are aloof to the world of politics and nation-building?

Thus spoke Arthur Yap, Department of Agriculture secretary, in a talk and open forum on the role of Chinese Filipinos in the Philippine political arena and in contributing to nation-building initiatives, at Ricardo and Dr Rosita Leong Hall auditorium of the Ateneo de Manila University, Jan. 28.

Dubbed "Polichinks," the forum discussed pressing issues on the presence and role of Chinese Filipinos in politics in the face of apparent apathy by majority of the Chinese Filipino community, and offered fresh insights in establishing a heightened desire to build the nation by following one's passion instead of what is traditionally expected.

"The Chinese Filipino community is very much involved in building the Filipino nation—after all, they have invested so much; they have the most to lose once something goes wrong," Yap said.



Photos by Ryan Joeyson Uy and Miguel Villarroel

Yap, an alumnus of the Xavier School and the Ateneo de Manila University, served the community as an accomplished lawyer before entering government service in August 2001 as president and chief executive officer of the Philippine International Trading Corporation.

He was subsequently assigned as administrator of the National Food Authority, Agriculture undersecretary for Luzon Operations, until President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo appointed him as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture.

"Chinese Filipinos have established a very strong presence in Philippine politics," said Yap, citing a number of Chinese Filipino politicians in both the local and national government sectors as well as legislators who have displayed proficiency in the Mandarin language.

"Polichinks" was organized by the Ateneo Celadon in partnership with RenaiSOSS to celebrate the Social Sciences Week 2010. Congratulations to project managers Hart Jansen Ang, Michelle Ty, and all participants that made the forum a success! 🎉



# Ask Chuck

By Hart Ang  
Art by Daichi Lim



Ever wondered why Chinese always wear the color red on birthdays? Having problems courting a Chinese girl that you really like? Look no further, I'm here to answer your questions and give advice on anything that's on your mind. Just Ask Chuck! :) For any other mental notes boggling your mind, send your questions to [celadonchuck@gmail.com](mailto:celadonchuck@gmail.com) or type them in at <http://www.formspring.me/askchuck>.

## Why does the proverbial "Great Wall" exist?

The "Great Wall" first of is a 'golden rule' when it comes to Chinese courtship and marriage. It dictates that Chinese should marry only those of Chinese descent. Although discriminating as it may be, it has its reasons rooted deep in culture and tradition.

Many traditional Chinese families believe in this concept to keep their blood line 'pure', similar to the purebloods in the Harry Potter universe. Other families apply the rule in order to prevent future cultural conflicts between children and spouses.

## I am eager to learn the Chinese language, but I don't know whether I should pick Fookien or Mandarin. Which do I learn and why?

Both Fookien and Mandarin are widely spoken in the Philippines, yet you can safely assume that there are more people who can speak Mandarin but a lot of Chinese have their comfort zones in Fookien. Fookien is a dialect of the southern province of Fujian in China. A lot of Chinese here in the Philippines are descendants of settlers from the province, thus Fookien seems to be the 'mainstream language'. However, this does not mean that Mandarin is not often used. All Chinese schools in the country have Mandarin as either their primary or secondary language and there are other schools and organizations, such as the Confucius Institute based in the Ateneo, that develop programs and teach Mandarin to a wider audience, including those who are not Chinese.

It is really up to you on which dialect you would take, depending on what you would want to specifically learn. If you prefer a first-hand learning and conversational experience, you could go for Fookien. However, if you would want to take the versatile, all-around approach, including reading and writing in Chinese, then go for Mandarin.

## I need advice. What if the Great Wall for me is too great?

I understand your sentiments when it comes to the Great Wall. I too can be frustrated sometimes by this divide!

Try talking to your parents about your feelings. If you keep bottling them up within yourself, it will only cause you more angst. The best way to sort things out with these concepts is by communicating. Who knows, your parents might open up a bit more and something good might happen.

## What do Chinese Filipinos do during the Chinese New Year?

In celebration of the Lunar Festival (Chinese New Year), Chinese Filipinos often follow traditions that have been passed down from generations past. Some families have also created their own traditions too.

The most common things the Chinese do often on Chinese New Year are:

- Wearing red outfits. Yellow can also be worn.
- Family Reunions
- Going to Chinese Temples to pray for blessings and fortune
- Venerate their ancestors in a temple or in their own homes
- eating or serving round fruits such as oranges, pears or grapes. 'Tikoy' (a glutinous rice dish) is also a common dish that can be bought during the holiday.
- Eating Chinese food with friends and family. A LOT of Chinese food. ☺

ATENEDE MANILA  
UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES





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# Seniors' Letters





I REMEMBER HOW excited I was to write this senior letter during the start of the year. But I have to be honest, I'm at a loss of words right now. I realized there's really no way to put all my Celadon experiences in mere words, let alone, a single letter. I mean, if I had to write a book about it, I most likely still wouldn't be able to do so.

Because writing something down (a good piece of work in particular), requires a lot of thinking and planning. It needs a well thought of plot, and uses well versed words to complete. On the contrary, my Celadon journey was nothing of that sort. It was just like any other adventure, where you simply hop onto a sailing ship and go where the winds take you. In other words, I walked into Celadon, or rather, Celadon walked into my life quite spontaneously.

Of course, I wouldn't say it was a mere accident. But to say that all of this is intentional would be really wrong. In fact, I never expected Celadon to become a part of my life the first time I embarked on this journey four years back. I guess like most people we know, I joined Celadon because it's a Chinese Filipino organization and also because a lot of my highschool batchmates joined it too. As for how I became active, perhaps I just fell in love with the family I've gradually found and grown up with.

As a member, manager and a part of the Executive Board, I can say that my Celadon journey has been an eventful one. Celadon has opened a lot of horizons for me. From the first Celadon project I handled to my most recent trip to Guizhou with Fr. Nebres, these opportunities, big or small, good or bad, have helped me discover my strengths, weaknesses, dreams and aspirations, and have shaped me to who I have become right now.

My Celadon experience has made me realize that the good things in life are not quantifiable. Numbers are fictitious beings. What matters is the quality of things, and only you, yourself, can be the judge as to what the quality of your experience really is. At the end of the day, I realize that what's important is the journey I've gone through, and not the destination. It was through this journey that I've picked up a lot of lessons, met a lot of people, made a lot of friends, forged relationships and bonds that will last a lifetime. And these, these immeasurable, unquantifiable things, are those that will be engraved in my mind, heart and being for the rest of my life.

It has been quite a long journey, and yet for me, it seems short and insufficient. But I guess it's time I pass on the wheel to the next set of officers, and to settle down on land, for good. And yet the ship must move on! Its sails must continue to fly! Now, it's time you make your own journey. I won't say it will be smooth sailing ahead. I won't say it will be similar, or just like mine. Your Celadon journey will be how you make it. All I can assure you is that whatever you'll be doing, wherever you'll be going, you're definitely going to make it through, just like everyone did! And know that you are always part of a crew that you can depend on whenever, wherever.

Land is sighted! We, the seniors, will be getting off soon. But there should be no tears. No goodbyes. Only farewells. We shall meet again, someday, when the ship will pass by land again. Who knows, maybe I won't be getting off after all. :)

Honey Lynne Sy  
Outgoing President



TO MY FRIENDS, the new executive board, and to anyone who would read this.

I have always looked forward to the future, to not dwell on the past but only for its gemstone lessons.

Look to the future, but you will need vision for it. A vision to see into the future, not a form of clairvoyance, but a future that holds both infinite and infinitesimal possibilities.

Look to the future, for the legacy that was left behind in the present will want days that are lived with the fulfilled wishes of past leaders.

Look to the future, for the unseen present fades into the past, and the future a distant present.

Look to the future, the future can be as empty or as blinding as how you want it to be.

Look to the future, it is a blank canvas for you to mold into a post-apocalyptic vision, or a post-modern ideology.

Look to the future, for it is only in the future that you will see the stuff of dreams of pioneers and everglades swirling in the energies of youthful enthusiasm.

So to those who are reading this, always look to the future. It holds more wonder and more to wonder on.

Godspeed to you!

Paul Edison Kaw  
Outgoing Executive Vice President

MY DEAREST CELADON,

I've never had an easy time with goodbyes, so I'll keep this one short, sweet and simple.

Celadon has always been a place of welcome throughout my college life.

In it, I found friends and teachers, brothers and sisters; a family. There's always something going on in the room at MVP, whether it's the "traditional" kind of fun like Mahjong and Bridge, or the sabaw-sort-of-alien-y Plants vs Zombies kind. Celadon events like the Mid-Autumn Gratia, Spring Film Festival, and projects like Chinoy are things I look forward to, even before the school year has begun.

Now that my 4 years of college is coming to a close, I can only say one thing to the org, the people, and the events that have made my college life that much more meaningful: THANK YOU.

I will definitely miss the Nights, Days and Weeks. :)

Celadon is where you can be silly, serious, corny, happy, wacky and yourself anytime, all the time. In a place as wild and (sometimes) scary and confusing as Ateneo, Celadon, to put it simply, is home.

See you soon! :)

Much love.

Jacqueline Tanliao  
Outgoing CNP Vice President



PASSION IS A strange thing. When choosing a college course, we are told to follow our hearts and choose a path where we could practice what we enjoy most in life -- seek our dreams. If pursuing a dream denotes taking hold of our desires, why, then, are also taught that we cannot have everything we want? How counterproductive.

To be honest, I joined Celadon because I thought it was a cool name for a student organization. When I heard that it had a publication, I tried out and got accepted as a writer. If there was any time during freshman year that I devoted time for an org, it was writing articles for Chinoy. I bothered myself with that and only that. As far as I was concerned, I committed myself to writing for Chinoy, and remained willfully oblivious to anything else about the organization that didn't need my attention to have the articles done. Such were the priorities of a youth fresh from high school, and at the time, I was blissfully satisfied.

Passion is a curious thing. A person's experience defines how he perceives his passion. After enough time has passed, sometimes we realize that our dreams aren't what we originally envisioned them to be. As much as it is supposed to guide us, one needs time to properly interpret where his passion promises to take him.

My eyes were opened to Celadon and its different activities during sophomore year. Still a project manager at the time, Honey Sy (our current president) dragged me to the Celadon room, where I (somewhat reluctantly) met new friends and took active part in Celadon projects. As a member, then as a manager, and finally as an Associate Vice President, my four years in the organization have constantly refined the values of leadership, friendship and companionship in me, and these in turn have defined and redefined my priorities, aspirations and motivations.

Passion is a wondrous thing. It is what makes you wake up in the morning and drives you to work through the day. It can be misleading though, and it may lead you to "dead ends," but the value lies in the journey. People need dead ends in order to know where the main road is, and to realize that it stretches so much further ahead than they first thought. These roads are different for every person, and as these paths are traversed, they will take a deeper, personal meaning for the person than he could ever possibly explain.

So follow your passion. It'll be a roller coaster, but it will never let you down.

**Charles Kenrick Chua**

Outgoing CNP Associate Vice President

EACH YEAR, I join various organizations to see if I'll be able to learn something from them. Each year, however, I find myself spending at least P100 on membership fee for things I will not grow from. The only organization I remained in during my four years at the Ateneo is Celadon; this is where I learned, and this is where I met new friends. All I can say is, as my time in Celadon has come to an end (well, as a student anyway), the four years have been well spent. Celadon is made up of very unique individuals who might be there because they're Chinese, because they want to learn more about the Chinese culture, or because they have Chinese friends. Whichever their reason is, the members of Celadon have made the organization what it is today, and they--YOU-- will continue to make Celadon into something great. After all, it's the filling that makes the dimsum most special.

Here's to more spectacular years ahead of you.

**Angelica Elise Lim**

Outgoing CFA Associate Vice President



IT MAY BE one of the overused adages out there, but time flies fast indeed. It seems that it was only yesterday when I started to volunteer to help out in one of Celadon's projects. But now, I find myself writing this letter and possibly saying farewell to one of the greatest experiences I have in my college life. No words can fully express all the fun moments and stressful situations that I have encountered in Celadon. Despite the challenges, Celadoneans always helped me to face all of these with a smile and a positive outlook. There were good and not-so-good times, but the friends I've made all throughout my 4-year stay made it all worth it.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thank you to everyone for making Celadon the best that it could be. From my fellow Executive Board members, to the Managers and to the members, Celadon would not be possible without all of you. It has been a privilege working with you and seeing the fruits of our efforts manifested in the organization's success. To the incoming Executive Board for SY 2010-2011, future managers and members, may you continue to have the passion and determination to lead Celadon to achieve greater things. We have already done our part. Celadon's future is now in your hands.

It seems that I should already be saying goodbye now, yet I won't bring myself to do so. One valuable thing I learned throughout my 4-year stay in the organization is that Celadon was, is, and will continue to be a family. Graduating from college doesn't mean a parting of ways; it's merely another way of saying "See you again soon!" to the people who I have come to love dearly. It's not really the end, but more of a beginning to a new chapter—to the new people who will be met, the new opportunities that will be given and received, and the new memories that will be formed. The Celadon family had, and will continue to hold a special place in my heart.

Sharmaine Wendeline Lee  
Outgoing EXT Associate Vice President

I STILL REMEMBER that afternoon as I stood in front of that org booth up there at the MVP rooftop, pondering if I would join Ateneo Celadon. All my friends already signed up, even Micah, and I was left there, hesitant and all, wondering if this will be a worth it experience. Looking at it now, it's so ironic that I ended up this way in Celadon. From being that person back then and to how I position myself now in the Celadon scheme of things, it just blows me away. From being an active member and basketball player, to stepping up as a manager and eventually assuming position for two years as VP HR, all I can say is IT WAS DEFINITELY WORTH IT. However, it wouldn't be this way if it weren't for ALL OF YOU.

As now I move on and graduate, leave the MVP residence and somewhat exit Celadon, I'd want to GIVE A BIG THANKS to all of you Celadoneans. Throughout my four year stay, it was always about you guys that kept me going. The acceptance, the friendship, the culture, the shiz we do in (and out) of the Celaroom, the productions, the gimiks, the stress, the challenges, the companionship, the heart to heart talks, the basketball, the inspiration, the love and the everything; all are now part of the feeling Chinese person that I am. As much as I'd want to mention all the memories and experiences I had, sobrang dami ehh! I can say that Celadon groomed me to be the Gelo that I am now, and I couldn't imagine me being me now if I didn't give in to the persuasiveness of that Trina Coleen Ang Ong in recweek back in freshman year! (Nux may special mention?! Luv you pwets! Hope you get to read this!! <3)

So there, thank you Celapeepz, Hearthrobs, superHeRoes, bEBs, HR 0910 and EB 0910. Special thank you the SJCS community, salamat sa pag ampon sa kinatay na apat na taon! (Sobra laughtrip pati talaga mga lower batch accept na ako) Thank you sa mga P2 2011 at favorites ko na lagi ko pinapat! Thank you to my IAC players, saying ¾ championships lang tayo! Thank you sa AFICS and ICR people! And last, shout out sa alumni, wouldn't be here without you guys!

Xie xie, zai jian! Jia you Celadon! Pwet pwet y'all! <3 <3

Angelo Julian  
Outgoing HR Vice President



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