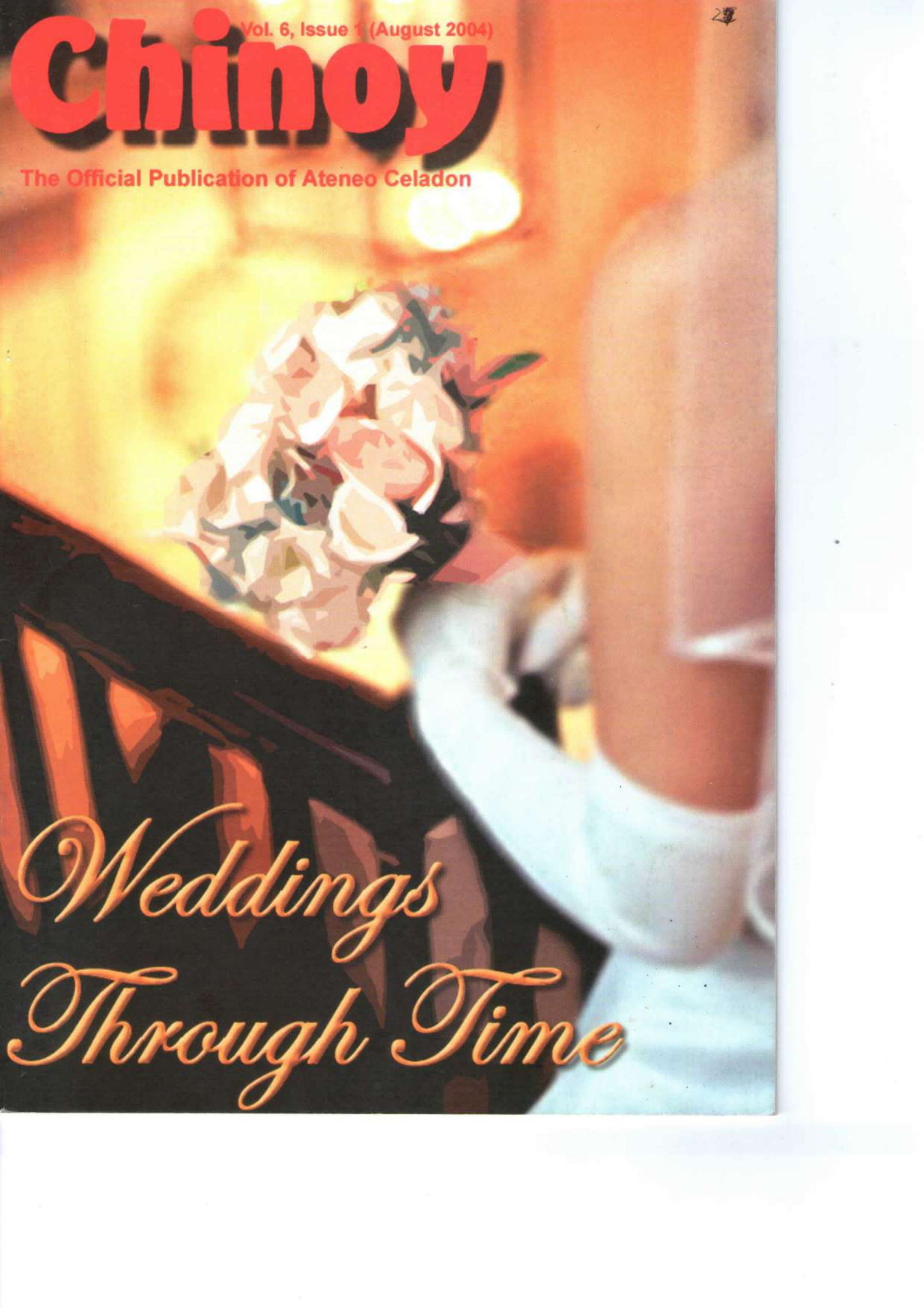


Chinoy

Vol. 6, Issue 1 (August 2004)

The Official Publication of Ateneo Celadon



*Weddings
Through Time*

**To the winners of the
'I Do, Do You?'
ART Contest:**

**Kim Atienza
Michael Jarantilla**

**& the winners of the
'I Do, Do You?'
WRITING Contest:**

**Joshua Dy
Victoria Hernandez**

CELADON

Congratulates YOU!

IN THI



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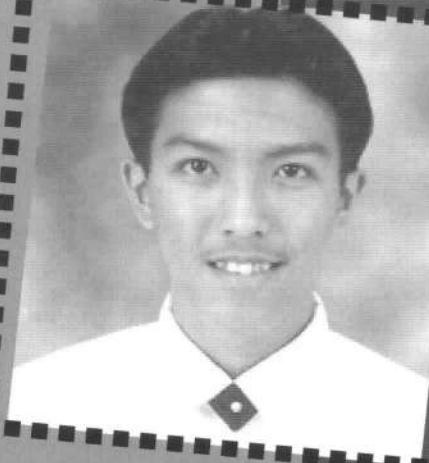
LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

Letter From THE EDITOR

This is not your usual Chinoy. For the past years Chinoy has been around, you have read stories about people, events, culture and tradition. These stories have opened your eyes to a further understanding of the community you may or may not be belonging to, the Filipino-Chinese Community. This time, we won't be deviating from what we have been doing for many years already. This issue won't be an exception. But then, I guess, you won't mind if we give you something extra special, something new, something fresh from the creative minds of the people working behind Chinoy. Take a glimpse into the world of Chinoy weddings.

How did they meet? How did they end up together? How would a guy propose to the person he loves? And how would she want him to propose? What is your idea of a strange wedding? What was it like the day after the wedding? Where is the best place to proceed after the ceremony for the reception? How was the wedding like centuries ago? All these questions shall be answered as you go through the pages. All the answers to that, we captured and gathered for this first issue to materialize.

Chinoy would not only provide you a glimpse of the past, it would also tell you about the present and give you a picture of the future. So taking some time reading about other people's stories and learning from them won't certainly be a waste of your precious time.



Letter From THE EDITOR

Letter From THE EDITOR

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Andrea Dy (3 BS MCT)

Arlene Janet Lee (2 BS LM)

Frederick Lipio (2 BS MGT-H)

Myreign Sua (1 BS MGT-H)

Ann Chan (3 BS CH-MSE)

Eiza Chua (2 BS MCT)

Iris Veronica Lim (3 AB MECO)

Joni Andrea Ong (2 BS MGT-H)

Genevieve Tiu (3 BS MCT)

Cover Art by Ginnii Sua

"...in a way, it is a celebration of a woman's importance"

The Ceremony Before the Ceremony

●● By: Andrea Dy ●●

"WILL you marry me?" The moment these four words are uttered, a person's life completely changes. From one's social status, to one's future goals, a person must rethink and reevaluate practically their very way of life. The moment the proposal is made and (hopefully) accepted, the couple will begin concentrating their time and effort on the upcoming major event in their life.

Thoughts pertaining to upholsterers, landscapers, musicians, make-up artists and dressmakers are going to constantly go through their minds. However, it's a little too early to be thinking about churches, invitations or caterers, because the next *big thing* after the proposal isn't the wedding (at least, not for most Chinoys). It's actually the engagement ceremony or the *Dieng Hun*. Because to the Chinese, despite the humongous diamond ring on your finger, unless you've gone through the *Dieng Hun*, you're still not considered engaged to be married.

Haven't you ever wondered why a

woman (specifically a Chinese woman) isn't considered engaged unless she's had her *Dieng Hun*? Even though I've already encountered three *Dieng Huns*, I haven't found the answer to the question. I had an idea although I wasn't sure if it was true given that my first experience was when I watched the movie "Mano Po".

If you still remember the scene when Maricel was walking backwards, then you've experienced the *Deing Hun* just the way I did. Of course, it wasn't detailed and it lasted just a few minutes so there was little information I could get out of it.

My second experience had a little more meat in it. My older cousin had her *Dieng Hun* and while she wasn't the first cousin to have one, it was the first one I was invited to. Unfortunately, as a child, I wasn't given a good seat because they were reserved for the groom's family. So I had to content myself with watching from a good distance away.

I learned some bits of information during my cousin's *Deing Hun* like how the bride-to-be must be escorted by an older married woman and that the tea being served had to be sweet. In fact, almost everything served during the ceremony had

to be sweet, boiled eggs, well have just again.

Final experience engaging ceremony personal le own and only sister was going to cel her *Dieng Hun*

On th of the *Dieng* the house w going crazy, signifying he kitchen most hard boiled a special syrup sure there w for the guest was kept in getting her especially on I, on the other on three inch glasses.

The g given free rei after, the p traditionally Christian in-l having one.

Final music was pl sister into th seated beside to speak. H between my sanctity of importance relationship. her fiancé pin their parents.

Then male's side p fruits and bol

to be sweet, from the drinks to the hard boiled eggs. But other than that, I might as well have just watched "Mano Po" all over again.

Finally, I was given the chance to experience the engagement ceremony on a personal level. My own and only older sister was finally going to celebrate her *Dieng Hun*.

On the day of the *Dieng Hun*, the house was just going crazy. My dad was unusually quiet, signifying how tense he was. He was in the kitchen most of the time as he cooked *misua*, hard boiled eggs, brewed tea and made the special syrup. My mother was busy making sure there were enough monoblock chairs for the guests to sit on and that the jewelry was kept in a safe place. My sister was getting herself pampered and relaxed, especially once the make-up artist arrived. I, on the other hand, kept practicing walking on three inch heels while carrying a tray of glasses.

The guests began to arrive and were given free reign of the living room. Shortly after, the pastor arrived and although traditionally no pastors were involved, my Christian in-laws and my sister insisted on having one.

Finally, the ceremony began. The music was played as my aunt and I lead my sister into the living room. Once she was seated beside her fiancé, the pastor began to speak. He spoke of the commitment between my sister and her fiancé, about the sanctity of marriage, and about the importance of keeping a respectful relationship. After the service, my sister and her fiancé pinned flowers on each other, and their parents.

Then came the "exchange", with the male's side presenting jewelry, baskets of fruits and bolts of cloth to the female's side.

The process wasn't as quick and simple as I expected. The parents of the groom's side were required to wear the trinkets they were giving away around the necks or wrists of their future daughter-in-law before

presenting more presents, each gift given the same attention and care while showing them off to

"He spoke of the commitment between my sister and her fiancé, about the sanctity of marriage, and about the importance of keeping a respectful relationship..."

the bride's family. Once the exchanging of gifts was over, the couple was required to present tea to each of their parents showing respect for their elders before moving into a room to eat their *misua* together as a whole family. Although the bride's side also presented a small gift to her in-laws, the ceremony was symbolic of the male purchasing the female from her family, and after the event I began to think about the symbolism. As a woman, it made me doubt my own importance in the Chinoy culture. The men seem to have everything, while the women have to give up so much.

But analyzing it in a different perspective, the *Dieng Hun* involves an exchange of important things between the two sides. From the male's side, the jewelry and the girl were the important things while from the female's side, their daughter. While there is something very materialistic about this analysis, the older culture was indeed such and with this in mind, it makes sense that people wouldn't consider a woman engaged unless she had her *Dieng Hun*.

In a way, the Engagement Ceremony is a celebration of a woman's importance. Not just to her fiancé or in-laws, but to the whole Chinoy community. In a surreal way of saying it, it symbolizes the bride as a woman more worthy a gift than any amount of wealth could offer. ☺

A CHINESE TIMELINE OF A TIMELESS TRADITION

"Citizens followed this tradition of several variations to ensure the success of continuing their long line of descendants..."

HAVE you ever been fascinated by those old Chinese weddings you see on cable or sometimes in the movies? Maybe you are horrified at the thought of parents arranging their child's marriage without their giving them a choice! Perhaps even your own Chinese grandparents had experienced them, which makes you wonder how they lived together through the years. Don't worry; the old Chinese had their own ways to ensure their happiness as couples born on the "arranged marriage" era, strange as they may be.

The system of this tradition was created and exercised from 402 to 221 B.C., during the Warring States Period¹, over 2400 years ago. Citizens followed this tradition of several variations to ensure the success of continuing their long line of descendants, their primary objective, and the alliance between families, although the traditions

and effort behind it were quite tedious.

The motif of these weddings was always bright glossy red, similar to the English weddings of pure white. Surprisingly, everything was arranged by the parents while the bride and groom had absolutely no say in the matters of their own wedding.



THE PROPOSAL

The boy's parents search for a prospective daughter-in-law. Once they do, the boy's parents arrange a proposal to the girl's parents and send a matchmaker to present their offer to the other family to see how they feel about the match. If the girl's parents accept, the matchmaker will give the girl's birth date for the boy's family to keep. If for three days, no bad omen (e.g. quarrel, money loss, etc.) happens to either of the families then both sets of parents would meet and assess each other's social, financial, and educational statuses. Only if both parties are satisfied will they truly agree to let their children unite. That is when they proceed to the betrothal.



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MAELINE

●● By: Eiza Chua ●●

SS TRADITION



THE BETROTHAL

Commonly lasting for about a year, the boy's family gives gifts such as tea and bridal cakes to the girl's family together with the betrothal letter. The girl will then accept this and distribute the bridal cake to her family and friends, which also serves as an announcement and invitation to the wedding. Later, the boy would send formal wedding gifts. These may include tea, seeds, beans, red dates, nutmeg, fruits, lily, wine, red hair braid, a money box, and other stuff, depending on local customs and the wealth of the boy's family. After a few days, the girl's family would then send a dowry, consisting of practical items for household use, to the boy's family. The picked wedding date must be promising and favorable according to the astrologer.



THE DAY BEFORE THE WEDDING

A bridal bed would be installed, chosen by the 'good luck' man and 'good luck' woman. The 'good luck' couple is chosen by both families, after seeing the good fortune of these spouses in raising children and living a healthy life. The act of the 'good luck' couple of choosing and installing the

bed would be to represent passing on their luck to the newlyweds. The children would then be invited to that same bed. They believed that, in doing so, this would invite fertility and happiness to the couple.



THE DAY OF THE WEDDING

The bride would have her hair dressing ritual prepared by the same 'good luck' woman. She would have to take a bath in a tub of water and pomelo juice to "cleanse and wash away the evil spirits" and also to soften her skin. With Dragon-and-Phoenix candles around the room, the bride wears her red wedding dress, red shoes, red silk veil with the phoenix crown once her hair is finished being styled by the 'good luck' woman. She then bows to her family then to her ancestors while waiting for the groom.

The groom, on the other hand, would have a capping ritual. First he would put on his wedding clothes with a red silk sash and ball tied to his torso then his father would place a cap on his head decorated with cypress leaves in front of the family altar. The groom would bow down to Heaven and Earth, to his ancestors, and then to his family. The father would then remove the silk ball and place it on the bridal chair

or a decorated donkey, if they were poor.

The groom would then travel to the girl's house and pick up his bride. Many escorts, some of which make happy noises with drums, firecrackers, lyres, trumpets, and lion dances, would accompany him. Others carried the bridal chair with a child included to symbolize the groom's desire to have children.

When the parading troop arrives at the bride's home, firecrackers would be set off to hail the groom's arrival. The bridesmaids and even the matchmaker would then demand some *angpau* (red packets containing money) before letting the groom in. After that the groom would eat eggs with the bride's family to represent the bride's breaking ties with her family.

When the bride comes out, the 'good luck' woman would then carry her to the bridal chair. The bridegroom is not allowed to see her. This chair would be heavily covered in curtains to prevent her from seeing certain forms that could constitute bad luck (e.g., seeing a widow). Then the party would return to the groom's house for the wedding itself, with the parade as noisy as that during the arrival of the groom.



THE WEDDING

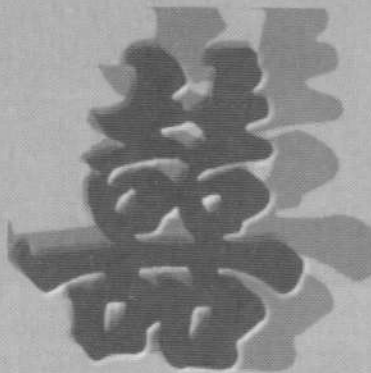
Despite all the tedious procedures, preparations, and rituals, the wedding itself is very simple. The bride and groom are led to the family altar and bow to Heaven and Earth, to the ancestors, and to the parents before bowing to each other. Sometimes the ritual had them drink wine from the same cup. Having done this, they would be proclaimed man and wife. The groom would then be allowed to lift the bride's veil and see his wife for the first time.

After the wedding, they would go to the bridal chamber. Visitors are invited to come in to tease the

newlyweds so as to help ease the tension or to play games wherein the newlyweds have to act as true husband and wife.

The day after the wedding, the newlywed bride would formally meet and be received by the groom's family as one of their own. Three days after, the newlyweds would visit the girl's family but she would now sit as a guest.

Finally, each family gives separate feasts to their own relatives and friends to celebrate the union of their children.☺



Double Happiness

The double happiness symbol (pronounced "shuang-xi" in Mandarin) is a special Chinese character used for marital happiness. It's not used in regular

"Others carried the bridal chair with a child included to symbolize the groom's desire to have children."

¹ where Shi Huangdi of Qin Dynasty first united the warring states into a country.
(Think the setting of *Hero* starring Jet Li.)



●● By: Ann Chan ●●

HE takes her to the mall at night, saying he's got some urgent matter to handle. They walk into the dark department store and suddenly cute little spotlights fill the room. The brightness is nothing compared to the hundreds of twinkling diamond engagement rings that grace each counter, ready for the taking. He proposes just as she stops blinking from the unexpected light assault to her senses. That's the wedding proposal for you--upgraded.

Here's a p e e p into some wedding preparations, upgraded as well. He brandishes multiple cell phones. She has a sewed in first aid kit and microphone under her well-pressed trench coat. He knows where to contact the designer, the caterer, the printers, the hair and makeup stylist, the limo rental service, the photog-

rapher, the videographer, the hotel, the singer, the em-cee, the jeweler, and yes, he knows your mom's dance schedule. She, on the other hand, may very well be taking the same Latin dance classes as you.

Who are they? They are your friendly, neighborhood wedding coordinators—found almost in all places except the office. Secondly, they are a mixed group of males and females; Chinese and Filipinos offering their full or part-time schedules to serve the contemporary brides better. The more serious ones plan events from Mondays to Fridays and attend these events on the weekends. It is especially taxing when couples get married out of town because

"People always have that notion that being a wedding coordinator is a glamorous job. Actually, with this job, we just don't coordinate with the suppliers and the couple. We likewise get to do all the dirty work."

then the wedding coordinators have to drag themselves from their comfy couches and their Saturday cartoons to get away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Others take on the job as a sideline. For example, there's one certain planner who actually works as a banker by day.

Is that the life or what? Well, according to Nenita Zagala, a Celebrations Events Specialist, in a Manila Bulletin feature article: "People always have that notion that being a wedding coordinator is a glamorous job. Actually,

with this job, we just don't coordinate with the suppliers and the couple. We likewise get to do all the dirty work." William Tan, a favorite emcee and singer among his acquaintances, shares that coordinating the wedding program with couples was actually only an aftermath of a few karaoke sessions.

The dawn of pop culture within the Chinese community gave rise to the ancestors of "William Hung".

At times, Chinese organizations would sponsor contests asking for singing representatives from each school. Since, Mr. Tan shares, it was difficult for Chinese to penetrate the music industry what with the likes of Gary V. already making waves, these young singers found an outlet singing via

kai siao (or introductions). This weekend job soon blossomed into a professional career. That's when the typical Chinese weddings came to be trilingual. Nowadays, the emcee that was hired by the couple's parents speaks Chinese (both Fookien and Mandarin) in order for the older relatives to get into the swing of the event. He speaks English so that the couple's foreign superiors

at work could laugh at the jokes, and sometimes, he

speaks Filipino for those hard-to-describe moments that simply must be said *P i n o y*

"Chinese are merchants by nature and religion is really not a big deal to them, so they choose a certain church or venue not for any special reason but because it looks good on cam' and can accommodate their guests."

in the unique humor.

The program itself is just a part of the whole wedding preparations. The smallest amount of time that a wedding can be prepared by the wedding elves, also known as wedding coordinators, is a month. That's just if the wedding is simple. According to

Themes and Motifs, which mounts as one of the biggest wedding trade fairs in the country, couples are very much in charge even if they hire a wedding coordinator.

The three popular packages that they offer are: full, intermediate, or day-itself. For a full wedding coordination, the couples first lay out their budget and their preferences. The planner helps them sort through the many suppliers to get exactly

"That's the Chinese wedding for you—a 500 to 1000 person business and family affair."

Some planners offer packages within the package, meaning there may be a limited number of basic services that are already set including, for example, the photographs and the hotel accommodations. For an intermediate wedding coordination, the couples plan and set some of the details and then let the planner take over the rest of the job. For the bride who wants to forget the months of stress it took to plan just one day, she can opt to take the day-itself package. Here, the coordinator takes over the entire wedding day so that the bride's to-do list is just to day 'I do', smile, wave, and throw the bouquet.

In all of these, wedding planners put the couples' preferences first but have to start modeling the details mainly from the budget. Chinese weddings deviate somewhat from this typical arrangement in that it is the parents who get in touch with the coordinators, at least that's what half-Chinese wedding coordinator Jun Gonzales, of Concept

Works, says. Most Chinese families also ditch the red traditional cheongsam for the classic white and cream bridal motif.

The bridal limo carrying the bride does not drive up to a temple but instead parks its flower decorated tin case at San Agustin Church in Intramuros, San Sebastian Church in Quiapo,

or Manila Cathedral. There are also bridesmaids and a maid of honor as well as flower girls and a ring bearer. The contents of the mass are authentically Catholic but the crowd, his time, is gathered mainly for the spectacle. Mr. Gonzales explains: "Chinese are merchants by nature and religion is really not a big deal to them, so they choose a certain church or venue not for any special reason but because it looks good on cam' and can accommodate their guests." Theology 141 teachers would be up in arms at the very notion of this.

No matter the differences in opinions and priorities among Chinese families, there are still defining factors in their wedding celebrations. The selection of wedding dates based on birthdays is unique. By the way, June 6 and November 26 are among the good wedding dates for 2004. The after-celebration tea and *misua* party is also very hard to miss. There are no chefs like *ama* in the hotel after all. The red and gold invitations with that distinct royal smell boldly announce the names of the couple's

parents, proving once again that

they take center stage

under the circum-

stances. In fact, the

wedding coordinators

are also aware that a

guest is probably the son or

daughter of a cousin's uncle's

business associate just as they know

that the boisterous group of old men

to the left are from the groom's

father's high school basketball team.

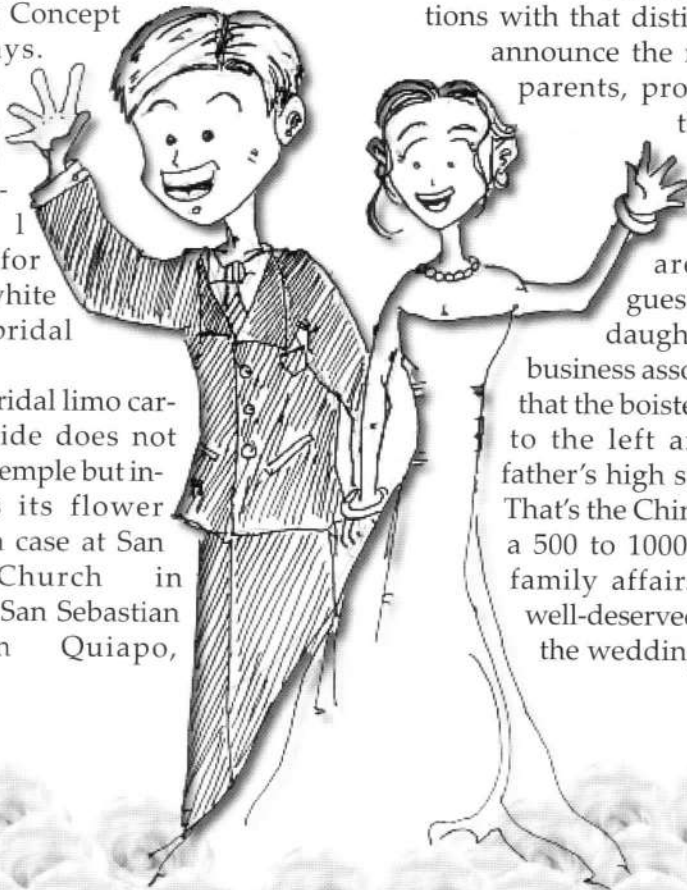
That's the Chinese wedding for you –

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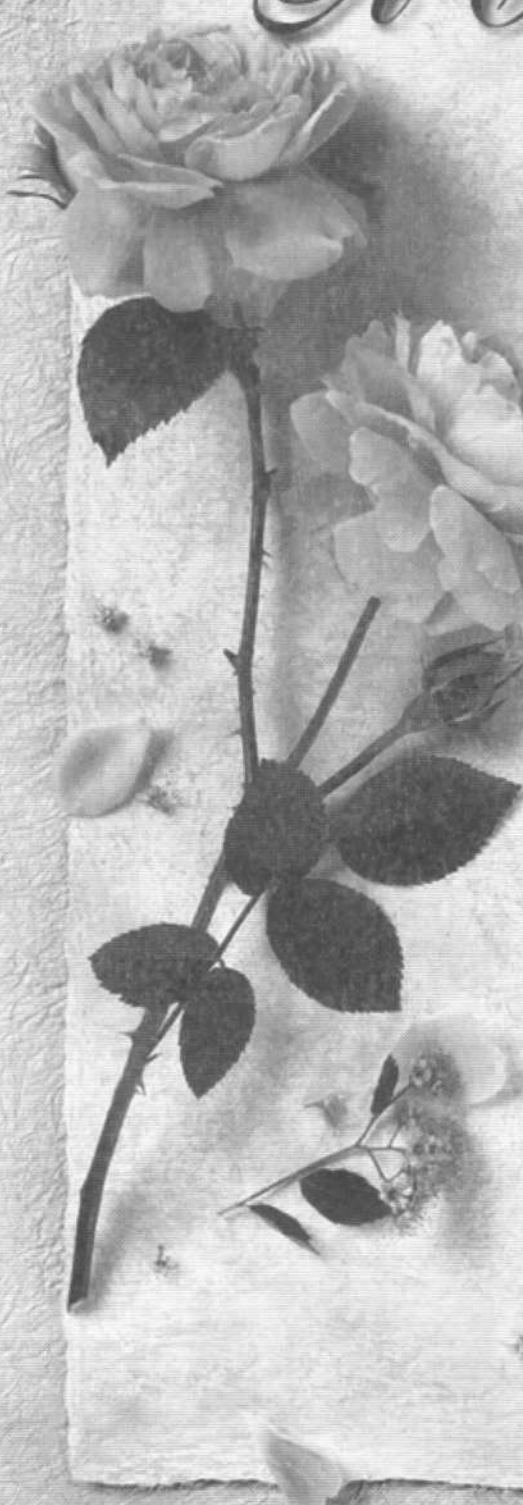
family affair. Now that's another

well-deserved *angpao*—this time for

the wedding coordinator. ☺



The Creation of Passion A Chinoy Dream



THERE is no ceremony that exudes more extravagance and lavishness than a wedding. The colorful brightness of flowers scattered along pews and reception tables, gowns and suits designed by proficient couturiers with regard to the couple's personal tastes, and the collection of intimate family and friends to celebrate one day of joy are all part of the package. With love as the main foundation for a wedding's conception, how can it not be prepared with utmost care and concern?

The traditional Chinese marriage ceremony is no exception. With red as the common motif, parades were held in honor of the couple and lion dances were performed as a form of entertainment during the reception. It is a festivity that expresses ancient glamour and today, much of that creative desire is still very much alive.

Tradition, as we all know, is imperative during special affairs held by the Chinese but as Chinoys, we are allowed to improvise with the modern ideas and imagination that television and the global village has enhanced. Who better to throw a modern and unconventionally chic Chinoy wedding bash than a woman who has attended to the floral and decorative arrangements of countless Chinoy nuptials in the past.

Marilyn Go is a manager of the Precious Petals florist shops in Metro Manila. On December 30, 2002, she married her fiancée, Rainier Go, and proved that a unique wedding is truly a memorable one.

After preparing numerous flower arrangements and decoration plans for different weddings, Marilyn eventually formed her own fantasy wedding from the experiences others had with their own ceremonies. "Through frequent observation, I had my own vision of a dream wedding and knew exactly what I wanted for the procession

n & Cultural Fidelity: Wedding Come True

●● By: Eleanore Lee ●●

and reception," she shared.

Her dream wedding included the usual wedding march and post-ceremonial reception but two very distinct aspects already caught the attention of the guests. The first feature was that the wedding ceremony was to be held early in the morning and the reception was to follow immediately after, for lunch rather than dinner. The second was that both affairs were celebrated inside Marilyn's fantasy location, the Isla Ballroom of the Shangri-la Plaza Hotel.

"My mother-in-law didn't want to move from a church to the reception, so we decided to just arrange everything in the ballroom and adjust the settings so that it would be really easy to alter between the wedding ceremony and the reception,"

Marilyn explained.

The setting of EDSA Shangri-la's largest ballroom was prepared for the wedding ceremony with beautiful flower and candle centerpieces situated on top of long rectangular tables lined with chairs facing the center of the room. The tables flanked a large stage big enough to occupy the classical orchestra, the choir, the Church officials

and, of course, the bride and groom. Laden with more blossoming flowers and pillars wrapped in gossamer veils, the stage shared the center of the ballroom with an enormous dance floor and a cake that stood three layers tall and approximately three feet high.

Before the ceremony began, the wedding photographer, Nelson Villarica, was instructed to take professional pictures of the guests and their families rather than the usual candid shots, thus, the photographs offered to the guests after the reception were beautifully taken. After their pictorials, the guests made their way inside the ballroom to their assigned seats and it was then that many of the couple's friends and relatives could not help but stare in awe at the masterpiece that haloed the ceremonial stage.

Although the lights above the reception tables were dim and the candle pieces were the only strong source of illumination, the chandelier above the grand stage shone bright like an enormous spotlight. Surrounding the chandelier were crumpled pieces of cellophane that hung from the ceiling, crystals and city lights that were fashioned with Marilyn's personal touch. "The chandelier lights bounced off the cellophane and crystals making a rainbow of colors shine around

"Tradition, as we all know, is imperative during special affairs held by the Chinese but as Chinoys, we are allowed to improvise with the modern ideas and imagination that television and the global village has enhanced."



the stage," she described, with a smile of satisfaction.

With the ambience set for a romantic ceremony, the march began headed by the Bishop of Rainier's Protestant Church. "Priests were unable to perform the marriage rites outside of the church, so we were able to convince the bishop to provide us with his services."

After the exchange of vows, the guests were then invited for hors d'oeuvres outside of the ballroom to give time for the waiters to prepare for the lunch reception. While waiting for the plates, utensils and wine glasses to be arranged on the tables, the guests were able

to enjoy light cocktail snacks outside as well as the service of a very talented artist the couple had hired to paint caricatures for their friends and family.

The reception was no less spectacular than the ceremony and the abundance of guests made the event worthwhile. "I wanted the wedding to be during December because most of our relatives would be home for the holidays. Almost everyone came, which was extremely touching," Marilyn recalls. The hotel waiters served a delicious lunch and entertainment was provided by their musical host, Ms. Eva Poon, but no wedding day is complete without a dramatic finale. To conclude their reception, Rainier led Marilyn to the ballroom floor where they began to slow dance to the melody of the orchestra while confetti and balloons cascaded from the ceiling. It was a romantic ending to Marilyn's dream wedding.

Yet, as Chinoys, we know it is impossible to forego all sense of tradition.

The bride and groom did not lay eyes on each other until the wedding ceremony and all matters of feng-shui were taken into consideration. With hours to spare before their first dinner as husband and wife, Marilyn and Rainier engaged in a Chinese tea ceremony with their relatives to celebrate their union and to invite good fortune into their matrimonial lives.

In truth, Chinoys have always been able to get away with veering from Chinese tradition but many understand the limits of such liberation. Marilyn and Rainier proved that Chinoys who utilize their ability to blend with the changing

lifestyle fashions while remaining faithful to their original culture will always arrive at a unique and exceptional combination. And the color motif of their wedding? Marilyn smiles, "Celadon green." ☺

"...the chandelier above the grand stage shone bright like an enormous spot-



Congratulations to the winners of the
'I Do, Do You?' Art Contest,
with the theme *Weird Weddings*:
Kim Atienza & Michael Jarantilla!



... what can happen when you finally
get a fairytale wedding with
your PRINCE CHARMING.
(or if you marry a marine biologist)

Champoy

.....
MICHAEL JARANTILLA



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Wedding Phrases 婚

By: Iris Lim

THE best gift you can give at the engagement of two people or the union of a newly married couple is your blessing. Through these simple phrases translated into Chinese characters, you can express yourself with genuine joy and a sincere desire for their future happiness, Chinoy style.

1. 天作之合

tiān zuò zhī hé

:: a union made by heaven--an ideal couple

2. 相親相愛

xiāng qīn xiāng ài

:: to always love each other;

"always together, always loving"

3. 永結同心

yǒng jié tóng xīn

:: eternal love; "long tie, same heart"

4. 百年好合

bǎi nián hào hé

:: be a harmonious couple forever

5. 心心相印

xīn xīn xiāng yìn

:: a complete understanding between two minds

6. 佳偶天成

jiā ǒu tiān chéng

:: good couples are created in heaven

7. 美滿良緣

měi mǎn liáng yuán

:: full of beauty and good destiny ☺

Billboard

CELINE

Ready, Get set, Rummage!

By: Frederick Lipio

AS the summer went on, and people were busy with their summer classes or vacations, Celadon was also busy with a project of its own: the Summer Rummage Sale! In a tie-up with the Ateneo Economics Association for the venue, the sale was held last June 7 to 9 at Mary the Queen Parish in San Juan. Before the sale itself, the Celadon managers were calling to inform everyone about the details of the sale and of course to ask for donations. During the sale, many people flocked to Mary the Queen to look around, with most of them coming from the areas of Barasoain Parish, Barangay Mascardo, and Barangay Apdo. The Celadoneans helping out at the sale also got to experience the fun and excitement of selling various items to the customers. The Parish staff was enthusiastically present to aid the members in selling. At the end of the three-day event, there were many happy customers, and there were even more happy and very tired Celadoneans. The Rummage Sale was an event that not only taught Celadoneans new experiences but undoubtedly brought each and every participant closer to each other. ☺

Englicom~Celadon Summer Escape (ECSE)

By: Ginnii Sua

EXACTLY the weekend before classes were about to start, Celadoneans and several Englicom members (the Fil-Chi organization of DLSU) headed off to the Shorebirds Beach Resort at Nasugbu, Batangas to have their one last summer getaway.

This year's ECSE (Englicom-Celadon Summer Escape), held last June 12-13, was a real intimate gathering where around twenty people stayed overnight and got to know each other better. Old high school friends were reunited and new acquaintances were made as they shared stories about how the Celadon and Englicom life is like.

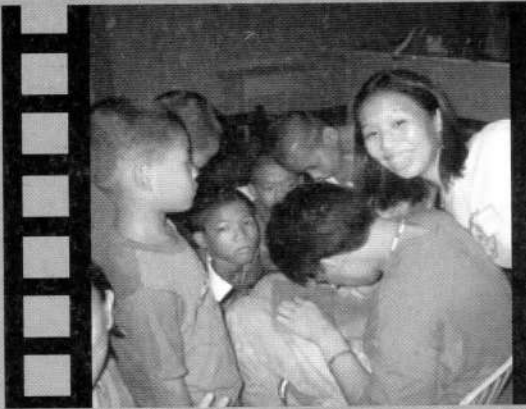


Celadoneans will find it interesting to note that the Englicom people don't get to have their own organization room to hang out in. Instead, they simply chill out at their own table in the cafeteria. Cheson Sy, Vice President of the Human Resources Department, also noticed that the Englicom people were even more boisterous than the Celadoneans. How was that possible? Apparently while the Celadoneans were already feeling exhausted from all the activities, the Englicom people were still very much enthusiastic and full of energy.

The External Affairs project heads, Joyce Tan & Laura Lao, made sure that everyone enjoyed themselves by playing a number of activities including volleyball, mahjong, scavenger hunt and card games. The best thing about it was that they were able to spend the whole afternoon lazing around on the beach and eating all the food that was prepared to their heart's content. ☺

externals managers' outreach

By: Ginnii Sua



THE External Affairs Department, headed by managers Krystle Clemente and Stephanie Ongsiyping, started the school year by having fun and uplifting the spirits of the less privileged children of Boys' Town, Marikina. The Managers' Outreach was held on the afternoon of June 4, 2004, just before classes began.

Michael Noriega, an Externals manager as well, helped host the event. A round of games were organized for the rambunctious and highly energetic

kids. They truly gave the volunteers a tough time trying to make them behave although their joy was evident. After the fun and laughter, delicious food from Jollibee was served to satisfy their hunger. The children were also given gift packs of notebooks, pencils, rulers and other school supplies courtesy of the Externals department.

Like any day spent with a bunch of active kids, the participants went home weary and exhausted but no one can doubt that it was indeed a day well spent. ☺

etc: a box office hit

By: Cheson Sy

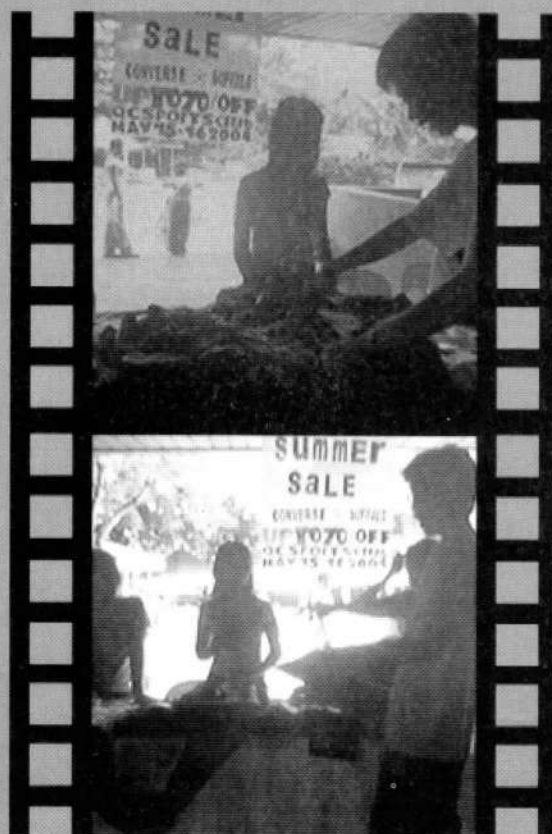
PREVIOUSLY, Celadon suffered from a severe sanction, which is why it couldn't

do a movie premiere up to now. But that didn't stop Celadon from making one! Using 300 chairs, five fantastic movies, two red-carpet aisles, and one giant 12 by 12 square foot screen, we presented members with Celadon's First General Assembly, ETC: ENTERTAINMENT CELADON! This was held on the evening of July 16, at the Colayco Pavilion. With a message to call all Celadoneans to be active, the GA was instantly jam-packed, standing-room style. It was difficult for people to move around, but the flashy Executive Board medley, fun-filled movies, delicious roast chicken, and the new ambience made up for it. The GA could definitely be called a box office hit. ☺



the cfa summer sale

By: Joni Andrea Ong & Arlene Janet Lee



CELADON'S Corporate and Financial Affairs Department (CFA) did a summer sale last May 15 and 16, 2004. This two-day event was held at the Quezon City Sports Club. Selling clothes of well-known brands such as Converse and Buffalo, the objective of this summer sale was to earn funds for the projects of the organization. Headed by project managers, Arlene Lee and Joni Ong, Celadon members showed off their selling skills as well as bonded with each other.

Colorful flyers, posters, and banners abounded the compound of the QC Sports Club as the team heavily promoted this event. During the sale, laughter and delight filled the area as the members haggled with the different customers and chatted with each other. Experienced CFA members showed members from the other departments what makes MAFIA projects fun, challenging, and different. This project would not have been possible without the help of Cris Evert Callueng, Marc Go, and Charlene Go. The project managers also offered their appreciation for the support of President

Jules Ang, Vice President Diana Tan, Human Resources VP Cheson Sy and of course, CFA VP Sharlene Tan, who kept reminding them of every important detail. With the amount of money earned, there is no doubt that the project was a definite success. ☺

Billboard

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A Tale of Different Seasons

ONCE upon a time, the stories of traditional Chinoy romances were actually true. As modernity developed, it slowly fashioned Chinoy relationships into what they are now, something profoundly contemporary that has retained the sweet sentiments of the yesteryears.

This issue of Chinoy delves into the past generations and asks the question, "What do you remember about your wedding and the first few days of your married lives?" In an attempt to compare the transition between then and now, we prompted one of our writers to talk about their ideal marriage. The realization is fascinating. Despite the lengthy intervals between the three generations, the Chinoys of the past and present evidently rely not on the memories or dreams of their wedding days but the love that created the foundation for marriage in the first place. The only way to experience it is to read about it.

1st Generation:

An Old Chinese Love Story

By: Joyce Gotamco

LOVE finds you when you least expect it. My grandfather, Johnson, saw his first and last love at the age of 16. Her name was Veronica. She was a classmate of his and won his heart then and there. To show his affection, my grandfather gave her a wooden-scented fan but she gave no indication of a requited affection. But my grandfather had no time to woo her heart for World War II descended in the Philippines. People were hiding from the war, all forms of schooling stopped and people moved away. My grandfather was separated from her for 4 years until the War ended in 1945. As if time hadn't passed, my grandfather continued to pursue his love but was difficult in doing so for he had to look for her first. Fortunately, luck was definitely on his side for the girl's uncle was a family friend of his and gave him her address. And from that moment on, my

grandfather never stopped courting her. He frequently visited her whenever a car was available from his family business and tried all tactics possible to get her to notice him again. But, sadly, she was also persistent in resisting him. Whenever he would stop by, she would go out and make him wait for hours but the moment she came back to the house, my grandfather was still there, lovingly waiting for her. My grandfather had all the patience in the world for her and it showed. He took her to places where she wanted to go even if it meant being accompanied by all her sisters. He continued to persist and persevere until she finally saw the love he had for her. She became my grandmother and she told me how they had gotten married. (My grandfather can hardly remember a thing about their marriage ceremony.)

My grandparents had a one-year

...Continued from previous page

engagement in 1948-1949. My grandmother followed all the traditions required such as the engagement ceremony where she had to walk backwards to meet her fiancé complete with the Chinese baskets full of eggs representing fertility. My grandfather's family gave two *ampao* to my grandmother's family and it was tradition to take one but return the other. This shows respect to my grandfather's family. For the marriage ceremony, this was handled solely by the groom's mother. She would arrange to have the groom and bride's attire made, one for the wedding and one for the reception. My grandparents were married in 1949 in the Santo Tomas Church at UST. What surprised me was that they had separate receptions. The bride's wedding reception was held one week before the actual wedding with her guests and the groom's reception was directly after the wedding with his guests. The bride and the groom were required to attend both receptions but would not be present with the guests. Instead they

would remain upstairs and would only make an appearance when they were asked to give a toast. At the reception, my grandmother wore a traditional red *tsong-sam* while my grandfather wore a more modern outfit of khaki pants and a white polo.

Until now, my grandparents are still happily married with of course a few arguments along the way. I once asked why and my grandmother said, "Because there is nothing more to fight about." I guess we could only understand that when we ourselves get older. Romantically, they have a theme song entitled "As years go By" by Nelson Eddy. It became their theme song when my grandmother was playing it on the

"My grandfather was separated from her for 4 years until the War ended in 1945."

"My grandfather had all the patience in the world for her and it showed."

go by. And you have pledged. When silvery hair has crowned your head. You still have me. I'll still have you."

"Marriage is a complicated stage, too complex to fully comprehend and too beautiful for to ruin by cutting it into pieces of data meant for analysis and critical examination."

2nd Generation:

The Jock and His Muse

By: Kazimir Ang

CONVENTIONALITY befits a woman chaste in conduct, sweet in speech, and graceful in gait as the archetypal mother - which is exactly why my mother is *not* conventional. Her steps are quick and brisk, her words blunt and no-nonsense, and her fashion boasts "if you've got it, flaunt it!" Born in the year of the dragon under the goat moon of July, Elizabeth Ang has her claws manicured every week, her hair done and highlighted often enough, and her figure trimmed to a 28-inch waistline courtesy of regularly going to the gym and her active lifestyle despite having borne five children. My siblings and I are blessed to have been raised in a household where love is abundant and trust flows freely. In fact, it is my mother who insists I go out more often and wonders why I refuse to wear make-up as she did when she was my age. My dad is, oh, right there, behind my mom, preparing to strangle her. They have an intriguing relationship; they are opposite each other in personality and fight too many times to count, yet I have never seen a couple in real form that have been married as long as my parents have and still remain as intimate and (humiliatingly) publicly affectionate as two young lovers. These are my parents, Bia and Santo - the former, a school muse for 3 consecutive years in her high school and the latter, a star basketball player in his

teens. Both were popular and very much sought-after by hordes of suitors and bright-eyed women, yet they found each other by fate and by choice.

My dad was a great basketball player though poor in studies. He was handsome and stoic, and that made him a heartthrob. He had a close friend Lando¹ who was a drummer for the cheering squad, and my mom was the girl Lando pathetically insisted was his girlfriend. The first time my parents met up close was at a disco party and months later, when they were eventually dating after joint efforts by two old ladies, my dad would describe in perfect detail how my mom looked during that disco night. How my dad managed to commit to his memory such details runs the gamut of romanticism given the fact that mere vocabulary lessons stagger him. Understandably, my mom mistook it as a hint of underlying extreme weirdness that possibly skims the front of obsessive infatuation.

Through the unrelenting forces that are my maternal and my paternal great-grandmothers, casual meetings were arranged, house visits by my dad heavily encouraged, and the freakiness eventually gave way to grudging adoration. It started one particular day in Luneta

where my great grandmothers were acquaintances from their tai-chi class. Out of what could only be described as a frustrated attempt to matchmake, paternal great-grandmama asked the sea of wrinkled faces who among them had a granddaughter that could possibly be introduced to her grandson? Brought about by desperation of wanting to see great-grandchildren before her time had come and gone, maternal grand-mama shot her veined hand out before others, a bold yet fortuitous move that propelled my parents

towards each other. **Both were popular and very much sought-after by hordes of suitors and bright-eyed women, yet they found each other by fate and by choice.**

Fast forwarding to months and months later after many visits, dates, and petty arguments that always led to "kissy" and teary-eyed make-ups, my dad proposed. It was a delight to every one living in that absurdly backward 1980's lifestyle, where women were expected to get married right after college. In fact, the earlier, the better. Even today, my grandmothers from both sides of the family parade me in front of their friends and the friends of their friends in fervent hope of seeing me married off to a respectable Chinese man, who speaks Chinese, eats Chinese, and lives in a world completely smothered in Chinese traditions. In what my mom belatedly just realized, she was cleverly drawn into marriage by my dad's good looks and charm, and ancient Chinese superstitions. My two great-grandmothers told my mom that aside from that particular year or the next, it would be a long time before another auspicious year for marriage would come, thus, partly in fear of enraging her grandmothers and partly semi-

subconsciously following the fashion of marrying early, she married my dad the next year. She was cleverly manipulated, she used to say, but I know she never regretted it.

They were married in San Agustin Church on September 15, 1985 and had their wedding reception in Manila Hilton Hotel's Coral Ballroom. Even with a fever running, Dad never faltered with his wedding vows and made it through ten luncheon meals.

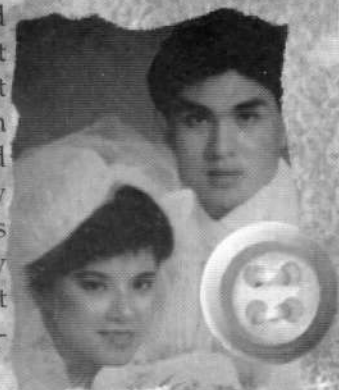
Asked how my parent's wedding night went one day while talking with my parents, Mom replied, "I was nursing your dad."

Over her hair, I saw my dad's blond highlighted head bob up and heard a grunt in affirmation (or indignation?). I have groovy parents who are bonded by love, culture, and choice. There were several times when they had big and violent fights that I could see no other end but divorce or separation, but it never arrived to that and I hope it never does. You see, my mom told us that she would never call it quits because she had us, her children, to think about. She did not want us to grow up in a broken family.

Only once have I ever seen a falling star and at that time I was with my mom. She told me that she herself had seen a falling star long before she got married. She had wished that she would find a man who was kind and handsome and that they would marry and here I am, 18 years old, staring forlornly at the inky sky and wondering what was I thinking when I wasted that wish on a lifetime's supply of candy. It didn't even come true! Consoling, within the mass of brain

¹ Name changed for personal reasons.

neurons and random electric impulses, I remember my mom saying that their being together is much more than just a wish come true. And regardless of the fact that I still impress on myself the sanctity of a falling star, my mom is right. Marriage is a complicated stage, too complex to fully comprehend and too beautiful for to ruin by cutting it into pieces of data meant for analysis and critical examination. Love in marriage is not absolute, even friendship is not guaranteed in all cases. Pain will be unavoidable, fights and arguments are inescapable, and laughter and joy will have their absences. Writing about my mom and dad's marriage, glimpsing into the mystery that pulls two people together, I realized that marriage may mean many things - a wish fulfilled, love upped a level, a commitment deepened, and so forth, but matrimony will always be, borrowing a mother's words, "a product of fate and choice."



3rd Generation:

From the Immaterialist Mind of a Chinoy

By: Myreign Heart Sua

A man stands in front of me, looking at me with love and compassion in his eyes. I gaze back. In his eyes, I see everything I've ever longed for. I know that he is the one I will spend the rest of my life with. I know that he will be the one who will stick with me through thick and thin. I know, without a doubt, that he will take his kids to basketball practices and will go to their piano recitals. I know that he will protect us with every means possible. And I know, that he loves someone more than me. **The fact that he loves God more than anyone else is a reassurance.** Because of this love, I know that he is perfect for me.

Isn't that what weddings are supposed to be about? "It's not about flowers, wrapped in fancy paper. It's not the ring I wear around my finger," just like the song goes. But really, for me, what color the table napkins are, and where the wedding will be held is of little importance. I am not going to

"The fact that he loves God more than anyone else is a reassurance."

be overly obsessive of them like the Chinese families of the ancient past. What is the value of a wedding? Isn't it the union of a man and woman, who love each other, and who are ready to give over their lives to the other person?

I don't mean that we should make all of our weddings shabby affairs that had no apparent effort put into it. Of course, should my wedding day arrive, I would take all my time to make it one that I will cherish for the rest of my life. But we cannot forget the deeper meaning of our hard work and meticulous preparation.

Weddings are not about the physical appearance of love. It is not about the picturesque photos we want to keep in our albums or the gown that you want to pass down to your daughter, regardless of the beautiful sentiments in doing so. Weddings are about the emotion of love and happiness in finding the complement that will stay beside you until forever.

My perfect wedding would be a marriage of two minds, two hearts and one passion for happiness. Everything in else in the background are simply the benefits. Now, love. That is what it's really all about. ☺

It Never Ends

Chinoy writer Gen Tiu gives us a glimpse on the different Chinoy wedding reception hotspots and the reason behind the popularity of these places.

WHEN it comes to throwing the best shindigs around, nobody does it better than the affluent Chinoy. They work hard, true—but they play even harder! No matter what the occasion, no matter what the cost, everything is always perfect, from the decorations to the food and to the invitations. One of the most attended and important occasion is, of course, a wedding of a family member or friend. Whether one chooses the affair to be simple and understated or grand and elegant, the color scheme used is as critical as each and every dish on the menu at the reception. Incidentally, not only is the menu important, but where the said reception is to be held. Remember, clothes are not the only things that make a person, but most Chinoy are about being seen in all the right places—literally.

Since the month of June is the month when most wedding bells ring, it is only natural that the popular reception venues

would have been fully booked as far back as six months. In Manila, three of the best are Gloria Maris (in Greenhills), the Edsa Shangri-La Plaza and the Makati Shangri-La Hotel. These three not only boast of fitting ambience but also quality food and dish preparations.

Gloria Maris Seafood Restaurant



Gloria Maris is often known for its authentic Chinese dimsum. However, in the recent years, it has become one of the hottest places for wedding receptions. Situated at the heart of the Greenhills area, its location is virtually accessible to almost anyone! While it used to be a place for simple birthday dinners, one can often expect a festive second floor, with music and jovial voices traveling down from the celebrations being held. On the

●● By: Genevieve Tiu ●●

at the Altar

occasions of wedding receptions or large party accommodations, the restaurant reserves the entire second floor.

Of course, ambience is not the only thing that will be scrutinized by the guests, but the quality of the meal that they will be getting. Gloria Maris is not just known for its dimsum, but the unique dishes prepared for special occasions (i.e. birthday noodles, fried eel basket, cold cut platter, steamed lobster, etc.). They have items that are not on the menu but can be made available upon special request. Rest assured that whatever is ordered, it will always add up to satisfaction.

THE VERDICT:

This restaurant is chosen because of its homely ambience, good food and warm hospitality. At first glance, it is not necessarily spectacular or exceptionally elegant. Even better, it is simple and classic. It is oriental with a touch of modernism, which can be seen in their specialties that are getting closer and closer to meeting the fusion trend. They are able to meet the demands of Chinese tradition while moving with the times. Also, the best thing is the accommodating service.

"Rest assured that whatever is ordered, it will always add up to satisfaction."

The people who run the restaurant are always friendly and open to suggestions and negotiations on the preferences of clients. This way, they adjust to fit the needs of their customers.

THE SHANGRI-LA HOTELS

To tackle one without giving a word to the other would be unfair. Although these two hotels have practically the same name and they also cater to practically the same market groups, there are certain differences that set them apart.

...The One Next to the Mall

The Edsa

Shangri-La Plaza

Shangri-La Edsa is popular for being a host that caters to different occasions from promenades to debuts to weddings to international conferences and even to overrun bazaars. With the opening of a new wing a few years ago, this hotel now holds at least four ballrooms. The best thing about the Edsa Shangri-La is that although it is a classy hotel, it gives visitors a more laid-back feel. Its high-class service and dish preparation are always consistent, no matter what the celebration is. The ballrooms are versatile, able to accommodate the personal preferences of their

Chinoy Picks

clients and still offer the utmost of service quality.



Satisfaction is never an issue when it comes to planning the menu at this hotel. The food is always well-prepared and made just right, whether it be Chinese dumplings, grilled lamb chops, or baked sea bass. The dishes never disappoint and would always be worth the penny.

The Edsa Shangri-La's alter-ego is all the way in Makati—aptly named, the Makati Shangri-La Hotel.

...The One Next to Another Mall The Makati Shangri-La Hotel

This hotel, unlike its counterpart, is the perfect picture of uptown class, making it a hotspot for most of the Metro's well-to-do darlings. Its most popular ballroom is called the Rizal Ballroom, one that has housed numerous grand weddings and graduations balls. The first thing to notice about it is its size. Vast and spacious, it comes with a dance floor and enough ceiling space to allow custom lighting and cater to hundreds of guests without making the place seem too crowded.

A good reputation must be built, not only on ambience and style, but also on the food they serve. As with its Edsa counterpart, their name is synonymous with offering the best dishes made with the



highest quality ingredients (i.e. fresh grilled sea bass, sushi, tender steaks from Conway, etc). Menus are adjusted according to the client's budgets and decorations are up to personal customs.

THE VERDICT:

Located in the middle of the uber classy Makati shopping and lifestyle district, the Makati Shang is the epitome of uptown grace and elegance. Its design and style are not as relaxed and informal as that of the Edsa Shang. Receptions here are grand and all-out, with no holds barred and often are hosts to the city's most celebrated people. In a word, people come here to see and be seen. Period. ☺

THE VERDICT:

The Edsa Shangri-La Plaza is the most versatile place. Receptions could be held not only in the elegant ballrooms, but also in the specialty restaurants they house on the second floor, or the café on the lobby floor. While it is still a hotel, it has a more laid-back, relaxed ambience; informal enough for a family getaway in the city but elegant and classy enough to play host to spectacular events.

"While it is still a hotel, it has a more laid-back relaxed ambience; less formal enough for a family getaway in the city but elegant and classy enough to play host to spectacular events."

Chinoy Volume 6, Issue 1 Press Release

By: Jules Ang

Celadon Honors Dr. Ellen Palanca's 60th

Last Wednesday, July 21st, the Celadon Executive Board wore red, went to the Chinese Studies Program office, and celebrated the birthday of the former director of the Chinese Studies Program. Sixty years young, Dr. Ellen Palanca is currently undergoing her sabbatical leave. She contemplates on what still needs to be done in her successful life while enjoying more time with her friends and family. On behalf of Celadon, Happy Birthday Laoshi Ellen!

Celadon Greets New Chinese Studies Program Director

The departure of one leads to the arrival of another. Hence, since Dr. Ellen Palanca takes a break from administering the Chinese Studies Program, someone has to lead in directing the department. With this, we at Celadon would like to welcome Father Aristotle Dy of the Society of Jesus, current director of the Jesuit Communications and an Ateneo faculty member who teaches Chinese culture in film, as the new Chinese Studies Program Director. Welcome to the family, Father Ari!

Celadon Welcomes New Moderator

Celadon honors the privilege of having Dr. Francisco Navarro as the organization's moderator for this school year. A much-accomplished physician, Dr. Navarro was then an Oblation Scholar while going through the coveted INTARMED program of the University of the Philippines. He was able to suffix "M.D." in his name in just seven years and was even awarded the Outstanding Intern in Community Medicine in the process. He then took postgraduate training in medical acupuncture for two years and is currently teaching the subject to Ateneans through the Chinese Studies Program. Celadon hopes that through his background, he will be able to teach the organization how to cure organizational apathy while maintaining the organization's vital statistics in check. Welcome to the Celadon family, Prof Luo!

Celadon Investigates with CSI

During Celadon's first general assembly last July 16, Celadon introduced its newest project for the school year. Headed by Kazimir Kira Ang (2 BS LM), Mattel Pamela Luna (4 BS MGT), Lalaine Rose Ong (2 BS LM), and Athena Gwyn Yao (2 BS CS), the Cultural Studies Investigators, or C.S.I. for short, aims to address the stereotypical misconceptions of both Chinoys and Pinoys on the Filipino-Chinese culture. According to the four project managers, C.S.I. aims "to remind the Ateneo community, especially Celadoneans, that the expression Chinoy comes from two words: Chinese and Pinoy, thus emphasizing the existence of a Filipino influence in Celadon. As investigators, [they] seek to provide information that may not have been pinpointed in the past."

Celadon Meets Scholar

During the Pathways for Higher Education General Assembly conducted at the Escaler Hall last Sunday, July 25, Celadon was finally able to meet its scholar, Jennifer Bulac. Jennifer, who aspires to be a grade school science teacher someday has been chosen as Celadon's first ever scholarship grantee. She is currently in her second year of stay in college, balancing various challenges in academics as well as taking care of her four siblings. Jennifer is the realization of Celadon's aim of nation-building through educating future leaders of society. Many thanks go to Sir Harvey Keh and Ms. Solvie Nubla for allowing us to have some chit-chat with Jennifer.

Celadon Assists Former President

Within the week of June 28 to July 2, Celadon ensured that Ateneans started the school year with style by holding its Back-to-School Sale. Various goods from Jansport, Kikay, Buffalo, and Converse were sold at very low prices to accommodate the students' tight budget. Furthermore, through this project, Celadon was also able to help Jonas Ang, Celadon President of School Year 1997-1998, with his apparel business by providing him with booth space as well as promotions.

Celadon Shares 19th Birthday with a Celadonean

During ETC, Celadon's movie-house general assembly, Celadoneans commemorated the organization's 19th year by celebrating a fellow Celadonean's 19th birthday. Both born on July 17, 1985, Kelvin Cheung O (2 BS MIS), an active sophomore Celadon member, as well as Celadon itself, were greeted to the tune of *Happy Birthday* right before the movies started. ☺



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Beauty of the Night

By: Joshua Dy

TEN thousand feet above sea level, on top of the cityscape, the guy professed his love to her. The leaves rustled in agreement and the stars twinkled with approval. His statement resonated far below, proudly declaring to the night that she is his beloved one. The girl felt that she was on a pedestal, with the whole metropolis below witnessing the captivating scene.

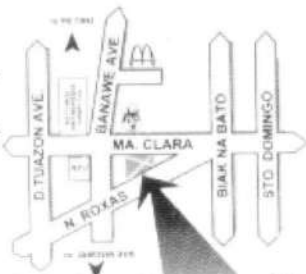
Down the winding road they went, as they passed by the beach the car stopped. "Let's stroll for a couple of minutes before heading home". The girl agreed. They took off their shoes and felt the cool powdery sand beneath their feet. After a while the guy abruptly went down on his knees and scraped away 6 inches of sand. He had bought it 3 years ago the day the girl agreed to be his girlfriend and buried it with a promise. Now, its time for its realization, the glittering diamond ring shone in the night and he half-knelt facing his girlfriend. No words came forth from his mouth, he was filled with emotion. Tears streamed down her eyes and she nodded. They had decided to embark on a journey; the sea relayed the message to the world. ☺

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key to a girl's heart: Kleenex

By: Victoria Hernandez

I kept a soiled piece of tissue paper because despite its sordid state, something priceless was written on it.

At "Caf Up", I was ranting to Francine, Adrian, Mela and Archie about the big fat D I received for our group essay in English class. You must be sympathizing with me right now because getting a grade that is relatively equivalent to *what... 60?* on your first test on one of your first days in Ateneo can be quite appalling, especially when a grade of 60 in high school standards merits to almost nil.

So my friends and I were discussing the merits and demerits of my essay when the conversation suddenly digressed to the topic of writing. All of us save Francine are into writing because of the therapeutic benefits it provides (i.e. If you want to stab one of your professors for giving you an unwarranted grade, just bash him relentlessly on paper. That way, nobody gets hurt!).

Since we were on the subject of writing, Archie decided to show us a sample of his work. Amid the students' sibilant chattering, he suddenly produced a crumpled piece of tissue paper and began to write the following on it:

*"I close my eyes and see your face.
I open my eyes... empty space."*

After everyone on the table got hold of the

tissue paper, we were all aghast. For despite the scrawled lines' sheer simplicity, they elicited a feeling of remarkable puissance.

Adrian commented first, "Wow. I have the compulsion to give that tissue paper to a special someone... under a pseudonym maybe... or even better, under anonymous! Archie, you're a genius!"

Mela drawled musingly, "I want a scribe for a boyfriend."

"Me, too," I and Francine simultaneously chimed in. (Jinx!)

Because of all the excitement that went on, Francine inadvertently knocked over the soysauce bottle, marking the infamous tissue paper with light splotches of brown.

"That's alright. Look at the effect the brown sprinkles ascribe on tissue paper. It appears as if it were written more randomly, like back in the old days," Mela continued.

At the end of the day, I and Francine launched into a diatribe to see who would get to keep the decrepit scrap of tissue.

Conclusion: If you want to propose to [affix name here], do it with style. Hand her a Kleenex! For the "arbitrary effect", simply dab some Kikkoman on the tissue paper, but don't forget to make sure that the writing is still legible. (If Kikkoman or any brown substance is unavailable, you can opt to use tabasco sauce or ketchup instead.) ☺

**Congratulations to JOSHUA DY & VICTORIA HERNANDEZ
for winning the 'I Do, Do You?' Writing Contest!**

CELADON

Upcoming Events

Illumination: The Seminar Series

Sharpen your computer skills and learn Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Pagemaker, Macromedia Flash and Adobe Premiere

Every Mondays and Fridays starting August 2 until September

4:30-6:00 PM at Faura 206

Contacts: Vincent "Borgy" Tan (0917-2447290); Olivia Hu (09173272983)

Art Day Outreach

Share your talent in art in this Art Day Outreach. Artistic talent is not required.

August 21, 2004 (Saturday), 1:00pm - 4:30pm at Boystown Complex, Marikina

Contacts: Ian Lee (0917-8104978), Karen Kwok (0916-5474450) or Michael Noriega (0916-7736972)

Celadon's Inter-department Gathering Series!

Ever wondered what other departments do and who runs them? Come to our Inter-DGI August 27, 2004, 4:30-8:00 PM at the Colayco Pavilion

Contacts: Rockie Teo (0917)8362824, Daphne Uy (0917)8913589

Pinocchio

It's Celadon's 2nd time to host a play and we're inviting you to take part and enjoy reliving one of your favorite childhood fairytales!

August 28, 2004 (Saturday) 7:30 PM at Onstage in Greenbelt 1

For tickets: Candice Perez (0917-3050503), Lizanne Co (0917-5293662) and Nicole Chua (0917-3229924)

Celadon Film Festival

Chinese films that are sure to pique your interest will be shown this August. Showing dates, venues and movie titles will be posted around Ateneo!

Contacts: Vince Chan (0917-8161187), Kalen Lin (0918-9266045)

Language Tutorials

This Chinese language tutorial service is offered to everyone FREE of charge!

Sign up now!

Contacts: Kalen Lin (0918-9266045), Jenn Wong (0918-5315660)

Obsessed with Celadon Shirts

Available in navy blue or white and comes in men's and women's sizes.

Buy your own shirts now!

Celadon Room, Colayco Building

Contacts: Chriselle Chua (0917-8253899), Robin Lim (0917-8125700)

Wushu Tutorials

Jet Li and Jacky Chan, two martial artists who have one thing in common: Wushu! Interested to learn about it? Then sign-up now!

Every Tuesdays and Thursdays, 4:30 to 6:00 at the Martial Arts Complex, Cov. Courts

Contact: Luigi Cinco (0917-9348383)

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