

EXCLUSIVE

# Vilma!

VILMA SANTOS RECEIVED HIGHEST HONOUR



Volume 1, Issue 3

Aug. — Sept. 2005

THE VILMA SANTOS NEWSLETTER

VILMA SANTOS GRADUATES WITH HONORS AT THE U.P. SYSTEM  
BY MAR GARCES



COMPLETE COVERAGE  
BY ERIC NADURATA

VILMA... BORN WINNER  
BY WILLIE FERNANDEZ

U. P. 'S G A W A D

P L A R I D E L



# Blog\_of\_E-mails

(mga posted messages sa e-groups)

## Retro Issue



Naku I am so happy dahil naisulat ni Jun Nardo ang newsletter natin sana maisulat din ito nina Butch (Francisco) at Nestor Torre, Congrats!  
-Law\_Eve

I would like to congratulate the TEAM for coming up a very nice and interesting 2nd issue of VS Newsletter. I enjoyed reading it again and again. It's a blast from the past and memories just came back rushing to me. Bigla ko na lang naala-ala kung papaano ako makipagtalos sa mga barkada kong puros Noranian at kung minsan pa eh bigla na lang kaming hindi magkikibuan. Higit sa lahat, naala-ala ko uli ang aking mother dear na di-hard Vilmanian thru and thru. WOW! What an EXCELLENT piece of material. Nakakatuwa kayo. Keep it up, guys! Hindi man ako madalas mag-send ng message dito, I will always read your postings mereseng busy ako sa trabaho. Again, many thanks for coming up this newsletter. GOD BLESS YOU ALL!  
-armando arellano

Finally, got to see the much talked-about newsletter! Congratulations! I enjoyed reading the first issue.... It's very heart-warming to note that all the Vilmanians scattered all over the world have joined forces to produce a very interesting and comprehensive newsletter in honor of our penultimate Queenstar, Ate Vi! Keep it coming, guys! Ngayon pa lang, can't wait for the 3rd issue... Ate Vi and Lucky, get well soon! Excited na ko sa Flores de Mara at MMK :) cheers!  
-Jojo Terencio

Dear Marcus  
I wish to congratulate you for a very beautiful and professionally made VSR Newsletter - kaya nga hindi nakakahiyang ipadala maski sino pang kulafo. It's obvious that people who've seen it appreciate the combined effort that was put into producing the newsletter. Once again "bow" ako sa iyo and everyone involved. When you forwarded newsletter no. 2 to me - I also encountered the same problem that Mario Bautista and June Nardo experience so I asked Jeannie Wong to forward it to me, which she did (Thanks Jeannie). It's then that I realized that I have to install ADOBE software (not adobe he he he) to read the file. When I did I had no problem reading and printing the file. Hopefully this should help.  
-Marilen

Hi Marcus,  
Thank you so much, I finally opened it. It is really an excellent piece of work... the e-newsletter gave me some kind of happiness, satisfaction and entertainment as well when reading something about Ate Vi.  
With all sincerity, God bless you and your team.  
-Chuckie

## Ikaw Ay iyAkin!

Hoy Nura inyo na lang yan, ayaw namin makisali pa jan dahil we already know

where we stand. Vilma Santos lang talaga ang Nag-isang Bituin. Iba na lang ang hanapin nyo, at kung wala kayong makita at walang pumatol sa inyong pagmamakaawa, solohin nyo na lang ang title na : IKAW AY iyAKIN  
-Rante Ancheta

## Globalization ni Ate Vi

Gud pm guys, even here in Bataan natakiluban na nang big posters ni Ate Vi ang kapaligiran. Im so happy to say na "Para siyang kandidato sa pagka senador".  
-Nelvin Rea

Punong-puno ng billboard ng Globe ang Edsa mula Monumento hanggang Baclaran at syempre tadtad ng pictures nina Ate Vi at Luis, pagkalaki-laking pictures. Kaya tuwing magda-drive si Jojo sa Edsa ay pumapalakpak ang tenga niya. Imagine, Vilma Santos everywhere. Halos pareho din ang kwento ni Rene of Cotobato City na puno naman daw ang lugar nila ng banner at tarpaulin ng globe with Ate Vi's photo on it. Ate Vi conquers the entire Philippines. Wow!  
-Jojo Lim

## Tita Cleo. where are you?

Whatever happened to Cleo Cruz? Anyone?? Would'nt it be nice if people like Ms. Cleo Cruz be given some kind of recognition or appreciation from the group? P.S.: Remember Baby K. Jimenez and Mercy Lejarde? Where are they now?  
-dnewjohn

I think mommy Cleo, as Ate Vi calls her, is in Los Angeles. I read an article that Mario Bautista wrote a few years ago that he attended a wedding in Los Angeles and Cleo Cruz was there. If i am not mistaken she still gets in touch with mommy Santos in Los Angeles. Cleo Cruz was married to the late brother of the movie scribe Chit Ramos. Cleo was the P.R.O. of Ate Vi in the 70's and 80's. I remember reading her column VILMA VARIETY in BULAKLAK at PARU-PARO Magazine. The column for Ms. Aunor was written by Baby K. Jimenez. There was a time when Cleo Cruz and Baby K. Jimenez had a series of heated argument in their columns on who is the real queen of the Philippine movies. It stemmed from the fact that at that time Ate Vi was being called as the TAKILYA QUEEN by the press. Now we know who is the real and longest reigning queen: VILMA!  
-fr. j

## BQ

I'm looking for a vcd or dvd of Burlesk Queen, anyone?  
-ther2cole



## Ate Shawie. ikaw nga ba ito?

Yes, my daughter KC is in Manila ang she is doing her second musical Beauty

and the Beast! I'm so excited nga for her but I can't be there to watch her bec I'm doing shows here in the States! Don't worry mga kapwa ko Vilmanians, di po ako magdadala ng tooter sa airport! hahaha!  
megastar\_shawie  
-star\_shawie

## Political Division

Kung ang bawat Presidente natin ay palaging pinalalayas sa kanilang pwesto, mahirap ng mabuhay ng payapa sa bansang Piliipinas. I support President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo!!! Mga kapwa ko Vilmanian, suportahan natin ang pangulong Gloria!!!  
-Donato Sambat

Mawalang galang na nga kasamang Donato. Merong proper venue para sa mga usaping ganito. Pang-wholesome tayo, di ba?  
-Henry

Mga kapatid tigilan natin ito nakaka-pangilabot ang mga nababasa ko dito pwede ba wag nating madungisan ang mga member ng vilmanian dahil sa pulitika tigilan na natin ito pls. lang wag nating pakialaman ang buhay ng bang tao ke baog siya o hindi, di natin business iyon masyado na tayong below the belt.  
-Kimchie Lim

## Galit Sa Bakla?

MGA VILAMANIAN YAN ANG BALITA (referring to a posted news about Ate Vi—mpl), HINDI PURO PAULIT-ULIT NA ANUNSYO TUNGKOL SA PATIMPALAK NG MGA BAKLA. MGA BALITANG TUNAY NA INAABANGAN. SALAMAT KA HENRY SA GOOD NEWS DAHIL DIYAN SA BALITANG YAN, MARAMING FANS ANG MAE-ENGANYO SA TUNAY AT DAPAT IDOLOHIN NG MAMAMAYANG PILIPINO. SALAMAT  
-Donato Sambat

## Mga movies ni Ate Vi sa tv

I sent a letter to the Mabuhay Channel (a satellite cable company that shows Filipino television shows and movies in Canada, Japan, and the U.S.) complaining about the lack of Vilma Santos movies in their programming. Here's their response.—mpl

Dear Mr. Lee,  
Baby Tsina, which was suppose to be one of the highlights for July, was just moved to a later week (Aug 6). But we do appreciate your comments. And now that we know that you and your organization are looking forward to seeing Vilma Santos films, we'll make sure to include a few Vilma movies every month for your benefit.  
Kind regards,  
Vanessa

Vanessa Elaine P. Galvez  
Programming - The Mabuhay Channel  
3/F CLMC Bldg. 259-269 EDSA Greenhills  
Mandaluyong City 1556 PHILIPPINES  
Tel: 632 7440780 loc. 805  
Fax: 632 7445509  
www.mabuhaychannel.com

## From Mr. B

Dear Marcus,  
I opened the e-mail and got your letter. Then the postman came and handed the envelope with the Vilma Santos Newsletter in it. Thanks very much.

The Gawad Plaridel was given to Ate Vi last Monday but, sadly, the UP people did not invite us from the media to attend it. Sayang nga. UP professors who were there said she personally thanked my wife, Vicky, dahil ito ang nagturo sa kanya ng crash course on public administration before she took over as Mayor of Lipa City. Sana naka-attend man lang kami. But I acknowledged her winning in my Malaya column and also in the Insider Magazine where I also mentioned your newsletter.

Yes, I heard about the negative feedback on Tom Cruise. What I don't like is he is imposing his views on other people? Para naman siyang diktador. We're all entitled to our own beliefs, aren't we? Huwag ipilit ang sariling paniniwala na parang ikaw lang ang tama. So yun lang po. Regards to all the Vilmanians and wala akong masabi sa newsletter. Labor of Love ninyo talaga kay Ate Vi.

Take care and God bless you,  
Mario B.

For submission, comments, suggestions or contributions: please e-mail us at:  
c/o the Editorial Staff  
vilmasantosnewsletter@yahoo.ca

## E-groups Facts

Vilma Santos  
STAR FOR ALL SEASONS!

Members: 295

Category: Actors and Actresses

Founded: Jul 26, 2000



Vilma Santos  
VISION  
Vilma Santos  
International -  
Online Network

Members: 275

Category: Celebrities

Founded: Apr 8, 2004

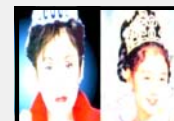


VS-R  
Vilma Santos Retrospective

Members: 160

Category: Acting

Founded: Mar 26, 2004



vxfanclub-  
canada  
The Queen  
of Phils. Movies

Members: 24

Category: Actors and Actresses

Founded: Jan 15, 2005

# Edit \_ O \_ Real

(opinion ng mga kasanga)

## Purihin Ang Ngalan Mo, Vilma!

By Willie Fernandez

Kahit ano ang sabihin ng kabilang kampo as they always claim na matindi pa rin ang kasikatan ng kanilang iniidol-long aktres, aminin man o hindi, ang kainitan ng kasikatan at patuloy na pamamayagpag sa pelikula at telebisyon ni Ate Vi sa ngayon ay tumatagal na ng apat na dekada ay malinaw na katotohanan. Sabihin na nilang sikat ang fading Sufferstar, pero gaano ba kahaba ang itinakbo ng kanyang naghingalong career?

Nagsimula si Ate Vi bilang isang child star sa pelikulang Trudis Liit at the age of 9. Noong nagkamit siya ng FAMAS Best Child Actress sa naturang pelikula, marami ang nag-sabing nakatagpo na naman ang Sampaguita Pictures ng isang child wonder na kagaya ni Tessie Agana. Lalong tumingkad ang angking kagandahan ni Ate Vi noong nag-dalaga na siya at nagpatuloy bilang teenage star. Taong 1969, at the age of 14, nagsimula ang bagong pahina sa buhay at career niya. At that time, sumisikat naman ang isang singing star na si Nora Aunor na naging karibal sa movie queen noong dekada '70. One incontrovertible fact then is that Nora is number one at si Ate Vi ay second lang in terms of popularity. Of course, at this point, that no longer applies because the tables have been turned in favor of Vilma. Hanggang ngayon ay mabango pa rin ang career ni Ate Vi while Nora has no major films or TV shows up her sleeve for years. Hindi matatawaran ang galing bilang aktres ni Ate Vi kaya naman iginawad sa kanya ng FAMAS ang Best Actress Award sa pelikulang Dame de Noche. At nagsimulang magpakitang-gilas sa takilya si Vilma on her own noong 1973 nang itampok sa Takbo,Vilma Dali at sinundan ng Hatinggabi Na Vilma na pawang big box-office hits. Mid 1973, ginawa ni Ate Vi ang Lipad, Darna, Lipad which became her biggest hit then. Ginawa din niya ang Dyesabel. By that time, nagsimula na si Ate Vi na tawagin ang Takilya Queen, dahil lahat nga ng mga pelikula niya ay kumita. Siya rin ang unang-unang itinanghal na Box-Office Queen at inakyat sa Hall of Fame matapos ang limang taong sunud-sunod na siya ang nag-wagi bilang Box-Office Queen.

Si Ate Vi ang unang-unang naka-grandslam sa taunang pagbibigay ng Best Actress award noong 1982 sa pelikulang Relasyon. Kahit nga naiakyat na siya sa HALL of FAME bilang Best Actress sa FAMAS, siya din ang unang aktres na nagtamo ng kanilang Circle of Excellence. Si Ate Vi rin ang kauna-unahang aktres na napagsabay ang popularidad sa pelikula at telebisyon. Kumita ang lahat ng kanyang pelikula at sa telebisyon, walang nakapagpataob sa rating's game ng "VILMA". Kaya nga siya ang tinaguri-ang Star for All Seasons and Reasons. Hindi kasi lumilipas ang kanyang panahon. Sa ganang popularidad, o kakayahang maging box-office attraction ay hindi pa rin mapapataob si Ate Vi hanggang ngayon. Kailanman ay hindi nanganib sa takilya ang kanyang mga pelikula.

In terms of definition, ang titulong taglay ni Ate Vi ay nanggahulugan na namumukod-tangi, pangunahin at walang kamatayan. Siya ang pinaka super ehemplo ng isang glamorous star. Anupanga't patuloy na nagsasabog ng kanyang halimuyak at kasikatan ang Vilma Santos sa langit-langitan ng Pelikulang Pilipino at maituturing na the longest-reigning movie-queen sa bansa. 42 years na siya sa lokal na aliwan and her career still continues to go strong. No one and no one else have duplicated Vilma's achievement. Sa kaso ni Ate Vi, kung tutuusin ay hindi niya kailangan ang anumang klase ng titulo. Hindi kaku-langan ang walang nakakabit na title sa kanyang pangalan simula pa noong nahirang siyang natatanging batang aktres sa pamosong pelikulang Trudis Liit.

Purihin at Sambahin ang Ngalan Mo, Vilma! Isa kang huwaran! Marapat lang na ipagkaloob sa 'yo ang most coveted National Artist Award at Ramon Magsaysay Award. Akala ba ninyo natitigil si Ate Vi sa kanyang winning streak? Hindi, huh.

## Notice the difference?

We made some changes. Have you noticed the difference? Well, first of all we changed our name to simply "Vilma!" with "the Vilma Santos newsletter underneath. It will eventually just "Vilma!" The decision was unanimous. This will gives us instant recognition. It will be like "O" (for Oprah Wimprey) and the no longer in circulation "Rosie" (for Rossie O'Donnel, the comedienne).

So, "Vilma!" is about Vilma Santos, the Star for all Seasons. Mar Garces our house writer simply put it this way:

*"Kaseh kapag VILMA!, identified kaagad sa maraming bagay: lyong apostrophe sa end ng Santos is for emphasis, in the present, active tense. Not Vilma Valera na karibal ni Vilmanian Helen Gamboa, not the pouty, frowny, vain, balimbing, lucreng, so full of herself LT na akala niya ay si Vilma Santos cya, or si Juday Puday Santos (ka last name sake lang, buti na lang). Pag nakita ng tao ang VILMA! na may diin sa dulo (oh not, the YKW diin, hah) ay identified ito sa most successful, most awarded TV musical variety show ng the greatest actress-dancer ng bansang Pilipinas - si VILMA! She's VILMA!, the U.P. Gawad Plaridel winner, a future National Artist winner. She's VILMA!, the outstanding, three-term and most awarded Mayor in the Philippines - she of the 5 foot frame, high school graduate, who was, at the start of her political career was ridiculed/ maligned and underestimated, for having the guts to run for Mayor. She's mother VILMA! of Globe co-ad model Luis and little Ryan Christian. She's VILMA!, the earthshile Senator Ralph Recto's wife, and good friend of another wife of a Senator, Sharon Cuneta-Pangilinan.*

*She's VILMA!, the 'Ate Vi' of fellow superstars Maricel Soriano and Claudine Barretto, and countless others around the Globe. She's VILMA!, the Longest Reigning Box-office and Movie Queen! She's VILMA!, the most awarded and the greatest Filipina actress. She's VILMA!, the most versatile actress of the Philippines."*

Amen!"

This is only our third issue and yet we felt that we been here forever. Maybe because there are so many things that we have to cover, like our main cover story, Ate Vi's winning the Gawad Plaridel And we have become a full-pledged magazine because of the materials we have to cover. This is not possible without all the help of our devoted Vilmanians.

For this issue, the bulk of work goes to Eric Nadurata. He worked so hard to give us every detail (with pictures to match!) of the Gawad Plaridel events, thank you Eric. I also want to acknowledge our new contributors, Willie Fernandez, Nar Santander, Emily Bizon (graphics and layout). Also, Father J has now become a full-pledged columnist, "Sincerely yours," is the title of his new colum. As usual our house writer, Mar Garces gave us another masterful piece with his cover story, thanks Mar! And to all of our staff who are very cooperative and this time very punctual with their submissions. I don't have to send a bunch of reminder e-mails this time! Lastly, Thanks Charles for your painstaking proof reading tasks. Your made my life easier!

Well, that's all for now... enjoy our third issue and can't wait to work on our next one....

Babu!

Marcus Peter lee

**P.S. The birthday issue is next!**

## On the cover

Issue No. 3 Aug.- Sept. 2005  
 Vilma Santos receiving the 2005 Gawad Plaridel  
 Back cover: Vilma Santos' Ad pics now and then  
 Source: Eric Nadurata



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# VS UPDATE

(ERIC NADURATA)



Eric, 44, from Antipolo City (Philippines), HR and Product Manager for an export and import co. Fave Vilma movie is Sister Stella L. E-mail: enadurata@yahoo.com



## “Wow! Ang Bigat!”

When Vilma Santos or Ate Vi, to most of us, was handed the trophy as the 2005 UP Gawad Plaridel awardee, she exclaimed “Wow! Ang Bigat!” I’m sure she meant it literally but it can also mean figuratively.

The trophy designed and made by National Artist for Sculpture, Napoleon Abueva, was made of bronze and was really heavy. This is the third Abueva designed trophy that Ate Vi has received. She earlier received Abueva made trophies from the CineManila International Film Festival as Best Actress and as Lifetime Achievement awardee. The trophy may be heavy but the prestige that goes with it is heavier! As what the citation says, Gawad Plaridel is the sole award in the University of the Philippines (UP) system given to outstanding media practitioners. For this year, the recipient is from film, next year will be from radio, next is television, then new media, print and after 5 years back to film again. Ate Vi is the very first awardee in film and it will take 5 long years before this feat will be duplicated.

The awards rite is scheduled to start at 2pm, and we, my mother and a cousin, whom I asked to take video of the event, arrived just a few minutes before 2. We were welcomed by no less than the Dean of UP-CMC, Dr. Nick Tiongson, (I must admit, I’m impressed with his memory, dahil natandaan niya ako kahit minsan pa lang kami nag-meet ng ihatid namin ni Jojo (Lim) ang mga materials for lobby display and for the souvenir program), sabi ni Dean, “O, kumusta ka na?” Sagot ko naman, “Heto ho, nanlalagam sa nerbiyos.” Talagang ninenerbiyos ako dahil alam kong hindi lang ito isang ordinaryong award para kay Ate Vi. To some extent, kasing ka-prestigious na ito ng National Artist Award. Imagine, ang mga bumoto para sa gawad na ito ay mga professor ng UP na halos lahat ay may PhD! Sumunod na sumalubong ang mga kasamahang Vilmanians na sina Jojo, Cesar at Noel, binibiro nga nila ako na nagpa-star for all seasons daw ako. Sabi ko “Bakit andyan na ba si Ate Vi?” Chorus nila “Andyan na! 10 minutes ago!” Sa loob-loob ko naman, ganito pala ang feeling ng mag-grand entrance!

Cesar lead us to our assigned seat. Malapit lang kami sa stage which is good para makalapit agad kami ng Mama ko kay Vi after the awards rite. I didn’t know na may

naka-assign pala akong seat na mas malapit sa stage, sa tabi nina Jojo at Paolo. This is reserved for those who in one way or the other, have helped in the mini exhibit and the materials used in the souvenir program. Anyways, after my mom was settled sa upuan niya, I went outside of the theatre to buy the souvenir program. The souvenir program is a collector’s item para sa mga Vilmanians at para sa mga Vilma followers. It was very tastefully done, gold ang kulay ng cover at nakasulat lang ang “UP Gawad Plaridel 2005 – College of Mass Communication. Naka-emboss sa cover ang logo ng UP. While reading the messages sa souvenir program, I can’t help but feel very proud of being a Vilmanian. Very glowing ang mga messages nila! On my way back to the theatre, naka sabay ko na sina Ate Vi escorted by Sen. Ralph. I greeted both of them, na in-acknowledge naman nila, with Ate Vi’s very warm smile on her lips. I went inside before them dahil they will march going into the theatre. The processional will start at the back of the theatre going to the stage. First in the processional, were the professors of the College of MassCom, followed by Dean Tiongson, then UP Chancellor Mr. Sergio Cao and UP President Ms. Emerlinda Roman. Next is last year’s awardee Ms. Eugenia Apostol, then this year’s awardee Ms. Ate Vi, no less escorted by her husband, Sen. Ralph Recto.

The program was emceed by Prop. Jane Vinculado, director, Office of Extension and External Affairs. After the National Anthem was sung, nagbigay ng opening remarks si Dr. Tiongson, after which ay naghatid naman ng kanyang mensahe si Dr. Sergio S. Cao, PhD. In his speech, he said that “This is the first time that I saw Ms. Santos in person and I’m starstruck! You are so beautiful!” He even kidded that he had to go to the infirmary to use the nebulizer, dahil nagsikip ang dibdib niya after makita niya si Ate Vi! While listening to his speech, I was teary-eyed. Dahil mga salita ito na nagmumula sa isang hindi ordinaryong tao! He said that he was awed by what Ate Vi has accomplished both as an actress and as a mayor. He also said that he has not watched many of Ate Vi’s films, in fact, he hadn’t seen much Filipino movies, but of the few that he saw, he likes Ate Vi’s acting very much, and he specially mentioned “Ikaw ay Akin”, where he said that Ate Vi was marvelous! After his speech, ng pabalik na siya sa upuan niya tumayo si Ate Vi to greet and thank him, and he planted a kiss on Ate Vi’s cheek to the delight of the crowd who cheered him on.

The audience was composed of students from UP, Ateneo, Mirriam College, La Salle-Lipa, PUP, UE and Trinity College, of course hindi mawawala ang mga over loyal, over true Vilmanians. The theatre’s capacity is 800 at punong-puno ang theatre, marami pa ang mga nakatayo sa magkabilang aisle. Sabi nga ng isang staff ng UP, had they known na ganito karami ang attendees, sana ang UP Theatre na lang ang ginamit, which is much bigger. Among the celebrities spotted were Tirso Cruz III and wife Lyn, Charo Santos-Concio, Ricky Lee, Chito Rono, Atty. Laxa, Jerry Sineneng, Laurice Guillen and Chit Guerrero among others. The press was also there led by Ricky Lo, Mario Dumaul, Lhar Santiago, Morly Alinio and Ambet Nabus.

Next in the program, was a song number by Ms. Katrina Saporsantos, a soprano who sang “Ipagpatawad Mo”, next is Dean Ramon Acoymo, a tenor who sang the most moving version of “Sana Maulit Muli”. They then, sang

together a medley of “Bato sa Buhangin”, “Tubig at Langis” and “Sinamba Kita” all theme songs from Vilma’s movies. They were accompanied in the piano by Mr. Jeremiah Calisang.

Next is the documentary entitled “Vilma sa Puting Tabing: Ikaw, Siya, Tayo”. Medyo misty eyed na naman ako dito sa portion na ito dahil sa mga testimonials nina Atty. Laxa, Christopher de Leon, Marra Lanot and others. Meron din portion na in-interview ang kasama nating Vilmanians like Jojo Lim, Remy, Cora and Zeny aka Pitimini (ni Kuya Ike Lozada). I wish I can ask for a copy of this docu, sana rin malinaw ang register sa video na nakuhanan namin.

After this documentary, ay iginawad na kay Ate Vi ang parangal nina Drs. Roman, Cao and Tiongson. After which ay nagbigay na si Ate Vi ng kanyang lecture/speech. She started her speech by saying na kinakabahan siya. Sabi niya sa presentation na ginawa nila para sa kanya, overwhelmed siya talaga! Para daw siyang presidente! She acknowledged all who attended the event, and started to look back on her 42 glorious years in the business. She enumerated some of her landmark films and some notes that go with them, like when Burlesk Queen was offered, she said “Diyos ko, paano ako magsasayaw ng burlesk eh nag-aaral ako sa mga madre!” She was a product of the RVM Sisters which ran the St. Mary’s Academy where she studied from kinder to high school. She also recalled that after winning her very first grand slam for Relasyon, she was scheduled to shoot for another Bernal film, Broken Marriage. Sa isang eksena nila ni Boyet de Leon, naka take 7 siya! Sabi raw ni Bernal, “Ano ka ba, Vi, dapat malungkot ka dito sa eksena eh bakit may stars ang mga mata mo?” Paalala sa kanya ni Bernal, “Hindi por que naka-grand slam ka na ay ikaw na ang pinakamahusay”. Pinapasok daw siya ni Bernal sa comfort room at pinag-jogging siya for 10 minutes, bago kuhanan muli ang eksena which turned out to be perfect. At ito raw ang hanggang sa ngayon ay naging guide niya, kaya hanggang sa ngayon ay patuloy pa rin siyang nag-aaral sa kanyang propesyon. Sabi niya ang pag-arte ay walang katapusang pag-aaral. Kahit daw sa panonood ng news sa TV, iba-iba ang pag-iyak ng mga tao, at pinag-aaralan niya ito para hindi rin pare-pareho ang kanyang style ng pag-iyak. She also recalled how she went to Mother Lily after hearing reports that her Sister Stella L was not as well accepted as Sharon’s Bukas Luluhod ang mga Tala, on which mother Lily answered “ganyang talaga ang buhay”. She also said that malayong-malayo ang estado ng pelikula noong nagsisimula pa lamang siya at sa ngayon. She said that we used to produced more than 200 movies a year pero last year it was down to just a little more than 50. Sinabi niya na marami sa mga kasamahan niya sa industriya ang walang trabaho. Ang iba nga raw ay nagpupunta pa sa kanya sa Lipa upang humingi ng tulong. Sinabi niya na dapat daw ay mas bigyan ng priority ang ating mga pelikula kaysa sa dayuhang pelikula. She cited Spiderman 2 na nasabay sa isang local movie, syempre panalo ang Spiderman 2 with more than P20M gross sa first day nito sa Metro Manila alone, samantalang ang nakasabay na pelikulang pilipino ay nagpasalamat na sa P5M first day gross nito. Sana raw ay huwag naman sabayan ang play-date ng mga pelikulang Pilipino ng malalaking pelikulang dayuhan, after all wala namang pinapalabas na pelikulang tagalog every week. Isa pang problema ng pelikulang Pilipino ay over-taxation, mahigit daw 50% ng gross ng

Turn to page 18 – see VS Update

# LET'S BE FRANCO

(FRANCO GABRIEL)



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## In Defense of Vilma

One day, I had a little argument or shall I say discussion with a Noranian who works at the Golden Gate park as a garden maintenance. He told me that Nora's contribution to the Film Industry is when she stopped the tradition of having "mestiza only" system in showbizness because she made it in showbiz with flying colors even if she's not tall, fair skin & beautiful. I told him that it was actually Nida Blanca who started the trend (although she's a mestiza in real life) but she didn't possess a stand out beauty. Nida is beautiful but more on pure Filipina looks. And I also reminded him that Nora started as a singer not as an actress.

Anyhow, here is my answer to what Vilma Santos contribution to the Film Industry are:

- 1. Woman Power:** Tradition na ang male actor lamang ang nananatiling bida at malakas sa box-office kahit may edad na. Vilma broke that tradition by maintaining big hit movies even at her 50's. She also proves that there is a lot of good roles for her as "bida" up to now.
- 2. Star & Politics in one:** When Vilma rules Lipa City, people realized that actors can run a city even if he/she's just a star and do not know anything in politics. Vilma sets a good example because she turned Lipa as one of the most successful city in the nation.
- 3. Quality & Box-office Movie at the same time:** Vilma can give us a good movie & make the producers satisfied with it's box-office results. Dolzura Cortes, Bata,

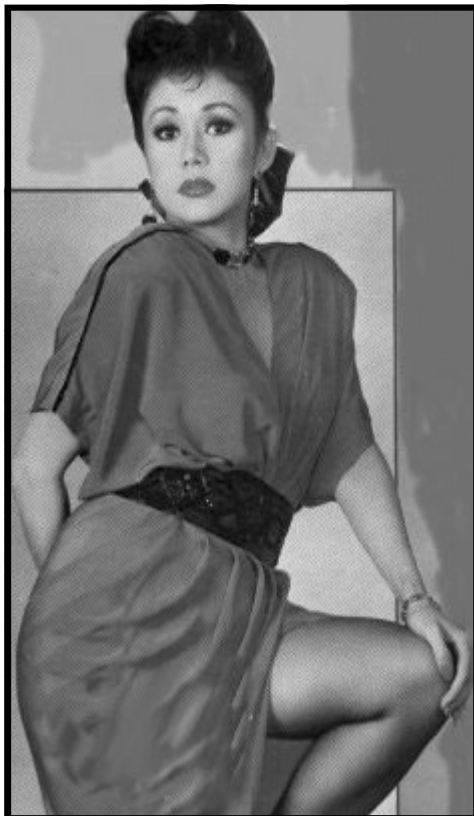
bata..., Burlesk Queen, Dekada '70, Anak, Rubia Servios and a lot more are considered classic and it earned huge money at the box-office. It is considered as a great contribution to the Film Industry when you make the producers happy by giving the return of thier investment, this means more business and more job for the small workers.

**4. Willing to sacrifice:** She is willing to negotiate and give away a big discount from her talent fee for the sake of a good script and good film. This will help the movie industry to survive & the small artist to be productive.

After I mentioned these contributions, he brought back the topic to Nora broke the mestiza, tall Pinay actress mould. I told him that this was phenomenal. But my rebuttal is...Vilma is also petite, 5 feet only. Nora's dark complexion, eye-acting style limited her range to api-aphan roles, not credible as a modern Pinay woman. Si Vilma ay maputi, petite at mas versatile, more eloquent, believable as poor, kiri, martyr, madre, prosti, high class. Any role kaya niya. Vilma has no college degree but that did not stop her from learning, asking questions to the experts like Brocka, Bernal, Laurice. Seeking the advice of Marichu Maceda, Atty Laxa etc. Hindi siya tamad. She is not contented to be a second fiddle to Nora. Vilma tried hard to have a direction in life. She studied in U.P.-crash course in Public Administration to prepare for her mayoral seat. When it comes to teachable attitude, Vilma has a competitive spirit, more emotionally strong than Nora, more mature. She learned FAST from her mistakes. She has goals in life.

Pagkatapos kong magpaliwanag ay nag-depensa si Manong. Nagkataon lang daw na Senator ang napangasawa ni Vilma at kay Nora ay isang ordinaryong tao lang (John). I told him that is exactly my point. Vilma has a game plan. She chose winners than losers. There's Senator Ralph Recto, Connie Reyes, Tina Revilla etc. Nora has John Rendez, etc. Dahil di na maka-compete kay Vilma, bumigay na- poor impulse control, lost control, became a gambler, unprofessional, with undying rumors on substance abuse. Di na makabawi. Friends have given up. But fans? Let's be franco—in denial big time. Night (Nora) and Day (Vilma). Vilma chose the Road Less Taken (poem of Robert Frost); hard work, dedication, education, sacrificed Vilma(show), movie career to give birth to Ryan Christian; she sacrificed movie and TV career to public servanthood (this means less pay). di ba't her life was threatened when she entered politics, yet she continued-she is a survivor. A born winner.

Wala nang nasabi pa si Manong. Di na rin ako humirit pa. Nagkatitigan kami habang hawak niya ang orchids. Walang kibuan, mata lang namin ang nag-uusap. Hinihintay ko na magtanong siya, pero walang masabi si Manong. Nilisan ko na lamang ang garden na iyon. Habang naiwan si Manong na hawak pa rin ang mga orchids at lagadera. Habang naglalakad ako palayo ay bigla kong naisip...teka, pamilyar ang eksenang yon ah. Parang ending sa isang pelikula nina Ate Vi at Guy.



# A T I B A T I B A P A

( M A R C U S P E T E R L E E )



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## The Filipina Women in Vilma's Films

Back then, when Vilma changed her image, it wasn't as calculated, clear, and obvious (compared to Madonna's transformation(s)). It was like seeing a sweet teen age pop star gradually accepting roles that we would not imagine she's capable of doing. Sometimes it was painful to think and when one read all the criticism, it was very hard to accept. Looking back now, we can conclude that Vilma is the smartest actress the local movie industry has ever produced. Like I have said, even Madonna's many image transformation are pale in comparison. From a teary child star to teen age singing wannabe to a sexy daring adolescent to a television sensation to a matured dramatic actress and lately a successful real life politician. It's a fabulous accomplishment!

The last transformation can be anti-climactic. Why? We all know that she has become an icon for the Feminist movement in our country. Starting with her declaring her liberation and independence in the late 70s and early 80s. Her relationships that's been well documented, a not so typical Filipina, the not so submissive and the not "yes sir" image of her has been chronicled by the press. Her rebellious act cutting her ties with her mother and living in fancy hotel by herself for awhile were also a public knowledge. Her independence and her eye for seeking the truth and helping out others proactively has been there since her early years in show business. Her movies prepared her for her latest transformation, being a proactive politician. A proactive politician means the one who doesn't just sit there and wait for things to happen but the one who do things to achieve something. She has been recognized by her constituents by electing her three times in a row. Now that her final term as Lipa City mayor is coming to an end. Will another

transformation be on her horizon? Whether it will be a higher position in office (people are talking about her plans to be a congresswoman), going back to where she excel most (movies and television) or simply retirements, Vilma has become an icon to reckon with. A role model for younger generations. Going back to our point, her film roles has help her in her real life role as politician. That is the reason why I think it is anti-climactic. That she become a proactive politician. It was because of all the roles that made her an effective servant of the people.

**Chato** — When she cried foul when Rollie Quizon left her for his domineering mother in Burlesk Queen, Filipino women can relate with her anguish. A mama's boy leaving his stripper lover to go back to the luxury of home. Chato still very relevant today. The beerhouses and burlesk clubs no longer a major force in Ermita, now a toro-toro replaced them but the flight of Chato still very much existed with her story line of her decision to have an abortion symbolically reflected to its last few scenes. Her dancing to her death, bleeding to show the cruelty of her life. Vilma's portrayal, subtle, physical and deeply emoted in her dialogues and eyes. Leopoldo Salcedo's refusal to admit his daughter became like her mother but her disability and financial situation prevented him to control her daughter's fate. Poverty one of issue that Mayor Vi has to tackled, very evident in Burlesk Queen.

**Rubia** — Perhaps, the most in "your face" reality-based role was Rubia Servios. Another transformation. An acting vehicle that even Madonna can't accomplished, yes even with Evita! I considered Rubia as her most daring and demanding role surpassing Chato's BQ. Not only the role required her to be physical but also she has to show the emotion of being battered and abused, inside and outside. The pain in her face was visible while crawling in the beach. The rage in her face showed when she smacked the rapist, Philip Salvador using the boat paddle near the end. I can still feel it, the revenge. I remember I swore a number of times while watching her lift that paddle in the air and aimed at her rapist (Sige pa! Pataying mo ang hayup na iyan! I told to myself.) But the most poignant connection about this film and her role now as politician was her awareness of the abuse Filipina women has become accustomed to. There are a lot of Rubias who doesn't have the courage to face their assailant. There are so many of them who will have no chance to avenge their fate. Most people will even think that they have provoked the rapist to rape them and they are partly to blame. Vilma as Rubia has made her emphasized the victims and be tough on crime like this. Rape, Crime & Justice, three issues that Vilma have to faced every single day as a mayor.

**Stella** — Even up to now, I can still remember the lines: "Panahon na, tama na, tigilan na, kung hindi tayo kikiilos, kalian pa?... Katarungan para kay Ka Dencio!" Another transformation, another preparation for her political career. A daring move. What can be more challenging, an awaken nun who decided to fight on or a fake martyr of Elsa in Himala? Once again, a fighter in most of her roles, Vilma's choice was arguably a better choice. She has adopted the role like it happened in real life which is not surprising because all the twist and turns in the movie (Sister Stella L) has been adopted and documented in real life during the Marcos regime. The demonstration, the

government torture of its opponent activists and the murder of many anti-Marcos opponents has been featured in SSL. How ironic. Mayor Vi has become the one in the administration but her sensitivity for freedom of expression has made her more aware of the flight of the poor. And poverty has always been the root of corruption. And so is greediness. And Mayor Vi has been very vocal and transparent about her governorship. SSL has become embedded in her blood that she uses her position to seek out the flight of the poor, giving them their regular day in her busy schedule for consultation and assist them with their daily problems. A proactive indeed that the activist nun, SSL would be proud of.

**Aida** — Another typical issues that Ate Vi tackled in her past film was about adultery. Filipinas has been condemned ever since we became slave to the Spaniards if they commit adulterous affair outside of marriage but the opposite has been given to men. It's a sign of being manly, absolute double standard. In many of Vilma's film in the 80s, Aida Macaraeg stands out not only because it was directed by Lino Brocka but because of its very social relevant story. A story that's still relevant. Filipinas that are sole bread winner of their families. Filipinas who have to fed not only their parents but the families of their brothers and sisters. They have to get married to escape the responsibilities and in case of Aida, have to commit abortion and consequences of having an affair while married to a rich man. The issue here again is poverty and the reality of finding an easy way out from it. Like Chato, Aida was a role that made Ate Vi aware of the issues poor people faced everyday. There's still a lot of Aida everywhere.

**Juliet and Dolzura** — Celebrating life is more poignant in Ate Vi's portrayal of terminally ill cancer patient Juliet in Pahiram ng Isang Umaga and the repentant Aids victim in Dolzura Cortez, Dahil mahal Kita. The understanding of their fate and life living with these diseases gave us a broader perspective that life can be cruel and that we have to make the most of it, each day because this is only a borrowed time. Juliet, her hectic successful career as executive ends with her appreciation of the people that surrounded her. And that prepared her to celebrate and appreciate her last days by reconciling with her conflicted relationship, past and present. Dolzura, facing a more conflicted issues than Juliet fights on with the condemnation and judgmental behavior of many people over her disease. Vilma's courage to portrayed a role that hasn't been tackled in the Philippine media has been a huge feat. Like Juliet, Dolzura accepted the fact that her time was up and she have to celebrate her last days with reconciliation and peace. On both films, Vilma portrayed a tour de force performance arguably no actress can equaled. Terminally ill-diseases and its devastating results to its victims and families are two issues that Mayor Vilma faces everyday. And because of Juliet and Dolzura she has been educated well ahead of time to be sympathetic and proactive with her role now as a real life politician.

**Lea** — If you're Filipina and you have two children with different men, you'll be condemned and judged all your life as slut, whore or worst immoral. **To be continued (also next: Baby Tsina, Josie, Amanda, Lilia...)**

## UMBRA ET PENUMBRA

( M A R G A R C E S )



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## HELLO, GARCES

There's no stopping Vilma Santos' success on movies, politics and in almost all aspects of her life. After being conferred with the U.P. Gawad Plaridel Award, the Ramon Magsaysay Award and the National Artist Award in that order the past years, Vilma Santos took time out from politics and decided to keep a low profile. She declined to run for any political position such as governor, senator or even president (as petitioned by the thousands of Filipinos), claiming "the entertainment industry" needs her now more than ever. Not Susan Roces, not Nora Aunor nor Lorna Tolentino. It's Vilma Santos, period.

Vilma kept true to her word to help salvage the dying if not dead movie industry. Her initial foray into movie directing will be put to the test when the movie she shot here and abroad (Middle East, the continental U.S. and the Philippines) will be shown at the annual MMFF. It is a semi-documentary about the plight of illegal immigrants, depressed and homesick Filipinos abroad and the repercussions of the brain drain (the exodus of professionals such as nurses/doctors abroad) on the health care situation in the Philippines, which according to the veteran politician/actress is "abysmal, pathetic that would need immediate attention by the administration."

Multi-media practitioner and indigent advocate

Vilma Santos just came back from a World Convention in New York where she spoke about the impact of health care professionals leaving the Philippines, on children, the elderly and the infirmed in the Philippines. As in her previous outings, she had standing ovations when she delivered an impassioned speech, reminiscent of Sister Stella L. cum Elsa and Amanda Bartolome, prompting the CNN, HBO, PBS and New York Times to feature her in a documentary about Filipina Role Models in the 21st Century. There were talks of a Pulitzer Prize nomination for her philanthropic work among the needy. The Philippines' National Treasure remains coy and humble despite her gargantuan achievements on film and public service.

Already, there are talks of Urian and Oscar buzz on her semi-documentary movie. Truly, further proof of the actress' golden touch, like Midas, in everything she does. What makes the movie "kapanapanabik" are the appearances of actresses such as Lolita Rodriguez, Marlene Dauden, Gloria Romero, Amalia Fuentes, Sheryl Cruz, Tina Revilla, Coney Reyes, Claudine Barretto, Kris Aquino, Sharon Cuneta and actors Christopher De Leon, Eddie Garcia, Piolo Pascual, Roderick Paulate and Dennis Trillo. There is an alleged special guest appearance of her kumare Nora Aunor, but Direk Vilma was mum about this when asked in an interview. "Secret" was all she could quip followed by that infectious smile and "bungisngis" that endeared her to her millions of fans across the globe.

When asked about the movie budget and its potential at the box-office, the New York trained movie director said that her actor/friends did it for fun, pro-buono that is, and that the profits will go towards helping the impoverished Pinoys through the supervision of the Vilma Santos Kahit Konting Awa Foundation. "Sana naman ay tangkilikin ng mga manonood ang movie na ito. Hindi ito commercial movie, pero may pagkamdramedy, serious, informative yet entertaining," she explains, complete with an aura of confidence, fluency and intelligence that comes out in any Vilma Santos interview.

Lately, ABS-CBN launched Citizen Vilma!, a TV talk show patterned after U.S.' Oprah. As usual, Vilma's latest project is a ratings buster, through the roof as they say because of the informal and anything goes motif of the show and Vilma's skills as a talk show host. Move over, Oprah Winfrey.

The most watched portion of the show according to surveys is the "Why I Am a Vilmanian?" wherein the host interviews her fans from different parts of the globe by live telecast or actual visits to the studio. That day, New Jerseyan, U.S.A. Mario O. Garces (MG) or GarMar was the Fan of the Week. And here's the interview.

VS: Ladies and gentlemen, let's all welcome Mr. GarMar who is visiting us from New Jersey, U.S.A. Welcome to my show, GarMar, Mar or Mr. Garces ba ang gusto mong itawag namin sa inyo?"

MG: Ka Dencio na lang o kaya Hello Garces, ha ha ha... (Laughter from the audience).

VS: Uy, sa Sister Stella L. iyon hah. (The Sangandaan song from Sister Stella L. is overheard). Naku, Ruben Cadsawan, baka maiyak na ako niyan hah. Ikaw talaga... Pero sa totoo lang, Mr. Garces...(The song Hanggang from Dekada '70 is being played). Naku, Ruben, wala bang ibang mas masaya diyan, ang lungkot naman...Mr. Garces?

MG: Ah, eh, Mar na lang, Ate Vi.

VS: OK, Mar. Salamat naman at pinaunlakan ninyo na maging guest ko kayo dito sa aking Why I Am A Vilmanian portion. OK, heto na ang first question. Paano ba nagsimula ang iyong pagiging Genetic Vilmanian?"

MG: Napakahabang salaysayin Ate Vi (kukuha ng dilaw na panyo at ipapahid sa pawisang noo). Bata pa lang ako, actually, I am two years older than you, Ate Vi. (the song Palung-palo Ako could be heard), may crush na ako sa inyo, eh. Thank you Mr. Cadsawan for playing that song.

VS:Naku, eh Kuya Mar pala dapat ang itawag ko sa inyo.

MG: Mar na lang, Ate Vi, (sabay punas ni Mar sa noo ni Vi at halik sa kamay nito. Guffaws from the audience).

VS: Naku ha, baka magselos niyan si Mrs. Garces.

MG: OK lang, Ate Vi, tanggap na niya. Siya rin Vilmanian na rin. Dati walang hilig iyan sa mga artista. Ngayon, fan mo na siya. Nasa bahay siya ngayon, nanonood. Hi, honey, si Ate Vi,o, live, he he he." -mg

# ANYTHING GOES

( CHARLIE GOMEZ )



Charles, based in Saudi Arabia, owner and moderator of VSR, his favorite Vilma movie are "Burlesk Queen" & "Anak". E-mail: charlie\_gomez2004@yahoo.com

## "Ang Sarap ng Buhay Kapag May Isang Vilma Santos"

Yan po ay katagang namutawi sa labi ng isa nating magaling na taga-panulat at kasama sa Editorial staff ng VS Newsletter, ang VILMA!

Ang tinutukoy ko po ay ang kasama nating Vilmanian na si Mr. Mario Garces na ngayoy naka-base sa New Jersey, U.S.A. Hihiramin ko po panandalian ang katagang yan ni kuya Mar as I fondly called him with his kind permission upang maibahagi at maipadama sa inyo ang nararamdaman ng milyun-milyong Vilmanians all over the GLOBE sa patuloy na tagumpay na ipinagkakaloob ng Maykapal sa Nag-iisang Bituin at Reyna ng Pelikulang Pilipino, Ms. Vilma Santos-Recto. Tunay na maipagmamalaki ng kahit sinumang Vilmanians (at maging ng mga di Vilmanians) ang isang Vilma Santos. Patunay nito ay ang bagong karangalang iginawad sa tinaguriang Star for All Seasons, ang 2005 Plaridel Award for Film na kamakailan ay iginawad ng U.P. College of Mass Communications sa seremonyang ginanap sa Cine Adarna (formerly U.P. Film Center) nung nakaraang ika-apat ng Hulyo ng taong kasalukuyan. Ito ang ikalawang taon ng pagkakaaloob ng U.P. College of MassCom ng karangalan sa mga alagad ng sining na nakapag-ambag ng malaking kontribusyon sa larangang kanilang ginagala-wan, tulad ng film or cinema. Nung nakaraang taon ang recipient ng prestihiyosong award na ito ay si Gng. Eugenia Apostol, ang founding chair ng Philippine Daily Inquirer. Ito'y sa larangan naman ng print media. At sa taon ngang ito ang butihing Mayor ng Lipa at kilalang "Ate Vi" sa karamihang Pilipino mula Appari hanggang Jolo ang ginawaran ng Plaridel Award sa larangan ng film.

Maituturing ito na pinakamataas at prestihiyosong karangalang natanggap ng iginagalang na aktres simula ng pasukin niya ang mundo ng pelikula sa edad ng siyang sa pelikulang "Trudis Liit" kung saan siya ang title role. Sa pelikulang ito natanggap niya ang kauna-unahang karangalan, ang FAMAS Best Child Actress nung 1963. Makalipas ang apatnaput-dalawang taon, ang dating "Trudis Liit" ay isa ng nirespetong haligi ng sining ng pelikula Pilipino, ang Gawad Plaridel awardee for film. Ang Gawad Plaridel na kanyang natanggap ay patunay sa angking galing at respeto na ibinibigay sa nangungunang aktres ng bansa at sa kanyang naiambag sa industriya ng Pelikulang Pilipino.

She prevailed over her co-nominees for this award, namely, the 2003 National Artist awardee for cinema, Mr. Eddie Romero, and the highly-rated and A-1 Director, Mr. Mike de Leon, whose body of works include the now classic and De Leon's most awarded film "Sister Stella L" that stars Ms. Vilma Santos herself.

Kung kaya't napakasap ng pakiramdam sa isang Vilmanian na tulad ko. If I may borrow the now famous line of Ate Vi, "Heaven" talaga ang feeling.

Lalo na't kung maririnig mo ang mga papuri na ibinibigay ng iba't ibang tao sa iba't ibang antas ng lipunan. Tulad na lamang ng mga pananalitang ito na binitawan ng mga nakasaksi sa seremonyang ginanap sa Cine Adarna.

"Ms. Santos' speech, for me, was very profound and candid. I always had great respect and admiration for her as a person, public servant, and actress. After the lecture, that respect and admiration hot-air-ballooned. It became clear to me that even if this person is now worthy of having a constellation named after her, she is still as human and feet-on-the-ground as possible." (written by Ringhithion at 07:16 pm, posted in VS-R egroup on 13 July 2005.)

"Natatawa ako habang kumukuha ng pictures, dahil dumadaloy pa rin pala kay mama ang dugong Vilmanian kahit ang tagal-tagal na. Umuwi kaming parang nasa langit si mama dahil nakamayang pa nya si Vilma Santos." (shared by Jeannie Wong in Vilma's eGroups, as taken from <http://www.livejournal.com/users/armidoodles>)

"She gambles her popularity to widen her scope as an actress," proclaims Dr. Nicanor Tiongson, Dean of the College of Mass Communication of the University of the Philippines (UP). He adds, "She proves popularity and ratings need not degrade the craft." (taken from an article by Rome Jorge)

"Star power is real power. It is the power to move people to tears, to make them cry and laugh and urge them to by with endorsements. It is to make them think what you want them to think, to make them feel what you feel. They should use it wisely, make people do good and aspire for better

lives." (Dr. Sergio Cao, chancellor of UP Diliman who confessed being a star-struck fan. "I had to nebulize before coming here; I couldn't breath.")

"Because of her dedication to her craft and her portrayal of roles important to women and society, Ms. Santos deserves recognition not only from the viewing public, but also from the academic community." (UP President Emerlinda Roman)

Producer Atty. Espiridion Laxa says Vilma "has reached this incomparable height of success because of several good traits: her discipline, her determination to excel in her acting profession and her knack for choosing the right roles." (taken from Sights and Sounds by Gigi Javier-Alfonso)

Producer/ actress Charo Santos-Concio speaks of her as a "passionate thespian, her filmography boasts of a list films that are audacious, artistic, classic and socially relevant. Inevitably, she has brought to the limelight ordinary people with extraordinary lives and has created awareness of various socio-political issues." (also from Sights and Sounds).

Ilan lamang ito sa maraming papuring natanggap, natanggap at patuloy na tinanggap ng Nag-iisang Bituin. Tunay ngang "napakasap ng buhay kapag may isang Vilma Santos". May inspirasyon at taglay kang ngiti sa iyong labi. Sa gitna ng kaguluhan at halos walang katiyakang nagaganap sa ating bansa, ang pagkakaroon ng Pilipinas ng isang Vilma Santos sa sining ng Pelikulang Pilipino at sa larangan ng pulitika ang siyang nagbibigay sigla, ningning at kulay sa animo'y itim at blankong canvass na kalagayan ng ating bansa. Salamat sa iyo, minamahal naming Vilma Santos-Recto. Dahil sa iyong angking talino at busilak na puso, di malayong ang kasunod ng Plaridel ay ang "Gawad Pambansang Alagad Ng Sining" na o ang National Artist Award.

Am I dreaming? Nope, am not.

After all, "Trudis Liit" is no longer the small, petite lady in the movie screen. She's gone a long, long way. Her name will be forever etched in the annals of Philippine movie history. Tunay na napakasap ng buhay kapag may isang Vilma Santos. - cg





# ALLAN OF VISION

(ALLAN TRAMBULO)



Allan, 37, a bachelor from NYC, New York is the creator of VISION, his favorite movie Vilma movie is Anak. E-mail: altra2010@hotmail.com



## VILMA SANTOS WAS ONE OF THE PHILIPPINES MOST BEAUTIFUL WOMEN:

HOSTED BY NONONG PEDERO

Vilma Santos is the most highly awarded actress of film and television. Because of this, she earned the title of 'The Star for All Seasons'. Her Weekly TV variety show 'VILMA!' won top awards from the New York Television Festival



### WHAT'S YOUR BEAUTY SECRET?

Actually I don't have beauty secrets at all every time I come home from shooting, I removed my make-up and then I wash my face with warm water to open my pores so that all the make-up in my face ay lumabas. And then the next time pag meron trabaho that I need to put make-up I put ice in my face before putting my make-up so that my pores naman ay magsasara, so every time you put make-up di gaanong bukas ang pores mo. That's what I do...



### WHAT MAKES A WOMAN BEAUTIFUL?

A woman is beautiful if she's real.... Yon totoong tao ba. She may have her head above the clouds, but she should have her feet on the ground. That's what makes a woman beautiful.... -at



## SINCERELY YOURS (FATHER J)



Father J, 43, is a clergy from the East Coast, his favorite Vilma movie is Anak, E-mail: jnchdln125@netscape.net

### The Queen comes to America.

by Father J

August 20th and 21st are two special dates for the VILMANIANS living in the United States especially those among us who live in the East Coast. On those dates, the QUEEN for All Seasons and Reasons, Ms. VILMA SANTOS, will be in New Jersey as a special guest of the annual Filipino Fiesta Celebration held in the Meadowlands. I am sure that all the Vilmanians in the United States and those in the eastern part of Canada are excited and happily anticipating the arrival of Ate Vi. We are filled with happiness because it is not often that we get to see her.

Certainly, her visit would bring great joy to us, Filipinos, especially to the Vilmanians.

There is no doubt that Vilma Santos is very much around and still on top of her career even after so many decades as a movie star. Vilmanians continue to admire and love her not only as an actress but as person as well. I am sure that her visit would surely bring joy and happiness to the

Filipinos of the eastern seaboard. I am sure that she will have a great time with the welcome that she is going to receive from us, her kababayans. At the same time, I am sure that we would have a great time being around her.

Her visit may only be publicized in the Filipino newspapers here and be seen in the Filipino Channel, unlike the Holy Father's visit who gets full attention from all major publications and news channels, yet we should be grateful because Ate Vi, the longest reigning Queen of the Philippine Movies, is coming primarily for us, her kababayans.

Anyway, as I have said, her visit is surely going to bring joy to all of us who will be at the Meadowlands with her on August 20th and 21st.

Allow me conclude this article with a short reflection on the idea of making a visit as we await the visit of Ate Vi to Tri-State area.

It is summer season once again here in the United States and Canada. It is the time to

visit our loved ones, relatives and friends who are far from us. For many of us in the United States and Canada, it is a time to go home to the Philippines to see our families and friends. When

we do this, it is always a moment of joy and happiness. We, like Ate Vi, brings excitement and joy to our families and friends in the

Philippines. I am sure you see this, the moment you step out of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport as we see our loved ones running towards us to greet us with a kiss, a hug or a "mano po" gesture. It is through this that we feel the joy as they welcome us home.

This is one of the things that we, Filipinos, can be proud of and should be commended. No matter how long we have been away from our families and friends, whenever we go home, we get a sincere and warm welcome. Naturally, this moves us to feel the joy that they feel seeing us even for just a short period of time or no matter how long we spend time with them.

So I encourage you, my dear Vilmanians, to follow Ate Vi's example, no matter where we are going this summer, that we may always bring joy and happiness to those people we see and meet, whether it be our loved ones, friends or even strangers.

Remember Jesus said: "Whoever welcome me, welcomes the One who sent me."

Sincerely yours, Father J



### VILMANIANS:

#### Fans for All Seasons by Father J

Vilmanians ang tawag sa kanila,

mula ulo hanggang paa.

Star for All Seasons ang idolo nila,

Fans for All Seasons naman sila.

Vilmanians, mapag-patawad at mapagkumbaba,

mahal ang Diyos at ang kanilang kapwa.

Si Vilma Santos na idolo nila,

ay alam ng bayan na gayundin siya.

Vilmanians sina Charlz, Mar, Allan at Jeannie,

gayundin naman sina Marcus, Ben, Dream at Josie.

Kasama rin sina Jojo, Eric, Bod at Eddie,

at sina Franco, Noel, Nelvin at Rante.

Vilmanians din sina Cesar, Aries, June at Henry,

at sina Marilen, Alessandra, Lawrence at Susan Kelly.

Huwag kalimutan ang mga direktor at artista,

mga professionals, mang-gagawa at mga tindera.

Vilmanians, mapa-Europa o mapa-Amerika,

mapa-Middle East o mapa-Australia,

Nasa Pilipinas man o wala,

mahal si Vilma, ang nag-iisang Reyna.

Vilmanians, paghanga nila kay Vilma,

ay hindi magsasawa o mawawala.

Sapagkat si Vilma na huwarang artista,

ay matagumpay ding mayora at butihing ina.

Vilmanians, maipag-mamalaki mong tunay

marurunong sa fotoong buhay.

Hangad nila sa bayan ay kapayapaan,

mahalin ang Diyos at kapwa magpakailanman.

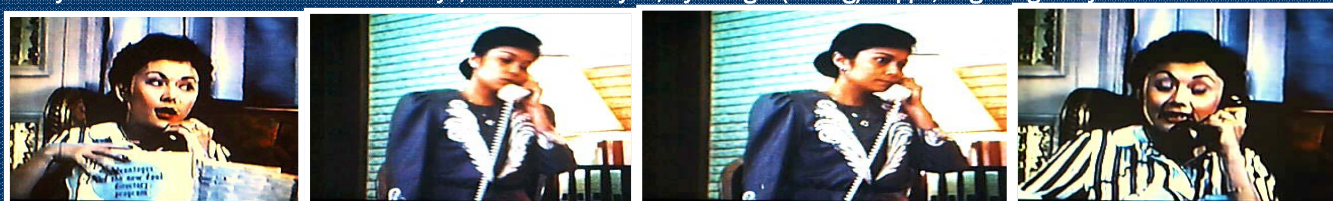
# HELLO 'MARE?

By Allan Trambulo

Ate Vi arrived in New York when she decided to call her kumareng Nora.



Vilma : since narito na lang din ako sa tate, let me call nga si Mareng Nora. Tingnan ko nga sa phonebook at balita ko eh bumili na sya ng bahay dito sa westcoast. hmmm..... eto sya, under "Villamayor", try ko nga. (dialing) Oopps, nagri-ring na sya.



Nora: "Hello!" Vilma: "Mareng Guy, si Mareng Vi mo 'to, kumusta ka na ba dyan? Long time no hear from you!!"



Nora: "O, mare ikaw ba yan? Ginulat mo ako ha.. I'm doing fine, mabuti naman ako dito. How about you? Kamusta ang flight mo?"  
 Vilma: "Long flight Mare, I like it here in New York City, it's been a long time na rin since I've been here. ASIKASO TAYO NG MGA VILMANIANS DITO. MEDYO MAINIT NGAYON ANG WEATHER DITO, mag sun bathing ako sa pool mamaya para maging tan ng konti. Meron din tayong special appearance dito sa Filipino community. Tagal na nilang akong nire-request eh. Ikaw dyan, what's keeping you busy?"



Nora: "Nagpapaputi naman ako dito, alam mo naman sa San Francisco, laging maginaw kahit summer. Medyo nabawasan na nga ang itim ko mare, mapusyaw na ko. Puro singing engagement, mini-concert at big concerts. At saka meron na akong US drivers license mare" Pumasa ang sister mo ... pa-driving-driving ako dito. Pero missed ko na talaga ang "Casino" este mga Anak ko sa Pinas.(hikbi) "

Vilma: "Wow Mare, ang dami mo na sigurong pera. Me dollar account na tayo ha ..lol"



Vilma: "At least sinunod mo rin yung advice ko sa yo na mag save ng datung. remember?"  
 Nora: "Hindi rin, mare..... kasi magastos din dito sa Tate, mahal din ang bilihan, pati damo."



Vilma: "Anong damo?" Nora: "I mean, bermuda grass, bumili ako kahapon para sa aming backyard. May bahay na ako sa Bay Area. PASYAL KA MINSAN DITO, PAGLUTO KITA NG SPECIALTY KONG BICOL EXPRESS AT NILAGANG BABOY." (Turn to Page 13)



# Meet the President

By Franco Gabriel

Brief background: Jojo Lim is a professional Engineer and working in a big Engineering firm in the Philippines he also owns a small business in Araneta Quezon City. Jojo is the president of Solid Vilma Santos.

## 1) When did you join the Solid Vilmanians Philippines?

I first joined the solid vilmanians the year Rubia Servios was shown. Everytime Vilma have a movie showing, be it the filmfest like Rubia, I watch the movie in different theaters and locations. Syempre nagsa-survey ako kung madaming nanonood and even ask the checkers about the boxoffice standing. Rubia is no.1 even after the awards na nanalo pa si Nora. At the Coronet theaters in Cubao, sa Cinema 1 Rubia grabe ang haba ng pila, Cinema 2 atsay walang pila. I was at the lobby and one person approached me and ask Vilmanian ka ba? kasi I always see you sa mga theaters showing Vilma films, of course I said YES! that was around 9pm Dec. 31 at si Manny ang nagtanong na Solid Vilmanian pinakilala sa mga Vilmanians at tinanong ako kung gusto kong makita si Vilma that night may New Years eve party sa Magallanes Village sa bahay ni Vi, of course I said YES. Pagdating sa bahay ni Vi nag-member na ako kinuha name and address ko at next week daw nag-attend ako ng meeting at binigyan ako I.D. yan ang first time kong sa pag-join sa Solid Vilmanians. Galing si Vi sa Malacanang. Grabe nakamayan ko si Vi ang sayasaya, first time kong mag celebrate ng new years eve. sa ibang bahay at di kasama family ko grabe talaga pero oks lang masaya ako!

## 2) When did you become the President of the group?

Don't remember the exact date na naging president ako ng Solid Vilmanian, but after my first encounter with the Vilmanians sa Magallanes, naging active ako attending weekly meetings, going to shootings of vilma's movies, tv shows, and radios. I met Ben Ison sa group nandito pa siya sa pinas, and medyo may konting intriga sa grupo, other members became very close sa amin ni Ben and isa lang ang grupo noon SOLID Vilma Santos Phils., nagdecide na magbuo ng ibat ibang grupo for Vilma para dumami pa, nagusap pa kami ni Papa Santos with Ben and Pete (original president) para di magulo ang membership and other concerns. Ayun sa akin napunta ang Solid group dahil gusto ni Pete magtayo ng Original VS, doon na nagsimula ang aking Presidency, nagkaroon din ng grupong National, Loyal, Velvet crusaders, blue boys (kay Ben ito) and chapters from Binan, Batangas, Davao, Cebu, Cavite and Pampanga.

## 3) I heard that you started as a silent Vilmanian, What made you decided to come out to the open?

Silent Vilmanian ako talaga, I was influenced by my cousin Ate Flora na super Vilmanian, she would always treat all of us sa family sa first day ng Vilma movie, pati officemates libre nya rin pati merienda ha, ayon nahawa ako at pati sa tv shows pumupunta ako and watch Vi's films paulit ulit, buy magazines na cover nya. Hanggang ma-meet ko nga mga Vilmanians sa Coronet theater .

## 4) Tell us about your first encounter with Ate Vi.

First encounter with Vi yon nga sa new years eve party sa Magallanes, dumating siya 3am, ninerbyos ako na makita ko na siya finally ng malapitan, pagbaba nya ng limousine ni Bongbong naka-gown siya ang ganda, ang puti at nakasmile, sabi niya sa lahat kumain na ba kayo? naku palakpakan ang mga Vilmanians, STARSTRUCK ako parang nahiya akong lumapit, sabi ni Vi magpalit muna siya ng damit, ayon after 30 mins. lumabas siya at nagsorry kasi galing siya party sa malacanang at di basta makaalis ng party panay pigil ni Bongbong, kasama nya si Ma-

nay Ichu. Picture taking yung may dalang camera, wala akong camera nahiya akong magsabi na meron dahil di ko pa sila kilala first time eh, pero nakamayan ko si Vi, HEAVEN ! Inamoy ko kamay ko ang bango, naku 5:30am na ako nakauwi at di ako makatulog kahit pagod at puyat.

## 5) How about your unforgettable experience with Ate Vi?

Unforgettable experience with Vi? Awards night ng filmfest sa CCP nominated siya Rubia Servios and Nora won for Atsay. Everybody predicted that Vi will win that nitght, so umasa din kami, Vilma was stunning in her gold gown na pasadya pa daw ni Manay Ichu Maceda from Paris, ayon nga she lost. So kahit talo sinabihan kami to join sa late dinner sa Palamigan express Resto ni Manay Ichu. Nasa loob na kami when Vilma came in, she went straight inside the powder room accompanied by Manay ichu, Lino Brocka, Philip Salvador, Mama Santos, Ate Emilyn. Vi stayed there for an hour, paglabas niya mug-tong mugto ang mata niya, lahat kami tahimik at syempre never dared to ask any questions, Lino Brocka though was assuring Vi that she should have won napulitiko lang ni Erap ng Mowelfund. Grabe malungkot lahat at awang awa kay Vi. Unforgettable talaga.

## 6) Tell us your "hard works" in preparation for Gawad Plaridel awarding & her New York Pistahan guesting.

Re-Plaridel award, someone told us (Eric, Paolo, & myself) about it, i-nominate daw namin si Vi, kasi before this Plaridel the same group with Obet and Cesar did nominate Vi sa National Artist naipasok namin lahat ng materials, pati VCDs,DVDs ng movies ni Vi etc talagang sa last day ng submission, at heto nga ang plaridel so Paolo did the writing of vi's achievements etc. And the nominating organization is the Concerned Parents Org. (with their permission & the help of Ed Piano) Di pa kasi registered sa SEC ang grupo namin. I really have to inform Vi about Plaridel at i-fax sa Lipa (thanks to Eric) ang papers about this, kailangan pirmahan ni Vi ang papers na she is accepting the nomination and if ever she wins she should do a lecture on the day of the awarding itself. Sa busy schedule ni Vi it really took sometime bago nya mapirmahan, constant follow ups talaga ako kay Vi at sa Lipa City hall staff nya. So when she finally won the Plaridel, Nakipag-coordinate kami ni Eric, Cesar, Paolo, & the group with U.P. para sa materials needed like pictures, layout/posters films, interviews para sa VTR, even invitations sa mga close kay Vi sa showbiz and friends. Salamat at naging successful ang affair. Re-Vi's New York pistahan guesting, I was really busy sa paghanap ng funds for the coffee table book, t-shirts, etc at sa pagpapagawa ng mga ito, para may materials tayo na mabenta sa booth, para mag-kapondo tayo and sumaya ang lahat ng dadalo sa new york especially the vilmanians, Vi told me she's doing the new york show para sa Vilmanians. Salamat talaga kina Allan and Franco na moving force natin diyang sa Amerika and of course sa lahat ng members ng group and Vision. Sana maging fruitful at successful din ang New York sojourn, I know it will, good karma si Rosa Vilma and her Vilmanians o di ba !

## 7) How do you communicate with Ate Vi & the Vilmanians noong di pa uso ang text?

Sa T.V.shows ni Vi regular ang punta namin doon, so nakakausap namin si Vi palagi after the show then hatid namin siya sa sasakyan niya, and meeting na rin kaming mga Vilmanians.

## 8) Anong mga bagay ang pinanghihinayangan mo na di nagawa ni Ate Vi noon?

Nanghihinayang ako sa mga projects ni Vi na hindi natuloy like sa movies and T.V. dahil sa busy sked niya or for other reasons na napunta sa ibang artista.

## 9) How many times you attended awards nights when Ate Vi was nominated?

Halos lahat ng awards night na nominated si Vi eh umatend ako, kahit hindi puede si Vi, I require all members na umatend full force kami kailangan para suportahan si Vi, andyan na yong mapaway kami sa mga kampon ng

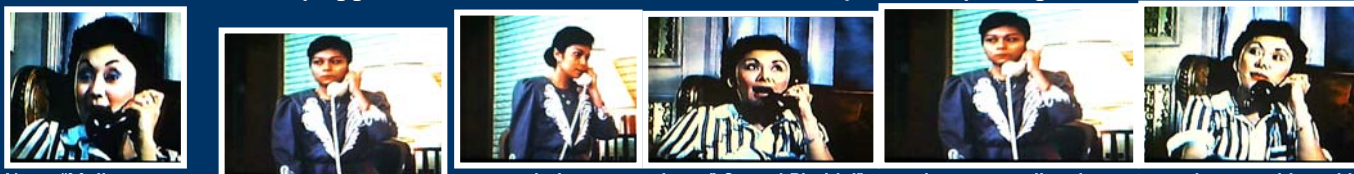
**(Turn to Page 27)**

HELLO 'MARE? (from page 11)

Vilma: "Gay area? saan yon'? maganda ba dyan?" Nora: "Mare listen, Bay area. And speaking of "damo" meron akong kwento sa iyo."  
 Vilma: "Sige nga, ano iyon?"



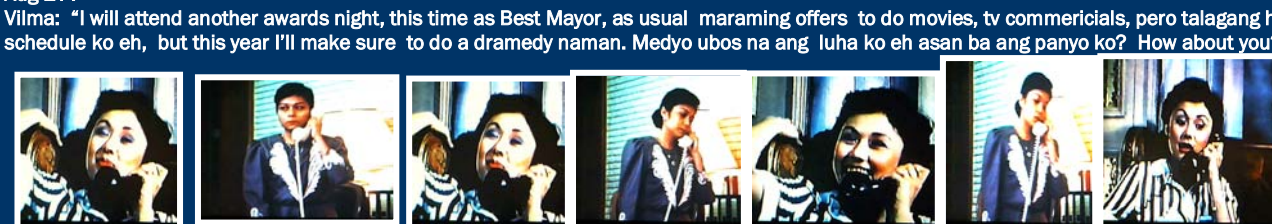
Nora: "May concert sana ako sa Hawaii, magsusuot sana ako ng grass skirt yung hoola ba, eh kaso na-cancel." Vilma: "Sayang, bakit?"  
 Nora: "Kasi, baka ubusin ko daw yung grass." Vilma: "Ha ha hal Pinatawa mo naman ako sa joke mo. Okey ka lang?"



Nora: "Maiba tayo, Nestor Torre, ewan ko ist natin. Sana ako rin.. (Intek na kaso 'yan) "  
 Vilma: "Thank you, mare. Congratulations din sa Brussels award mo, at least pareho na tayong may award doon di ba? Sarap na feeling di ba? Pero lamang ka sa akin ng isa ha..lol"

Nora: "Pero may ka-tie naman ako, si Sharon. Buti ka nga solo mo ang Best Actress noon. Ewan ko ba lagi na lang akong me ka-tie sa Best Actress Award na iyan. Wala na raw bago sa acting ko. Sabi ko nga sa mga fans ko, eh tankiling nila ang pelikula kol!!!. Di puro satsat at dada na lang sila. Laging na lang lugi ang movies ko. Wala tuloy magsugal sa aking na mga producer. Paki-sabi ke Mother bati na kami oh. Eh mare teka muna, Ano nga palang gagawin mo sa Aug 27?"

Vilma: "I will attend another awards night, this time as Best Mayor, as usual maraming offers to do movies, tv commercials, pero talagang hirap ako sa schedule ko eh, but this year I'll make sure to do a dramedy naman. Medyo ubos na ang luha ko eh asan ba ang panyo ko? How about you?"



Nora: "I will attend another hearing, yung sa droga issue. "

Vilma: "Don't worry mare, kayang kaya mo iyan. I believe in you. I'm sure meron himalang magaganap. I am giving you all my moral support. Nasa prayers kita Mare. Wah etching yan ha. (lol)"



Nora: "buti ka pa mare, naiintindihan mo ako. I've been doing stupid things in the past, but I am not stupid to do that. Sana naman maniwala sila sa akin. Wala Akong Kasalannnnnnn!!!!!!!" Vilma: "Wow, ang haba non ah.. Kumita na yan mare..lol, Okey ka lang mare?"



Nora: "Actually, pina-kabisado lang sa akin yan ng lawyer ko, kaya nga sauladong sauladong ko eh. Eh paano ba naman pang- ilang ulit ko nang sinabi yan sa mga interview." Vilma: "Kaya pala sounds familiar. Masasabi ko lang sa yo Mare eh, "Kung hindi tayo kikilos, sino? Kung hindi ngayon, kailan pa?" get mo ba yan? O sya' mare, goodluck na lang sa hearing mo."



Nora.: "Salamat sa mortal support."

Vilma: "Mare listen, moral support. Bye Mare and ingat ka ha.."

Nora: "Bye and tawag ka uli ha, ahhhh sandale, Mare' meron ba tayo dyan? Baka puedeng pautangin mo muna ako... Hello , hello , hello mare !!!!!? ..... hello mare andyan ka pa ba?"

Vilma: CLICK ...dial tone... (-at)

# VILMA'S GALLERY

(PIKTYURAN)  
 Source: Eric Nadurata and the wonders of internet!



QueenStar Vilma Santos beaming for the camera



Still relevant, her lecture/ speech included a line from her movie Sister Stella L: "kung hindi tayo kikilos, kalian pa?"



The most charismatic actress-politician Philippine Cinema ever produced. Humble in every triumph, Vilma Santos Recto asked for solution and action to help the dying industry.

# VILMA'S GALLERY

(PIKTYURAN)

Source: Eric Nadurata and the wonders of internet!



UP have never seen a pandemonium-like reception like this since the Ninoy Aquino's death in '80s. Vilma Santos, the truly beloved politician worked the crowd by spending longer hours than expected, exchanged pleasantries, shook hands, signed autograph and posed for pictures.



# vilma!

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Ms. Vilma Santos Recto  
THE RECIPIENT OF THE UP'S  
2005 GAWAD PLARIDEL AWARD!

FROM  
Eric Nadurata's  
THE UNOFFICIAL  
VILMA SANTOS  
WEBSITE!

VISIT US AT:  
[www.vilmasantos.net](http://www.vilmasantos.net)

# VITS

## "Huling Habilin Ng Puso"

Violet Films entry to 2005 MMFF was rejected by the selection committee. The project was supposed to be the 24th film of Vilma & Chris.

85

The voting percentage Ralph Recto garnered in Sultan Kudarat. He emerged as Number 1 in that province in 2001 National Elections because most of the Sultan Kudarat constituents are Vilma Santos fans. That was according to SWS exits poll in Mindanao. -Aries

## Abueva

National Artist for Sculpture Napoleon Abueva was the artist who designed the Gawad Plaridel award Vilma received on July 4, 2005.

## Giovannie Pico

When asked Who do you look up to as far as our local actors are concerned? ER Star Giovannie Pico said: "Vilma Santos, you know in "Anak?" Oh my gosh, I like cried a lot watching that film." - The Manila Buletfin On LIne



## to her advantage

"If there's someone who can pull it off, it has to be Vilma Santos. She actually looks much better now than in her sweetie-sweet youth...Today she projects the image of a woman with her own mind, who is finally comfortable with her own self. Even with her kublubot...A more mature look might even be working to her advantage as she earnestly tackles the demands of her new job as the elected chief executive of Batangas City, a major urban center." - wrote, **Bobbie Malay** in his "Waiting Shade, Dyeing young" article.

## "This is a must that all Ate Vi's fans should have..."

**Mario Bautista** wrote about the Vilma Santos newsletter Issue no. 2 on his regular colum, FREEHAND in People's Journal, July 11, 2005

# "Hibiscus rosasinensis: Star for All Seasons"

Vilma Santos, acclaimed as moviedom's "Star for All Seasons," has been immortalized in "another world". It is the world of floriculture, or the art and science of growing and propagating flowers and other ornamentals. Not long ago, a hybrid gumamela (scientific name: Hibiscus Rosasinensis) was launched by the University of the Philippines-Institute of Plant Breeding (UPLB-IPB) in honor of the talented, multi-awarded actress. Named "Hibiscus rosasinensis:Star for All Seasons," the Vilma gumamela is the first in IPB's new batch of Hibiscus hybrids, the Celebrity Star series, to be named after veteran and accomplished Filipino actresses. A hybrid is the product of crossing of two plants with superior qualities. These superior qualities of both parents are passed on to the seed and results in a phenomenon called "hybrid vigor" or "heterosis."

The Hibiscus hybrids in the celebrity star series were selected from the 3,000 progeny seedlings from the mass hybridization conducted in 1998, reported Dr. Candida Adalla, the first woman to become dean of the UPLB College of Agriculture since it was founded on the foothills of legendary Mt.

Makiling in 1909. Dr. Adalla and noted plant breeder, Reynold Pimentel presented Hibiscus rosasinensis;Star for All Seasons plant to Mayor Vilma Santos during the Lipa City (Batangas) 56th Foundation Day celebration last Aug. 25.

The actress-mayor was ecstatic in thanking UP Los Banos for giving her that honor and privilege. In her extemporaneous speech, the petite actress-politician, in jest, cited the plant's "semi-dwarf" character, saying that she would be eternally grateful for UPLB's gesture of naming a gumamela hybrid after her. O di ba mga kasangga? iba talaga ang arrive ni Queen Vi! Tekang meron kayang diniscus calachuchisinensis? Just asking! cheers! - Eduardo Lozano



## Vilmanians in America

Vilmanians will be estatic to attend the annual "Philippine Fiesta in America" event which will be highlighted by the guest appearance of the QueenStar.

Scheduled on August 20-21, the PF event will be a cultural celebrations with food, music and dance. The presence of the Honorable Lipa Mayor Vilma Santos-Recto made this event, special particularly for Vilmanians all over North America. Vilma will be accompanied by husband Senator Ralph Recto. Other politician that will grace the event are US Senator Corzine and Mayors, Jerramiah Healy of New Jersey and Dennis Elwell of Secaucus. In addition to QueenStar, the event will also features the performance of acoustic guitarist and singer Aiza Segueria, the comedic act of Nanette Inventor, Jon Santos and Leo Martinez.

The PF press release indicated the inclusion of performance of Local artist from various eastern states. To become a PHILIPPINE FIESTA sponsor, exhibitor, advertiser or attendee, one may contact their phone number **212.682.6610; Fax 212.682.2038** or e-mail at [sepmgzn@aol.com](mailto:sepmgzn@aol.com) or [info@philippinefiesta.com](mailto:info@philippinefiesta.com).

You can also e-mail our columnist, **Allan Trambulo** or our editorial staff for more information about this event or visit: <http://www.philippinefiesta.com>



Special guest  
Ms. Vilma Santos

## PHILIPPINE FIESTA®

### August 20-21

MEADOWLANDS EXPO CENTER  
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## Final Tally

Well, the award season has ended with a big bang for all Vilmanians!

The QueenStar received four awards and a handful of nominations:

- Best actress – 2005 Tanglaw Award
- Best actress – 2005 Gawad Suri Award
- Best actress – 2005 PMPC Star Award
- Outstanding Media Practitioner – Film – 2005 Gawad Plaridel.

In addition, Star Cinema's Dekada 70 has been officially invited to Brussel Int'l Film

Festival after its successful run in Cannes' Film of World segment. Vilma also finished her Globe television ad commercial together with her son, Lucky. She is also slated to visit the New York/ New Jersey for their Fiesta Filipina celebrations (which we will cover next issue). Her pending guest appearance in Maala-ala Mo Kaya is still unclear but a reliable source have informed us that she will finish this project once she comes back from her trip to the States. Speaking of Lucky, he just graduated from DLSU which made us more proud of Ate Vi. What a accomplishment! Everything now are pale in comparison! We love you Lucky!!!



## Rewind: "Sinamba Kita"

1982 was a banner year for Vilma Santos. Aside from the acting gem, "Relasyon", she also established her bankable status, thanks to Viva film's "Sinamba Kita". This film grossed 6.2 million in just 6 days, a box office record! Directed by Eddie Garcia, the film featured Vilma as the "bitchy-rich" anti-heroine executive, Lorna Tolentino, Christopher DeLeon and Philip Salvador. The intertwined love quadrangle between the four characters enhanced by crisp dialogue, glossy production design and catchy theme song made this movie effective and very commercial. Two scenes stands out, both involved Vi and Lorna. (By the way, Lorna's name in this film was Nora and Vilma was Divina, which made us wonder if this is supposed to be a Nora-Vilma film.) In one scene, Vilma was waiting for her younger sibling Lorna, when she finally arrived, she accused the younger sister of wearing her perfume, the accusation made Lorna defensive and replied: *"...bumili ako para sa sarili ko nagustuhan ko kasi ang amoy!"* In which Vilma countered: *"...for godsake, Nora, bakit hindi ka magkaroon ng sarili mong identity!..Hindi kita anino!"*

Another scene, Vilma caught Lorna wearing the same designer clothes:

Vilma: *"Iniinsulto mo ba ako? Anong gusto mong palabasin bakit ginagaya mo ang damit ko?"*

Lorna: *"Ate naman ano naman ang masama kung gayahin kita?"*

Vilma: *"Alamin mo muna ang iyong limitasyon...baka nakakalimutan mo kung saan kita pinulot...kinikilala kitang kapatid pero hindi tayo magkapatay!"*

Lorna: *"napakaliit naman pala ng pagtingin mo sa akin..."*

Vilma: *"Imposible naman lumaki ang pagtingin ko sa taong tinutulungan ko lang?...kung sabagay magkaiba tayo ng ina...bakit kaya pinatulan ng papa ang iyong ina?"*

Lorna: *"huwag mo naming insultuhin ang ina, patay na siya..."*

Vilma: *"Hindi ko siya iniinsulto sinasabi ko lang sayo ang totoo! Magkaiba*

*tayong dalawa, hindi mo ako matutularan at hindi kita tutularan! Nora, ang hindi mo maabot huwag mog pagpilitang abutin, wala kang pang pakpak kya huwag lumipad ng pagkataas-taas!"* -mpl



## VITS

### Terence Baylon

The child actor who portrayed the autistic son of Vilma and Chris in "Ipagpatawad" is making a comeback. He's now 21, and wanted to be Ate Vi's next leading man.

From **"Vilma Santos: Plaridel Awardee 2005"** by **Gigi Javier** Alfonso for Philippine Daily Tribune, July 07, 2005

### Pain

Writer **Lualhati Bautista** says about Vilma: "As an actress Vilma gets into the character she is playing, goes through her experiences and pain."

### Strong

Feminist **Mara Lanot** says about Vilma: "In all the roles Vilma has played in her films and real life, she chose for herself and got what she wanted, and these characters are strong."

### Images

Scriptwriter **Ricky Lee** explained: "Vilma, by embodying the different images of the Filipina as victim and fighter in the span of three decades, has consistently molded the image of the woman and society that moves forward."

### Fearless

Writer, **Pete Lacaba**: "I admired Vilma for her fearless portrayal of Sister Stella L during martial law years when it could have affected her career and her personal life at the time, and also for courageously using her clout as a big star in the movies to perform roles that are different."

### Diamond

**Chito Rono**: "Sometimes an ordinary role becomes a diamond when she (vilma) portrays the role."

### "maka-Tao"

**Maryo de los Reyes**: "As an artist, she has nurtured an aesthetic refinement and has continuously searched for the beauty and the enhancement of her craft. She has maintained her 'pagiging tao,' being 'makatao' and 'pakikipagkapwa-tao' all these years."

**VS Update (From page 4)**

pelikulang Pilipino ay napupunta sa tax. Sinabi niya na sila sa Lipa ay nagpasa ng batas na from 35% ay 15% na lang ang ibubuwis sa mga pelikulang pilipinong ipalalabas sa kanilang lunsod, while si Sen. Ralph ay nagpasa ng batas sa senado para sa Film Ratings Board, na nagbibigay ng 100% tax rebate sa rated A films, 50% sa rated B at 25% sa rated C. Sinabi rin niya na willing siyang magbaba ng kanyang talent fee basta maganda at makabuluhan ang proyekto, na sinalubong ng mainit na palakpakan. She also mentioned the problem of film piracy. Kung minsan daw nauuna pa ang pirated VCDs sa commercial theatres, kaya talagang apektado ang mga pelikula. A director once told her that his movie can easily gross an additional 20M if not for the pirated VCD that came ahead of its commercial run. Sa pagtatapos ng kanyang lektur, binigkas niya uli ang kanyang dialogue sa Sister Stella L - "Na marami pang siyang dapat matutuhan, ngunit hindi na siya nagmamasid lamang. Sabi nga ni Ka Dencio, kung hindi tayo ang kikilos, sino ang kikilos, kung hindi ngayon, kailan pa?" Umugong ang malakas na palakpakan at karamihan pa ay hindi napigilan ang pagtayo bilang pagbibigay pugay sa isang aktres na naiiba, nag-iisa at patuloy na ginagamit ang kanyang talino para sa kapakanan ng mas nakararami. And mind you, hindi lang mga Vilmanians ang nag-standing ovation! Tunay ka! Iba ang isang Vilma Santos!

**Flashback Review (from page 19)**

the foreground like machine-gun fire, the familiar scenes of hatred and division treated like aimless confetti so that the audience neither breathes nor is excused. It jolts us at the outset and after the terrible whipping, when the squabbles lessen and finally ebb into peace, we realize that these two handsome people must have had only one tragic flaw: they did not keep mum for a while. Manolo Abaya's cinematography dances with the jetstyle rhythm of the two protagonists. From the clever blocking of the morningjumble scenes to the hurried bustle of the television studio, Abaya's camera sweeps avidly and flawlessly. In his hands, the incessant quarrels of Rene and Ellen seem like a vengeful lovemaking. The long shots, conventions of a Bernal, are more developed here. Above all, Abaya's camera has humor and pathos. The production design never digresses from its limited scope but manages to make poetry out of cluttered rooms and artificial television set-ups. The claustrophobia one feels at the outset of the movie with the couple's disorderly room easily renders the hopelessness of the two people's situation. The music filters the emotions of the characters with a detached but effective air. Jesus Navarro's splendid editing is a breathless canvass of cosmopolitan animation. The support-

ing actors are remarkable. Spanky Manikan as a loony reporter getting loonier everyday must not be denied mention; so with the actors who play the sculptor and the gay art director. Lito Pimentel as the gay's idol is a relaxed performer with a talent for effortlessness. Christopher de Leon endows the character of Rene with the right sense of machismo and basic weakness. When Rene is compelled to act maturely, De Leon unflinchingly turns him even more childish with useless tantrums; and when Rene finally learns his lesson, De Leon adds a boyish smile as if the lesson were amusing. We watch De Leon, elated and entertained: he is never so old as to appear too distant nor is he too young as to seem undocile. Broken Marriage is a gift to this actor. He is not propelled here to be more manly; since his character is made to contribute to a lot of oversights, De Leon's doesn't have to put a mask of strength: he just has to be himself and act with ease. Vilma Santos is not about to be a letdown, not this time when the most important female roles are coming her way. A new intelligence she infuses in the character Ellen. Like De Leon, she turns Ellen into a woman-child, but the stress is less on her part as she has done similar roles before. Her beautiful face is flush receptive: the quiet moments of just observing the people around her are moments of perfect acting. Her body moves with an agility that is both funny and dramatic. Her two monologues - the first with her friends in the cafe when she informs them that she is bored, and the second with Rene when she tells him that they are not children anymore - are her best scenes: the camera lingers upon her countenance and she enunciates in return with ironic ease. She should watch out for next year's awards race - there is simply no stopping her at the moment.



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## TRIVIA

( T R I B Y A )

## The Men behind Vilma's films (part one) answer is on page 23

1. He played Vilma's disabled father in *Burlesk Queen*, other films with Ate Vi were *Biktima* and *Vivian Volta*.
2. His father played Ka Dencio in *Sister Stella L.* But he, himself did a number of unforgettable films with Ate Vi mostly in the 70s, films like *The Sensations*, *Young lovers*, *Kampanerang Kuba*, *Biktima*.
3. She called Ate Vi "precious" and made films with her in the 70s, films like *Dingdong*, *Teenage Senorita*, *Aloha my, Love, Don't Ever Say Goodbye*, *Sweet Sweet Vilma*, *Tsisimosang Tindera*, *Dyesebel*, *Darna and the Giants*, *Biktima*, *Tok Tok Palatok*.
4. Not your typical miztiso type matinee idol, he was one of Ate Vi's regular screenmates in many musicals in the 70s like *Love letters*, *My Pledge of Love*, *From the Bottom of My Heart*, *I love You honey*, *May Hangganan ang Pag-ibig*, *Renee Rose*, *The Sensation*, *Angelica*, *Young Lovers*, *Dalagang Nayon*.
5. He played Ferdinand Marcos while Ate Vi was Imee in *Pinagbukold Ng Langit*.
6. This matinee idol won grand slam best supporting actor for playing Ate Vi's son in *Dekada 70*.
7. He's a famous PBA player in the 80s and was one of Ate Vi's leading man in *Tagos Ng Dugo*.
8. Prior to becoming the cheater husband in *Ina Ka Ng Anak Mo*, he did 2 musicals with Ate Vi (*Young Love* and *Sixteen*) and later on a dramatic film directed by Luis Enriquez, *Ex-Wife*.
9. He made history playing a quiet writer who happens to be homosexual in *Palipat-lipat*, *Papalit-palit* then later became his leading man in *Miss X*.
10. Now being linked to Snooky Serna, he co-starred with Ate Vi in a smash hit musical, *"Good Morning Sunshine"*.
11. This trio did three box office hits with Ate Vi (*"Swing it Baby"*, *"Doctor, Doctor I am sick"*, *"Rock Baby Rock"*) and just like Ate Vi, one of them now a serious politician.
12. One of Ate Vi's serious relationship after her break up with Edgar Mortiz was with this man, now the ex-talent manager/agent of Regine Velasquez, they only did one film, the forgettable but a box office hit, *"Lets Do The Salsa"*.
13. He's a the regular leading man of Amalia Fuentez but also did unforgettable films with Ate Vi like *Mga Reynang Walang Trono*, *Asawa ko Huwag Mong Agawin*, *Bulaklak at Paruparo*, and *Promo Girl*.
14. Although not directly link to Vilma, he was know to have a crush on her. He eventually was paired with other teen star. Despite this, he did a number of films with Ate Vi. Films like *Vilma & the Beep Beep Minica*, *Dyesebel at ang Mahiwagang Kabibe* and *Kamay na Gumagapang*.
15. Prior to his teaming up with Ate Vi's rival, he was originally paired with Ate Vi in the 70s. They did *Young Love*, *No-body'Child*, *Dingdong*, *Pinagbuklod ng pag-ibig* and *Give me Your Love*.
16. One of the sex symbol of the 70s. He was a regular leading man of Ate Vi. Some of their memorable films together were: *Lipad Darna Lipad*, *Hindi Nakakahiya*, *Amorseko Kumakabit*, *Kumakapit*, *Takbo Vilma Dali*, *Hatinggabi na, Vilma*.
17. Known as character actor, this man did a number of films with Ate Vi in the 70s, films like *Vilma & the Beep Beep Minica*, *Phantom Lady*, *Ibong Lukaret*, *Tatlong Mukha ni Rosa Vilma*, *Anak ng Aswang*, *Wonder Vi* and *Vilma Veinte Nueve*.
18. Famous for his song *Kamusta Ka*, he jumped into films co-starring with Ate Vi in *Never Ever Say Goodbye*.
19. Aside from his numerous hits like *Balatkayo*, he confirmed his sex symbol status by making a number of movies, one of them was the movie with Ate Vi, 1981's *Pakawalan Mo Ako* where Ate Vi won a Famas Best Actress.
20. He is Louie in one of Viva's explosive film in the 80s. This actor became one of Ate Vi's most reliable leading man. He gave us unforgettable performances in *Langis at Tubig*, *Hiwalay*, *Gaano Kadalas ang Minsan*, *Alias Baby tsina*, *Muling Buksan ang Puso*, *Kampanerang Kuba*, and *T-Bird at Ako*.
21. *Palimos Ng Pag-Ibig* and *Romansa* were the only films Ate Vi did with this actor.
22. Almost as famous with his "over-emphasized" delivery of lines, this actor did a number of films with Ate Vi. Films like: *Karma*, *T-Bird at Ako*, *Imortal*, *Relax ka Lang*, *Sagot Kita*, *Biktima*.
23. They did this mild hit in 1980 way before he married his now ex-wife (an international beauty queen). This ex-action star is now a politician.
24. He was "Enpoy" before becoming Ding in one of Ate Vi's fantasy hit film.
25. Before he was linked to Marianne Dela Riva, he did this wonderful film with Ate Vi, *Halik sa Paa Halik sa Kamay* and later did a cameo role in *Palimos ng Pag-ibig*.

# VILMANIA

( E D D I E L O Z A N O )



Eddie, 42, is a CPA from Doha, Qatar, his no. 1 favorite Vilma movie is ANAK.  
E-mail: ratkidoodle@yahoo.com

## On the move

Right folks, VilmaNIA is still on the move and keeps on getting stronger by the day. Why?

**Attitude** – Because of ate Vi’s positive attitude in all aspects of life. Life is a continuous learning process. Our Queen Vi is like a free-flowing river that keeps on running while the water continues to spring. We can proudly say that she is doing the right thing with her God given talents, which she treasures with respect, importance, love and care. Those who are looking up on her are not confined to ordinary people alone, but her peers, showbiz newcomers and hopefuls treat her as their role model. On top of this, she has gained the respect of her predecessors.

**Vilmanians** – We always put our undying support to our Queen Vi into action and not just through words. We are basically, a group of peace-loving, God-fearing and kind-hearted people. I am not saying this because I am a Vilmanian, but I am just stating the facts and we can all vouch for that. But sad to say, other elements on the negative side of the world misconstrue our sincerity as a mere show off. In other words, plastic. As Vilmanians, we may have our own disagreements on some few things, and often agree with most of the things but still the bottom line is our love for Ms. Vilma Santos. Our group is composed of professionals, school dropouts, students, vendors, etc., but there is harmony in the interaction. It is not a matter of who you are, or where you are. Regardless of your social standing, as long as you are not doing any harm to others and you are living within the norm of conduct of humanity, that is already a quality that you can be proud of. I may not be in the position to say this, but in my own personal opinion, the Vilmanians possess all the qualities that I have mentioned. We may have our shortcomings but we are not perfect after all, and we are more than ready to admit and set corrective measures for any wrongdoings. We don’t fight with other groups unless provoked but we never resorted to violence. It’s only but natural for us to react against intrusion of alien factor. Issues are discussed openly within the groups, that is why these were created solely for the Vilmanians. We can never allow anybody to hurl invectives against our Queen, as we will always be here to defend and protect her.

**Awards** – Vilma started to receive awards at the tender age 9 of and is still reaping awards at her golden age of nearly 52. Ms. Santos truly deserved each and every single award that was handed over her. For the record, she is youngest to receive a Famas Best Actress award at the age of 19 via Dama de Noche. She was even robbed of 2 Best Actress awards in the 70’s; one for Dama de Noche in QCFF 1972 and the most celebrated Rubia Servios in MMFF 1978, and 1 in MMFF 2002 for Dekada 70. Putting on record another milestone in the Philippine Movie Industry, Ms. Santos swept all the Best Actress awards for the films shown in 1982 via Relasyon, thus scoring the first ever legitimate Grand Slam win by an actress in a single performance in motion picture. Our Queen Vi has also set the unprecedented record of 3 years in a row win as Urian Best Actress in the 80’s aside from winning the first FAP Best Actress award as bestowed upon her by her peers. The Queen keeps on setting records that nobody can break except herself. She scored her 2nd grand slam Best Actress via Dolzura Cortez Story; and towards the end of the century, Ms. Santos bested this record by attaining her 3rd grand slam win thru Bata, Bata, Paano Ka Ginawa? The early part of the new millennium witnessed the brightest among the

stars made her record even more stronger by victoriously recording her 4th grand slam win via Dekada 70. With 4 grand slam win up her sleeves and a roomful of trophies plus the UP Gawad Plaridel for films, nobody can ever surpass the feat of the one and only real Queen of the Philippine Movies, none other than Ms. Vilma Santos. But wait, the awards bestowed to Ms. Vilma Santos are not from the movies alone. She received several awards as a public servant. Under her governance, Lipa City was awarded by the Boy Scout of the Philippines for the Overall Local Council Performance. She was also proclaimed as the Most Outstanding Mayor in Region 4 by the Asosasyon ng Komentarista at Anaunser sa Pilipinas. The Civil Service Commission has likewise awarded her as the Most Outstanding Mayor. Moreover, there is the recognition from the Department of Health with the Sandugo Outstanding Local Executive Award, and the Presidential Award for the City of Lipa as the Cleanest and Greenest local government unit in Region 4.

**Unstoppable** – Ms. Vilma Santos never ceases to impress not only her fans but the public as well. To quote from a recent write up: “Vilma Santos was invited by the UP College of Public Health Alumni Society to be the keynote speaker at their 26th annual convention held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel. She delivered her speech like a real pro, charming her listeners with her witty adlibs. After her speech, she was made an honorary member of the prestigious society. Vilma was recognized for her work in Lipa’s 72 barangays where her priorities are health and education, based on the Minimum Basic Need (MBN) approach introduced in various barangays in 1998. She actively participated in the campaign against dengue fever, in measles elimination, and in ongoing maternal and child health programs. To Mayor Vi, congratulations! We’re proud of you!” For Mayor Vi, being a non-college degree holder is not a setback to speak before a group of professionals. She never stopped learning, exploring and much more, polishing her craft as a public official. July 4, 2005 is another distinctive day for Ms. Vilma Santos as she receives her UP Gawad Plaridel and conducts a lecture on films. Queen Vilma is really someone you can look up to and with our chins up, we can proudly say to the whole world that we are Vilmanians, at ‘yan ang totoo! -el



## FLASHBACK REVIEWS

MULA SA KRITIKO

**A Bond that Smothers and Smolders**

by Joselito Zulueta

Sine Manila - 1983

BROKEN MARRIAGE comes as a second wave to the noisy ripple created by Vilma Santos's award-winning performance in *Relasyon*. The Regal people have banged their bongos so much harder this time that viewers will expect that Ms. Santos' cards for this year's awards derby will be more than secure. The hint is that *Broken Marriage* is a Vilma Santos movie. Lest the moviegoer expect too much from this year's quadruple winning best actress, he should be forewarned that the movie is about, well, a broken marriage. After more than 10 years of marriage, two young persons find each other repugnant. Ellen is a television floor director who hops from one set to the other shooting sitcoms and soaps. Her husband, Rene, complements her rapid lifestyle in investigative reporting. The movie commences with Ellen coming home in the morning from overtime with a crew party on the side. Rene greets her with an ugly nag. The house turns topsyturvy as they proceed to hurl invectives against each other. The exchange is extremely exhilarating; and just as the viewer breathes a sigh of relief, another quarrel starts and ensues as if it were the final assault. Eventually, they decide to separate at the cost of their boy's understanding nod and their little girl's distaste. Rene moves to a house populated with such absurd characters as an artist who carves sexy sculptures, a friendly bit-part actor, and a gay art director who cuddles the upstart. Ellen, meanwhile, has to see to it that the children are not left out in their school activities - even standing as an athletic parent during one of her boy's scouting engagements. She also has to check the advances of her bodyache-complaining producer, to whom she later

gives in anyway. Gradually, the two people realize the great loss that comes with division. Ellen, with the two children, is forced to move to her mother's place after her house is burglarized, thus realizing the difficulty of an unmanned house. Rene substitutes a whore in the absence of his wife's caresses. It is when Rene gets beaten up by a city mayor's goons for nearly publishing a detrimental article and is constrained to recuperate in his mother-in-law's house that the couple starts patching up the seams of the rent relationship. The ending is of course happy: reconciliation, what else? Comparisons dawn inexorably:

How does *Broken Marriage* fare as a follow-up to the bravura of *Relasyon*?

This is tough inquiry. If intentions were to be the starting point, then the new movie is a better achievement. *Relasyon*, judging from its title, was supposed to be about a man and other woman relationship; but the feminist tendencies of our cinema had pinned the movie to a fateful drift: the travails of the modern mistress. *Broken Marriage* never swerves from its goal; from start to finish it is a portrait of two persons and the bond which they discover smothering and smoldering. But the ordinary moviegoer does not assess by artist's intentions - he does not even care about the artist (I mean here the one behind the work. On one hand, the film in front of him is the present; and on the other hand, it is the past. *Broken Marriage* is made to appear to him as a sequel to *Relasyon*. The process of integrating the past and the present is a challenge for him. For him are opened two avenues: to start with past and proceed with present; or start with present and proceed with past. If he chose the former, the condemnation for *Broken Marriage* would clang like a wild cymbal. If he chose the latter, the outcome is a laudatory comment). Nonetheless, one has to prove that the new movie can stand on its own feet. What *Relasyon* sadly

lacked (albeit not too sadly) was humor. *Broken Marriage* has tons of it - the caustic swaps, the funny characterizations, the clever plottings - so that the audience's conditioned response for a supposedly serious movie shifts irrevocably to playful irreverence. Vintage Ishmael Bernal. It is a masterly stroke - the proverbial Bernal sleight-of-hand at work, this time with more gusto and style. If the Inquisition were still around, he would be branded and burned seven times as a heretic for turning a marriage gone sour into an off-beat frolic suddenly turned sweet - at least, to the viewer's mirth-hungry belly. But none may claim that Bernal's treatment loses its mark of delineating the disadvantages of separation.

The humor chisels the message so that it comes to us shining and double-edged, while doing its duty of alleviating an otherwise gloomy impression which accompanies every disillusioning subject matter. Not only does it come through humorously but also simply. Nowhere is the strain which anyone expects from grave subjects present here. It is as if the dreary topic had been borne on the Lord's shoulders so that the yoke - and audiences love to be martyrs of maudlin tears - becomes, this rare time, light and easy. The scene where Rene visits his family and finds Ellen and the children agitated by the swift burglary of the house, and the producer wryly comments "Mahirap talaga ang walang lalaki sa bahay" (It's difficult to have no man in the house) is casual but very biting so that the urgency of the hero returning to his family throbs mercilessly like a set clock. In the same way, Bernal shows Ellen's retrospective mood minus the conventional flashback: her younger sister is engaged to be married, and Ellen watches the two lovebirds running like children, with a bright but painful smile, even with jealousy, knowing that after the ceremonies, the two will lose the innocence which tradition stifles. This is a repetition of the technique Bernal used in *Relasyon* - the mistress attending the wedding of her cousin - with just the same effect, namely, sympathy. The screenplay plunges right into the boiling point, the issues hurled to **(Turn to page 18—See Flashback Review)**

COVER STORY

(UNANG PAG-UULAT)

**Vilma...Born Winner**

By Willie Fernandez

And the winner is...Vilma Santos. The U.P. College of Mass Communication announces the choice of Ms. Vilma Santos as the recipient of Gawad Plaridel 2005. Born winner ngang matatawag ang QueenStar na si Vilma Santos dahil halos lahat ng larangan ng kanyang pinasukan ay naging matagumpay, hindi nga lang siguro siya Star for All Seasons and Reasons sa punto ng pagiging aktres. Laging kinikilala sa kanyang kahusayan sa magkaikabang panahon ng pamamayagpag, making her an actress for all seasons, indeed! Like the fabled Midas Touch, Vilma Santos seemingly has that power to transform into gold, whatever her petite hands can touch. In the movies and on television, she is the undisputed Star for All Seasons. On the domestic front, she is victorious mom to Luis and Ryan Christian. Huling pinasok at sinubukan ni Ate Vi ang magulong daigdig ng pulitika. Sa kanyang huling termino bilang Ina ng Lipa City, pinatunayan niya kung gaano siya kaseryoso. Bilang Mayora ng Lipa ay mas lalong siyang pursigido na mapagbuti ang kalagayan ng kanyang kababayan at nasasakupan. Wala na ngang dapat patunayan pa si Ate Vi, tunay ngang siya'y namumukod-tangi bilang bituin. Katangi-tangi siya bilang artista at lingkodbayan. Sa malao't madali, magbubunga ng maganda ang kanyang pagpupunyagi. Ipinapalagay na kundi man gobernador ng Batangas, nakatakdang tumuntong si Ate Vi sa Senado. But all things considered, isa lang ang vision na nais ni Mayor Vilma in 10 years from now, a place in Malacanang. Ang magiging First Lady na hindi malayong mangyari. If ever na matupad, the Vilmanians will rejoice at sasabihing "Heaven". You're such a victorious lady. As a star, Vilma Santos is the last of the great movie queen. As an actress, well, she has nothing to prove anymore. Unarguably, Ate Vi has etched her mark in the local showbiz industry and maintain that status already being considered a pillar in the cellu-

loid world, Vilma has claim not only to great results of her movies, but to the critical acclaim that her movies enjoy. Even the most rabid Noranians will have to concede to Vilma's enduring popularity and spell-binding mass appeal. Bluntly and simply stated, Vilma is the country's reigning movie queen, Sharon Cunetas' presence notwithstanding. Vilma Santos is undeniably the country's uncontested Star for All Seasons and QueenStar. Without a modicum of an exaggeration, her lofty achievements in the industry still have to be duplicated or equaled by anyone. She is definitely one of the highest paid star, darling of the press and without scintilla of a doubt, showbusiness personified. She is the quintessential image of a real movie star - beautiful and glamorous, well mannered and a seasoned actress. It is easy to be awed by Vilma Santos. The name warrants all caps in the Philippine entertainment: charisma that goes beyond unquestioned talent.

**The GP '05 Coverage**

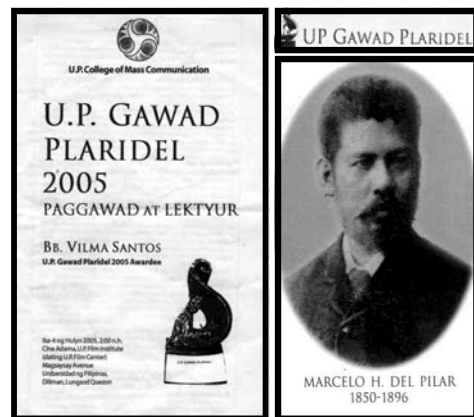
**Who and How they Voted?**

By Eric A. Nadurata

31 May 2005

The Second U.P. Gawad Plaridel (2005, Film) For 2005, the award is given to an outstanding film practitioner. The U.P. CMC received nine nominations from various media organizations and academic institutions on April 8, 2005, the deadline for nominations. The nine nominees were Nora Aunor, Celso Ad. Castillo, Ricky Lee, Mike de Leon, Lily Monteverde, Eddie Romero and Vilma Santos. The first round of deliberations was held on April 19, 2005. The screening committee was composed of the following : Dr. Nicanor G. Tiongson (Dean, U.P. CMC), Dr. Rolando B. Tolentino (Acting Director and Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Dr. Grace J. Alfonso (Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Ms. Eliza Cornejo (Instructor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Anne Marie G. de Guzman (Assistant Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Roehl J. Jamon

(Assistant Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Eduardo J. Lejano (Assistant Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Eduardo J. Piano (Assistant Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Arminda V. Santiago (Assistant Professor, U.P. Film Institute). This committee recommended three nominees, Mike de Leon, Eddie Romero and Vilma Santos as finalists for the awards. The second screening with the representatives of the three departments of the U.P. CMC took place on May 11, 2005. The body, known as the U.P. CMC Gawad Plaridel Faculty Committee, was composed of the following: Dr. Nicanor G. Tiongson (Dean, U.P. CMC and Chair, CMC Faculty Committee), Dr. Lourdes M. Portus (College Secretary, U.P. CMC), Dr. Rolando B. Tolentino (Acting Director and Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Eduardo J. Lejano (Assistant Professor, U.P. Film Institute), Prof. Victor C. AVECILLA (OIC, Dept. of Broadcast Communication), Mr. Fernando A. Austria (Instructor, Dept. of Broadcast Communication), Prof. Ma. Cristina I. Rara (Assistant Professor and Chair, Dept. of Journalism), Prof. Luis V. Teodoro, Jr. (Professor, Dept. of Journalism), Dr. Aleli A. Quirante (Associate Professor, Dept. of Communication Research), Ms. Alexandra More M. San Joaquin (Instructor, Dept. of Communication Research), Prof. Elizabeth L. Enriquez (Assistant Professor, Dept. of Graduate Studies). After deliberating on the credentials of the three finalists, the committee chose Ms. Rosa Vilma Santos as the recipient of the U.P. Gawad Plaridel for 2005. She is scheduled to receive the U.P. Gawad Plaridel trophy and deliver the Second Plaridel Lecture on July 4, 2005 at the Cine Adarna of the U.P. Film Institute.



**Message from the Dean of UP-CMC**

31 May 2005

Office of the Dean MESSAGE Traditionally, academia has always kept a discreet distance from show business, and for good reason. For one, academics have always emphasized critical thinking and professional integrity, both of which seem to be rare commodities in a movie world obsessed with instant gold and glamour. For another, the popularity of a movie star, to be sure an unwanted legacy from Hollywood, has been used by producers to cover up for a multitude of their cinematic sins, such as the lack of intelligent scripts, competent directors, and solid production values. But stardom is not a sin in itself. In the hands of film actors who are sincerely committed to their art, popularity can be harnessed to uplift the artistic standards of the whole film industry. In fact, it can contribute significantly and directly to the development of a Filipino national cinema, if the movie star, with cunning and imagination, can use his or her popularity as a way of pressuring filmmakers to create screen characters and stories that reflect and interpret urgent issues and concerns in contemporary Philippine society. In choosing Vilma Santos as the U.P. Gawad Plaridel Awardee for film, the College of Mass Communication would like to offer to the film and media industries incontrovertible and living proof that popularity – and ratings – need not lead to the degradation of media tastes and standards. In fact, they can inspire media practitioners to compete with each other to be the best that they can be and encourage filmmakers to create films that liberate and transform the many levels of consciousness of the Filipino people Nicanor G. Tiongson Dean, College of Mass Communication.

**Message from UP Chancellor**

31 May 2005

Office of the Chancellor MESSAGE Every year the U.P. Gawad Plaridel honors the media person whose work successfully merges the artist and the public servant, and constantly raises standards of artistry by being true to the craft while at the same time challenging the conventional notions of art as being merely “for art’s sake.” This year’s awardee, Ms. Vilma Santos, is one such media person. She has earned recognition here and abroad for her fine and powerful performances as wife, mother, lover, NGO worker, and OFW in films that are now considered modern classics. In the process, she has also redefined womanhood, questioned traditional gender roles, and clarified the relationship of an individual to her society. More importantly perhaps, Ms. Santos has used her status as a celebrity to pursue public service. As Mayor of Lipa City, she has proven that art and politics do not exist in separate planes. She has shown us that women artists can transform society in more ways than one. Congratulations, Ms. Vilma Santos. Sergio S. Cao Chancellor, U.P. Diliman.

**Gawad Plaridel Citation**

31 May 2005

Gawad Plaridel Citation For crafting and creating her varied cinematic roles with consummate artistry, making us empathize with whatever character she is portraying by delineating for us the character’s history, problems, and aspirations, in dynamic interaction with the film’s ensemble of

of other characters; For bravely using her popularity as an actor to choose roles which brings to the public attention an astounding range of female experiences as well as an array of problems confronting women of different classes and sectors in contemporary Filipino society, even if these experiences or problems would not only not enhance but could even detract from her mass appeal; For bringing to life on screen characters whose stories have the effect of raising or transforming the consciousness of women, leading them a few steps closer to a deeper understanding of their situation vis-à-vis the patriarchy and to the ability to control their own lives and make choices of their own; For courageously playing maverick characters which dared to speak the truth in a period of intense political repression and reprisal, thereby showing a concern not for her own self but for a Filipino society fighting for basic human rights under a dictatorial regime; For building a brilliant career which saw her grow from popular icon to professional actor through self-discipline and tireless honing of her craft, thereby challenging writers, directors, and producers to come up with films that would be worthy of her enormous artistic resources and repaying their efforts with some of the most unforgettable performances in Filipino cinema; For showing that the movie star can place the stamp of her own individuality and talent on the films she choose to make, thereby proving that the star can be regarded as an auteur in her own right; For excellence, integrity, and social responsibility which have distinguished her major performances, and for being a model of professionalism to other actors and technicians engaged in the creation of a Filipino national cinema; The U.P. Gawad Plaridel 2005 is given to Rosa Vilma Santos on the 4th day of July 2005 by the U.P. College of Mass Communication at the Cine Adarna, U.P. Film Institute, University of the Philippines, Diliman, Quezon City. Emerlinda R. Roman, Ph.D. President, University of the Philippines Sergio S. Cao, Ph.D. Chancellor, U.P. Diliman Nicanor G. Tiongson, Ph.D. Dean, U.P. College of Mass Communication .

**Who nominated Ate Vi?**

by "Agra Amaury"

Nakausap ko kanina si Bb. Irene Zamora na nag-tatrabaho sa U.P. College of Mass Comm. Hiniling kong makuha ang pangalan ng institusyon at ang taong nag-nominate kay Mayor sa Plaridel upang mapasalaman sila kahit na papaano. I gathered that the person responsible for this glorious moment is none other than :

**Mrs. Namnette de la Pena** of: Concerned Parents International Foundation

Sa aking panayam kay Irene, nagkuwento siya ng mga pangyayari leading to the awarding ceremony na idinaos kahapon. Eto ang mga samut-sari:

- Pito ang mga original na na-nominate hanggang sa naging tatlo. Dumayo raw ang ilang mga maka YKW (pahiram Jeannie) sa naturang kolehiyo para magprotesta nang hindi mapasama ang idolo nila sa natitirang tatlo ngunit umuwi silang luhaan. Nangako raw silang babalik.
- Ang mga nag-cast ng vote sa natitirang tatlo ay mga guro na lamang ng Dept. of Film Institute. Alam natin na wagi si Mayor sa huli.
- Oo. Vilmanian nga daw si Mrs. Nanette de la Pena and most of her colleagues.
- Punong-puno ang Cine Adarna at lahat ay nakapasok. Aside from friends, family and followers of the Mayor, ibat-ibang delegasyon ng mga mag-aaral galing sa Metro Manila at Batangas ang dumating.
- Inaantabayanan daw ng mga mass comm employees ang threat ng mga maka YKW ngunit walang dumating.
- Walang halong pulitika daw ang ceremony. Si Sen. Ralph Recto lamang ang politiko sa mga dumalo.
- Tumagal ng 45 minutos ang lecture ni Mayor with matching audio/visuals.
- Pagkatapos ng ceremony, nagbigay ng salusalalo ang butihing presidente ng U.P. at ng ilang opisyal sa VS' honor sa Executive House sa campus din.

**See Vilma’s Gallery for Gawad Plaridel pictures on Page s 14-15.**



# COVER STORY

(UNANG PAG-UULAT)

## Vilma Santos

### Graduates With Honors at the U.P. System

By Mar Garces

She is all of 5 foot frame, slim and frail-looking these days.

She just recovered from pneumonia as a result of multi-tasking as the most hard-working Lipa city mayor and other roles in life. But there she is working again eight days a week, pun intended, as mayor, mother, wife, actress, product endorser and as citizen Vilma. Yesterday, she was a 10 year old darling of a



Philippine child actress receiving her first acting award from the FAMAS as best child actress for her signature movie Trudis Liit.

Today, after 200 plus movies, about 65 honors received for excellence on film, surviving five Philippine presidents, martial law, three EDSA people's power and the phenomenon that was Nora Aunor – Vilma Santos, from all indications, is the Last Actress Standing. She is the first actor to win the U.P. Gawad Plaridel award from the University of the Philippines College of Mass Communication, in recognition of Filipino media practitioners who have excelled in any of the media (print, radio, film, television and news media) and

have performed with the highest level of professional integrity in the interest of public service. She bested such luminaries as Nora Aunor, Eddie Romero and Mike De Leon for the award. With this prestigious award, Vilma Santos, the most successful actress and politician in the Philippines has proven that you don't have to be a college graduate like Laurice Guillen or Boots Anson-Roa, or an MBA graduate to govern a

city and be the best actress of your generation. All that Vilma Santos had to do, a high school graduate, is to excel, to learn not to stop learning in everything that she did.

Who would have thought that the U.P. system, the center for learning, wisdom and nationalism would give

the petite actress with a thin voice, chinky eyes and fair skin that would have worked against her – the highest award for an excellent media practitioner for film? Wasn't the Oblation, the symbol of freedom, originality and freedom of expression, more appropriate for the CCP Centennial awardee Nora Aunor who had a long list of exemplary screen roles? Or to an outstanding director Mike De Leon, or National Artist Eddie Romero who made unforgettable movies that are now classics? Or to producers Marichu Vera Perez Maceda and Lily Monteverde who helped create films that brought prestige here and abroad?

### Why Vilma Santos?

She was chosen, among other reasons, “for building a brilliant career which saw her grow from popular icon to professional actor through self-discipline and tireless honing of her craft; for bravely using her popularity as an actress to choose roles which bring to the public attention an astounding range of female experiences, as well as an array of problems confronting women of different classes and sectors in contemporary Filipino society; and for bringing to life on screen characters whose stories have the effect of raising or transforming the consciousness of women, leading them a few steps closer to a deeper understanding of their situation vis-à-vis the patriarchy and to the ability to control their own lives and make empowered choices of their own.” Whew, too deep to fathom, eh? Not really. Simply told, Vilma's talent, versatility, curiosity, professionalism, hard work, dedication, persistence and a nerve of steel has brought her to where she is, NOW, as the Premier Actress of the Land. She graduates with honors from the U. P. System. No other actor/actress/director/writer has ever achieved this feat. To borrow a fan's quotable quotes: Yesterday, grand slams; today, U.P. Gawad Plaridel award for film and Excellence in Lipa city governance; tomorrow the National Artist and the Ramon Magsaysay Award, and with some luck, Honorary degrees. To borrow Ate Vi's line: Heaven! Congratulations, fellow U.P. alumnus!

Mario O. Garces

Batch 1973, 1979



## COVER STORY

(UNANG PAG-UULAT)

**Vilma, Vilma, Ang Sarap****Mong I-direk**

ni Mario O. Garces



Sa langit-langitan ng pagganap sa pelikula ay walang aktres ang makakatapat kay Vilma Santos sa husay at versatility nito. Maging si Nora Aunor na mahigpit niyang karibal sa laranang ito ay nagsimulang nagpakita ng gilas at halos pinaluhod ang QueenStar noong ginawa niya ang Minsa'y Isang Gamu-gamo, Tatlong Taong Walang Diyos, Bona at Ina Ka ng Anak Mo. Sa katunayan, unang narecognize si Nora sa Urian at sa international film community sa Cairo Film Festival kung saan hinangaan siya sa Flor Contemplacion Story at nakopo niya ang best actress award, mula YCC hanggang sa Cairo nga. Ito lang ang tanging grand slam niya. Hindi nagpatalbog ang former *Scream/GriPO Queen* kay forever *Ice/Eye/Diin Queen* by reinventing herself magmula noong mapangahas niyang pagganap sa *Burlesk Queen* at nang talunin siya ni Nora sa 1978 MMFF kung saan nilampaso siya ng *Atsay* at umuwi siyang luhaan like *Rubia Servios*. As fate would have it, at dahil na rin sa kanyang competitive spirit at nerve of steel, she re-grouped and vowed never to be second banana sa kapuwa bulilit niyang karibal. "Anything she can do, I can do better, I can do anything better than her. Yes, I can, oh yes I can!" ang bulalas ng most awarded actress and mayor ng bansa sa sarili. And she did it. By George, she got it! And she could dance all night, along with her millions of fans. Nag-aral siya, nagmasid, nagtanong, nagtiyaga, ibinuhos ang kaalaman niya sa sining, at inalagaan ito ng husto. At mula noong naka-grand slam siya sa *Relasyon* in 1982 ay para bang nabuksan ang langit at ang mga paghihirap at tiyaga niya ay tinumbasan ng walang katapusang ulan ng mga tropeo, honors and citations bilang pinakamahusay na aktres ng kanyang henerasyon, at

possible sa buong kasaysayan ng pelikulang Pilipino. Na-validate pa nga ito ng pagkawagi niya as exemplary media practitioner for film via the prestigious U.P. Gawad Plaridel Award recently. Nominations pa nga lang ay eliminated na kaagad ang supposedly strong contender na si Nora Aunor. Napasama ang Reyna sa last three finalists at mantakin mong sina Mike De Leon at Eddie Romero ba naman ang kahelera mo at talunin mo ay daig pa ang manalo ka sa lotto. Talagang hindi basta-basta aktres ang the longest reigning movie and box-office queen of Philippine Cinema: Isa na talaga siyang icon or national treasure ng bansa. Kasunod na kaya ang National Artist Award? Abangan! Nakagawa na siya ng mahigit 200 na pelikula, kasama na ang mga special guesting niya, at nagtamo nga ng pinakamaraming acting awards, mula sa Trudis Liit hanggang sa *Mano Po 3 - My Love*. Kamanghamanga talaga! Atin ngayong suriin kung sinu-sinong director ang pumiga sa Meryl Streep of the Philippines at sa the Filipino Cinematic Diva (ayon sa U.S. Variety magazine) at tuloy ay nagkamit ng mga di mata-tawarang karangalan sa kahusayan sa pagganap. Sa mga batikang director natin, tanging sina Lino Brocka (SLN) at Marilou-Diaz Abaya ang di pinalad na panalunin si La Vilma sa mga klasikong *Rubia Servios*, *Adultery* and *Hahamakin Lahat* for Brocka, at *Alyas Baby Tsina* naman kay Abaya. At ang mga ilan sa matitinik nating direk na di nakatrabaho ng Reyna ay sina *Lupita Kashiwara* at *Mario O'Hara* na pawing identified kay Nora Aunor. Malay natin, baling araw ay may mga pelikula na silang gagawin. Narito ang talaan ng mga director na nagpanalo sa Greatest Actress of Philippine Cinema:

**Jose de Villa** - in 1963 for Trudis Liit. Vilma's first acting trophy (FAMAS best child actress).

**Luis Enriquez** (aka Eddie Rodriguez, SLN) - 1968 best supporting actress for *Kasalanan Kaya?* mula sa San Beda College Awards; 1975 best actress for *Nakakahiya?*, Bacolod City Film Festival. The most successful May-

December acting team in Philippine Cinema, ever.

**Emmanuel Borlaza** - 1972 FAMAS best actress (her first as an adult actress and her one of five from the FAMAS), for *Dama De Noche*.

**Celso Ad. Castillo** - 1977 best actress, MMFF, for *Burlesk Queen*. Her change of image changed everything. The best career move she ever did. There was no looking back.

**Danny Zialcita** - 1981 MMFF and Cebu City Film Festival for *Karma*.

**Elwood Perez** - 1981 FAMAS best actress (*Pakawalan Mo Ako*) and 1988 FAMAS best actress (*Ibulong Mo Sa Diyos*).

**Ishmael Bernal** (SLN) - hold your breath! 1982 Grand slam for *Relasyon* (her first of four grand slams, a record!); 1983 Urian best actress, *Broken Marriage*; 1989 Urian best actress, *Pahiram ng Isang Umaga*. Sayang at pumanaw na si "Ishma" - ang dami pa sana nilang pelikulang pagsamahan. The most successful actress/director collaboration in Pinoy Cinema. Pina-sabog na ang takilya, inulan pa ng awards.

**Maryo J. De Los Reyes** - 1987 FAMAS best actress, *Tagos ng Dugo*; 1992 New Fame Mag Readers' Choice Award for best actress, *Sinungalinnng Mong Puso*. Sana matuloy iyong Vilma-Christopher project sa *Violet Films' Huwag Hatulan ang Puso*. Sana. It's time for a Maryo J. and a Vilma reunion - perfect for each other - they'll make a splash at the local and foreign markets. Abangan!

**Mike de Leon** - 1984 Urian best actress, *Sister Stella L*. In the recent U.P. Gawad Plaridel award for exemplary film practitioner, La Santos bested De Leon. Whew! Will Mike lure Vilma or vice-versa to make a movie together? Heaven, must be missing an angel: Mr. Mike De Leon, that is. It's time for a reunion. Isa pa nga, oh! Hold your breath. I can see it coming. Mover over, *Madam Auring!* (Turn to page 26)

## "I-direk..."

(from page 25)

**Laurice Guillen** – ah, the woman's director – who better understands women but the outstanding actress cum director herself, Laurice? Her presence at Vilma's coronation at the U. P. last July 4 is proof that Ms. Guillen is a true-blue Vilmanian. She gave the Queen two best actress awards: 1993 Grand slam (her second) for Dolzura Cortez; and in 1991 at the Urian for Ipagpatawad Mo, halting Nora's almost second grand slam win for Pacita M. Laurice's presence at the U.P. Cine Adarna is, probably, an open invitation for Ms. Versatile Vilma to say "OK" to Guillen's script about a woman who spent most of her life taking care of family business, only to be abandoned or dumped like a hot potato by the ones she loved to death – with nowhere to go – no career/office skills – nothing. Do I hear a fifth grand slam? Aw, c'mon, Vilma, grab the script before it lands in another's lap. Si Guillen yata iyan! Atat na ata na, umoo ka na, oh!

**Chito Rono** – is he Bernal II? His approach, his dark comedy, his overall style is vintage Bernal, yet very original, with Chito's stamp of excellence all over it. Two grand slams for Vilma, for a total of four grand slams, plus 2 international acting trophies from the Brussels and CineManila, (1998's Bata-bata and 2002's Dekada '70), is not bad. Is there a reunion in the offing? Direk Rono: "Vi, gawin na natin iyong script, bago ni Lualhati, bagay sa iyo iyon?" Vilma: "Naku, Chito, litung-lito na ako sa dami ng offers. Di ko alam ang uunahin. Ang hirap i-pass by. Nakapanghihinayang. Kung puede ko lang i-clone ang sarili ko, gagawin ko lahat ng offers sa akin. Kaso mo, so many good movies, so little time." Chito: "Ako hintay sa iyo. Ayaw ko sagot mo Pagputi ng Uwak, Pag-itim ng tagak. Basta ako hintay sa iyo."

**Rory Quintos** – Anak shattered box-office records in 2000 and was the highest-grossing Pinoy film ever until Ang Tanging Ina (Solid Vilmanian Ai-Ai) zoomed to the top of the box-office. The 2000 best actress awards from the PMPC Star and PASADO are puede pasar, but millions of 'luhaang' viewers swear she

should have brought home the bacon. All they were saying, please give Glo a chance! Sige na nga, senior citizen kasi eh. Doon nga sa Urian when Ms. Gloria Romero gave her speech: "I share this award with Vilma who was so good in Anak." BOW! Respect begets respect. Biglang sing si Aretha Franklin ng R-E-S-P-E-C-T.

**Joel Lamangan** – the newest Vilma convert after he made Vilma grab best actress awards in the 2004 MMFF (Mano Po III), at the PMPC Star (her sixth), Tanglaw (her second) and Gawad Suri. He was so impressed by the QueenStar that he offered her a script she couldn't resist, about the slums, a role to die for. Vi: "Joel, ang hirap naman, 'wa ako time. Gulong-gulo nga ang ispi ko kung ano ang tatanuan ko eh. Puede bang next year na lang iyan? Joel: "Vi, I will wait forever. I will save this script for you. Pang-Cannes ito, Vi. Type nila ang mga slums-slums theme. Pipigain kita rito. Maraming eye acting and volcanic scenes. Hitsura lang noong Pasan Ko ang Daigdig ni Sharon and Babae Sa Breakwater ni Mario O'Hara. Sa totoo lang." Vi: Eh, eh, ah ewan, Joel, wala yata akong time." Joel: "Eh di huwag ka nang tumakbo as governor. Mag-concentrate ka na lang sa film and stage – we'll work together. (Biglang may kumanta ng We Belong Together ni Mariah Carey from behind. Napalingon sina Joel and Vilma: "Guy, ikaw nga ba iyan?" Guy: "Ako nga si me. Puede bang ibigay mo na lang sa akin Joel iyong script na iyon? Don't you know I am the original masa queen, and I have the look of poverty in my eyes, in my life, demeanor and personality. Hayop, ka, Joel, hayop, bakit mo ako ipinagpalit sa kumare ko, bbaaa-akkkkkkkkeeeeeetttttt" Kayo na ang magwakas! -mg



## Meet the president

(from page 12)

Kadiliman, andyan yong invite kami ni Vi sa celebration after her winning, ciempre may masaya at minsan malungkot pag talo. Pero tulad nga ng madalas sabihin ni Vi sa amin na wag aasa, but looking back sa dami ng napanalunan ni Vi, masaya at proud talaga kami sa achievements niya.

### 10) Gusto mo bang tumakbo pa sa politics si Ate Vi?

Ayaw ko ng tumakbo pa si Vi sa politics after her term ngayon. Tama na siguro yung 3 terms niya as Mayor. Ang daming magandang film & T.V. projects nawala. Kahit one movie a year at sana regular T.V. talk show na showbiz and politics ang tema at puede nya ring co-host si Ralph ok na yon.

### 11) Worst experience that you encountered against non-Vilmanians?

Worst experience that I encountered against noranians? Yung time na palaging may entry sa filmfest sina Vi & Guy grabe ang noranians, bayolente sila, sa parada nambabato sila mga husks ng mais, bato, bulok na kamatis at kalamansi etc. pag nagkasalubungan na mga buses namin ayon na, kaya bumabato na rin kami. At yong encounter namin sa taping ng show ni Korina this year, grabe ang naging word war na sinimulan nila na bold star si Vi, may betamax, corrupt sa Lipa etc. na talagang sinagot din namin na laos, addict, tomador, sugarol etc. na dumating sa puntong sinugod ng noranian si Ronald at umastang mang-uupak na di natuloy. Kapag na-provoke kami at inaapi na si Vi talagang lalaban kami.

### 12) Was there a time that Vilma Santos asked your advise or opinion?

Vilma always asked the Vilmanians advise or opinion. Like yung pagtakbo nya first time as mayor, yung pagtanggap niya ng movies like kung ok ba yung ANAK, other vilmanians didnt like the title others ok so nagpapalitan ng kuro kuro at open si Vi sa ganyang usapan, nakikinig at iniintindi niya bago siya magdecide.

### 13) What is your dream role for Ate Vi?

Dream role ko kay Vi yung kay Sofia Loren na two women yata ang title na nagpanalo sa kanya sa oscars, gusto ko rin maging pinuno siya ng rebelde o NPAs sa bundok, isang retardate gaya ni Lolita Rodriguez as Koala sa Tinimbang., isang religious movie like yung Miracle sa Lipa/Shower of Rose petals, isang historical film like Gabriela Silang.

### 14) How about dream project?

Sana matuloy ang Big T.V. special anniversary na plano ng ABS-CBN kay Vi last year pa, according to Chit Guerrero big scope and budget ang nakalaan ditto, sana matuloy ang film project ni Joel Lamangan na KAPITANA, isang babaeng napilitang makipagsapalaran ang pamilya sa maynila, tumira sa ilalim ng tulay, ibang klaseng karakter na nagpanalo sa kanyang lugar bilang kapitana. Sana matuloy film project ni Laurice Guillen sa Unitel for Vi about midlife crisis.

### 15) How do you support Ate Vi's film to make it a BIG HIT?

Ako I watched Vi's films everyday pag showing na, during the first 3 days mga apat o limang beses ako nanonood everyday, at talagang super promote din sa friends and relatives, ciempre lahat ng members dapat manood at nagkikita kami sa mga theaters .

# “HINDI MAHIRAP MAHALIN SI VI...HEAVEN!”


### 16) What are your projects for our group?

Projects for the group especially VISION na umbrella group ng lahat ng Vilma's fans club, maregister na sa SEC para makapagsponsor na tayo ng premiere ng isang Vilma movie, dumami pa lalo ang members ng VISION at magkaroon tayo ng annual Day with Vilma, kung saan vilmanians from around the globe will have a day of fun and activities with Vilma, magkaroon tayo ng worthy projects para magkapondo and help the less fortunate vilmanians and other people.

### 17) Who is Vilma Santos behind the camera?

Vilma Santos behind the camera? Sobrang mabait, malambing, maaalananin si Vilma in person, through the years that I've known her and my personal encounters with her, including our constant texting and calls regarding her showbiz career and plans, hindi siya nagbabago, and she became a better person pa, very concerned sa Vilmanians always extended her helping hands. Hindi siya madamot at galante siya sa mga fans. Very transparent siya at totoong tao, what you see is what you get, pag masama pakiramdam o wala sa mood pag minsan makikita mo yon, walang put on, kaya hindi mahirap mahal in at masarap mahal in at suportahan si Vi, HEAVEN! - fg



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|---|--|--|
| <h1 style="margin: 0;">ARIES ON A ROLL</h1> <p style="margin: 0;">( A R I E S N G K A N A D A )</p> |  | <p>Aries, aka egRoll-on, 38, Asst. Supervisor from Toronto, ON Canada. His Favorite Vilma Movie: Pahiram Ng Isang Umaga &amp; Tagos Ng Dugo. E-mail: egrollon2001@yahoo.ca</p> |
|---|--|--|

## VILMA SANTOS: Kasalanan Bang Sambahin Ka?

"Ano ba, wala ka na bang gagawin maghapon kundi gumupit ng mga articles at pictures ni Vilma Santos?" That was my mother always asked me more or less 20 years ago . But what can I Do? I really admired Vilma Santos. Minsan tinatanong ko ang sarili ko kung normal pa ba ang ginagawa ko? Wala bang mali sa inaasal ko? Bakit ako ganito? Bakit sobra sobra ang paghanga at panahong inuukol ko kay Vilma Santos? Ako lang ba ang ganito? Na-addict ako kay Vilma Santos. Natatandaan ko noong high school pa lang ako, hindi naman ako actually ganoon ka devoted as Vilma Santos fan. But I really admire her dahil na rin sa impluwensya ng mother at mga pinsan ko. Yes napaanood ko na ang mga pelikula nya sa TV and to think na ang first movie na napanood ko sa sine ay ang LIPAD DARNA LIPAD. Sometimes sinasabi ko rin sa Nanay ko na nahawa lang naman ako sa kanya. Kaya lang mas naging malala lang ang Vilma fever ko. Actually hindi nga ako mahilig sa showbiz at wala akong panahon sa mga artista. But when I started watching Vilma on television and started watching her good movies, nagsimula na ang hysteria sa buhay ko. Ano ba ang meron si Vilma na wala ang iba? Well, hindi ko na siguro kailangang isa-isahin ang mga achievements niya. Tanging manhid at walang pakiramdam ang hindi nakakaalam. Personally, of course hindi ko siya kilala at hindi rin ako interesado sa pinagdaanan niya. Ang alam ko lang, heto nalulong ako kay Vilma. Vilma, Vilma puro nalang Vilma. Bakit pati sa panaginip Vilma pa rin. Nasasaktan ako kapag mayroong hindi magandang sinasabi kay Vilma. Nagmumura ako at nakikipag-away kapag may pumipintas kay Vilma. Naghahanap ako ng mapapangasawa na kamukha ni Vilma. But of course, my wife for the past thirteen years ay hindi naman kamukha ni Vilma. Iisa lang si Vilma Santos and she's incomparable. Nobody comes close to the one and only Star For All Seasons. She was branded as poor second sa tinaguriang phenomenal Star . Marami ang noon ay nagsabi na siya ay hanggang doon lang, laging sunod lang ang pangalan sa nag-iisang Superstar. Ngunit ang panahon ay sadyang nag-iba, ang poor second nasa top of the world na ngayon. Sa tatlong dekada na nagdaan walang nakahadlang sa kinang ng bituin ng lahat ng panahon. Pinataob niya ang lahat ng bituin na minsay kuminang at nabigyan ng pagkakataon. Walang pelikula o episode ng Vilma ang pinalagpas ko. Sa tuwing may ipalalabas na pelikula si Vilma, nagsisimba ako at pinagdadadal na sana kumita. Mas maraming beses na ipinagdasal ko si Vilma compare sa mga kamag-anak ko. Maraming beses akong umuwi ng maaga mula sa trabaho para pumila sa Metropolitan theater just to watch Vilma. Ilang beses ko bang isinama ang girlfriend ko na ngayon ay misis ko na na makipag-date to watch Vilma? Part of my budget ang pampanood ng Vilma movies. Hindi kukulangin ang tatlong ulit na pinanonood ko ang pelikula ni Vilma. Umulan, umaraw, may baha man o bagyo, first day of showing palang nakapila na ako. I devoted more than half of my prime as single man to Vilma, which I havent done sa kahit sino sa buhay ko. Until I finally got married and blessed with two lovely daughters. Actually, I got married on the same year that Vilma got married to Sen. Ralph Recto. Medyo nag lie low na ako sa pagiging Vilma fanatic, but still hindi pa rin nagbago ang paghanga at pagmamahal ko kay Vilma. Bawat yugto at kabanata ng pagiging public figure nya ay aking inaabangan. Minsan nga sobrang ambisyon na ang pinapangarap ko. Maging Presidente sana ng Pilipinas si Vilma Santos. Why not? Her credibility and performance as Lipa City mayor for the past seven years speak for herself. Nobody can oppose to her because she is a woman of wisdom, with great moral values and

never been tainted or involved in corruption. May takot siya sa Diyos. Nang magdesisyon akong manirahan sa ibang bansa, ang isa sa inaalala ko ay ang mapalayo kay Vilma. Ngunit kinakailangan, katulad ng isa sa mahalagang natutunan ko kay Vilma, naging priority ko ang aking pamilya. Bagamat nasa malayong lugar na ako, nanalaytay parin sa dugo ko ang pagiging Vilmanian ko. Hindi siya maalis sa sistema ko. Hindi nagbago ang paghanga ko. Hanggang ngayon Sina-samba ko siya. Kasalanan ba ito? Kung ito ay Kasalanan , ayaw kong mawasto. Sa pagkakamali ayaw kong gumising. Hanggang sa kabilang buhay mananatili siya sa puso ko. Sa katanungang ako lang ba ang ganito? No, I realized and proven na hindi ako nag-iisa. Maraming Pilipino ang true bloodied Vilmanians na nakakalat sa lahat ng sulok ng mundo. Lahat ng artista may humahanga, ngunit hindi lahat ng humahanga ay nagmamahal. Dito naiiba si Vilma Santos dahil minamahal at inspirasyon siya ng mga humahanga sa kanya. And to all Vilmanians around the Globe, be proud of being one. Hindi tayo nagkamali, napakasarap maging isang Vilmanian.

## DID YOU KNOW?

That Vilma Santos is the most awarded actress in the world. With more than 60 Best Actress Trophies, Vilma is the most awarded individual on her chosen field. No other actress in the whole planet has garnered such number of recognitions. She is therefore a shoo-in for a Guinness Book of World records. That Vilma Santos is the only actress who have been paired with all male superstars in Philippine Cinema. No other actress not even her arch rival has enjoyed such privilege of working with the country's biggest male stars. Senior or junior than her, She fits like a T. She was paired with **Fernando Poe Jr. (3 times), Dolphy, Joseph Estrada, Romeo Vasquez ( 8 times), Christopher De Leon ( 23 times), Philip Salvador ( 4 times), Rudy Fernandez, Ramon Revilla Sr., Bong Revilla, Jun Airstorenas (2times), Chiquito, Gabby Concepcion (5 times), Richard Gomez (2 times), Aga Muhlach (2 times).**

That the actress who played several times as mother to Vilma Santos in a movie is Perla Bautista.

The first movie personality who courted Vilma Santos is Eddie Peregrina. He was busted on the third day of his courtship.

That the First Anniversary presentation of VILMA show on GMA 7 garnered the highest rating in a Musical Variety shows category on the record of the now defunct PULSITRON (An independent survey company commissioned by Philippine Advertising Agency). It garnered 84% of viewers share, only 3% shy of the record holder SEE TRUE episode with Kris Aquino first appearance on TV after Edsa Revolution.

That VILMA show is the only program that have been consistently number 1 in the entire three quarters of the year 1987. No other program in the history of Philippine Television have done such record.

That Vilma Santos is the only actress who broke the box office records twice in a year. In 1982 Vilma Santos broke all existing box office records via SINA-SAMBA KITA and a months later she broke her own record after the showing of GAANO KADALAS ANG MINSAN.

That according to the record of Andres Soriano Library in Manila, Vilma Santos is the actor that made most number of movies with her on a lead role.

That Vilma Santos is the record holder of having 10 or more movies in a year. 1972 (14); 1973 (12); 1974(12); 1975 (10); 1976 (10); 1978 (12).— ar

# FEATURED VILMANIAN

(IPINAKIKILALA)

## Buboy Medina a.k.a. KingKang\_A

Ipinakikilala! Buboy, 39, aka KingKang\_A., a production artist from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Buboy's all time favorite Vilma movies are "Relasyon", "Tagos ng Dugo", "Dekada'70", "Darna" series, "Broken Marriage" and "Burlesk Queen". "Ellen do that, Ellen do this...ang gusto mo pagkatapos kong manggaling sa trabaho ay maglinis pa ng banyo" from Broken Marriage and "Ang pag aasawa ay 24 hours na trabaho yan" from Relasyon are his favorite line from Vilma movies. He love all light colors and his favorite dish are continental and Asian cuisine (specially Japanese). Aside from watching Vilma movies, Buboy, like most Vilmanians loves to sing. We asked him the following questions:

**Kung first time mo pa lang na makikilala si Ate Vi, paano ka magpapakilala at ano ang sasabihin mo tungkol sa sarili mo?**

Kung makikilala ko si Queen, I will tell her I am always be a Vilmanian hanggang sa huling patak ng dugo ko at hininga. Na ako yung tumawag sa kanya last 3 years ago ng mga bandang May 2003 ng manalo siya ng Gawad Urian for Dekada'70. Overseas call ito from Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

**Kung bibigyan ka ng chance, anong gusto mong malaman ni Ate Vi at ng mga Vilmanians tungkol sa iyo?**

"Na mahal na mahal ko si Queen Vi, na kaya kong makipaglaban for her. Hahamakin ang lahat... maipagtanggol ko lamang ang nag iisang REYNA!"

**Sinong paborito mong kapareha at nakapareha ni Ate Vi?**

"Christopher De Leon at si Albert Martinez"

**Paano nag-umpisa ang pagiging Vilmanian mo?**

Noong nasa kindergarten pa lang ako ng napanood ko ang "Lipad, Darna Lipad" sa television. Ginagaya ko talaga siya then gumawa ako ng costume like Darna then isinuot ko pa.

**Anong mga katangian ni Ate Vi katulad ng katangian mo?**

Pareho kaming Scorpion, palabán at malalim magmahal sa lahat ng bagay. Pareho kaming artistically-inclined.

**Anong pinaka-memorable experience about Ate Vi?**

Noong nagkausap kami last May 2003 ng manalo siya sa Gawad Urian. Overseas call ito at siya mismo ang nakausap ko. HEAVEN ANG FEELINGS KO NOON, TEARY EYED PA AKO.

**Kung bibigyan ka ng chance na baguhin ang nakaraan sa buhay ni Ate Vi anong babaguhin mo?**

Wala akong babaguhin sa kanya, dahil sa mga pagkakamali niya siya natutong lumaban at nagbago ng MAAGA. Born fighter yan si Queen! Lahat ng tao may pagkakamali then siya mismo ang huhubog sa mga pagkakamali niya upang baguhin at matuto ng maaga. Sa mga pagkakamali ka natutuo at nakakabuo ng panibagoing pag asa.

**Anong mga bagay ang ayaw mo sa pagiging Vilmanian mo?**

Wala....

**Anong mga bagay ang gusto mo sa pagiging Vilmanian mo?**

Gusto ko bilang Vilmanian ko...yung nakaka-addict ang maging idolo si Queen kasi pulos positive vibes at pati na rin ang aura niya very postive.

**Anong mga bagay ang gusto mo pang matamo ni Ate Vi?**

Good health, good family ties at sa career National Artist recognition at R.Magsaysay award. Saka gumawa pa ng mga quality films ang REYNA.

**Ano pang role ang gusto mong makitang magampanan ni Ate Vi?**

Marami...tulad ng isang matapang na Filipina-Muslim, isang retarded (dream role ng REYNA), isang crusader (journalist), istorya ng isang matandang babae kung paano siya nakaka cope up sa pagiging matandang babae, at marami pang iba.

**Kumpletuhin mo ang pangungusap na ito: "Ako ay isang Vilmanian dahil..."**

Dahil napaka positive ng aura niya sa lahat ng bagay.

—mpl



### Trivia (from page 17)

1. Leopoldo Salcedo
2. Tony Santos Jr.
3. Ike Lozada
4. Romy Mallari
5. Luis Gonzales
6. Piolo Pascual
7. Francis Arnis
8. Raul Aragon
9. Mark Gil
10. Lyod Samartino
11. Tito, Vic and Joey
12. Ronnie Henares
13. Eddie Gutierrez
14. Romeo Miranda
15. Tirso Cruz III
16. Emie Garcia
17. Nick Romano
18. Nonoy Zuniga
19. Anthony Castelo
20. Dindo Fernando
21. Edu Manzano
22. Tommy Abuel
23. Lito Lapid
24. Nino Muhlach
25. Ronald Corveau

Handy  
**GLAD** rainwear  
"Proteksion ko sa ulan"

Alam 'nyo ho, talagang convenient ang Glad rainwear. Napakadating tulupin at kasyang. Kaya sa bulse o bag. At sa halagang kayang-kaya rinyo. Kaya 't lagi akong may dalang Glad rainwear. Lakang-lalo na sa ating weather very unpredictable. Kaya inarekomenda ko sa inyo ang Glad rainwear. Talagang proteksion sa ulan!"

*Mano Sign*  
THE STAR 2006



UNION GARIBE

**KOMERSIYAL**

( NUON AT NGAYON )



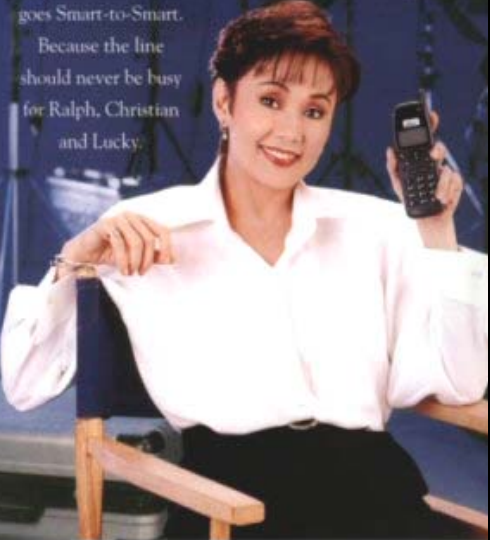
My Wilma Santos, Eskinol Girl  
**Eskinol**  
FACIAL LOTION  
For a clearer, fresher, fairer skin.

LUX SUPERSTAR  
**VILMA SANTOS**



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Her plans.  
Her complexion care.

Wilma Santos-Recto goes Smart-to-Smart. Because the line should never be busy for Ralph, Christian and Lucky.



I want to be as smart as my phone. Kaya kanya, ang ating karamdala. I don't want to share my computer to kanya. Kaya kanya, ang ating karamdala. I don't want to share my computer to kanya. Kaya kanya, ang ating karamdala. I don't want to share my computer to kanya.

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**Wilma Santos, Eskinol Girl.**  
**And her cherished possessions.**

...the trophies that adorn my acting career, my family, and Eskinol Facial Lotion that assures me a clearer, fresher, fairer face.

You, too, will cherish the way Eskinol Facial Lotion takes care of your skin. Eskinol Facial Lotion lightens your skin, clears it of pimples and blemishes, and gives you that fresh, clean feeling. Use Wilma, your face becomes deserving of praise.



For a clearer, fresher, fairer face, it's a cherished possession.

**The Eskinol Girl,**  
**Wilma Santos.**



With that clearer, fresher, fairer face it all starts with Eskinol Facial Lotion. You, too, can be an Eskinol Girl. Like Wilma Santos. With Eskinol Facial Lotion, it's so easy.

Eskinol Facial Lotion lightens your skin, clears it of pimples and blemishes. And gives you that fresh, clean feeling. To make your face more captivating. And your life, more exciting.

**Eskinol**  
FACIAL LOTION  
For a clearer, fresher, fairer face.

never too soon to start saving for tomorrow.

Maswerte ako, Ralph believes in preparing for...

**the future**  
with All Asia Mutual Funds.

All Asia Mutual Funds are the best way to start saving for tomorrow. With a minimum investment of only P5,000, you can start on the path to a better future.

All Asia Mutual Funds. It goes to the next level.

**All Asia Mutual Funds**

That cleansing cream does for my face, ESKINOL Cream Soap does for my whole body.

I know my regular skincare routine. I use Eskinol Facial Lotion every day. But I also use Eskinol Cream Soap. That's because Eskinol Cream Soap is a blend of rich emollients and no-drying agents. The skin-cleansing cream that's gentle on your skin. No matter how busy I am, my skin gets a special care it needs every day. And, everyone I take a shower with, as much good for my skin as Eskinol Cream Soap is for yours. I don't mind sharing.

**Eskinol CREAM SOAP**  
The skincare routine that's as easy as taking a shower. For softer, smoother, clearer skin all over.