

Dossier

50th Anniversary 20th International Concert Tour "SingKwenta, SingKwela!"

University of the Philippines Concert Chorus (UPCC)

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University of the Philippines Concert Chorus

During the incumbency of General Carlos P. Romulo as President of the University of the Philippines, the UP Concert Chorus (UPCC or Korus) was born in 1962. The group has metamorphosed from a simple choral ensemble performing for the university's cultural presentations to a musical force of a national and international stature.

The UP Concert Chorus has recently been given the prestige of being part of the ALIW Awards Hall of Fame for bagging the "Best Choral Group" Award in 2008 and 2009, and being the "Best Cultural Group" in 1977, 1982 and 1985. A CECIL Awardee for their recording of Ryan Cayabyab's Misa, the UP Concert Chorus was also awarded "Best Performing Group" in the distinguished Gawad Chancellor Award 2004 at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City.

A veteran of 19 world concert tours, Korus has contributed immensely to promoting Filipino culture and heritage. Concert Chorus holds the distinction of being chosen as "one of the world's best choirs" at the 4th Lincoln Center International Choral Festival in New York City. It also holds the singular honor of being invited 11 times to the prestigious Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Scotland, and four times for command performances for Queen Elizabeth II.

Korus also garnered major international competition awards, namely, the Primo Premio di Excellenza in Canto Corale - Gorizia, Italy in 2006. In 2004, they were the favorite and received standing ovations at the 4th International Ruhr Universitat A Capella Festival, Bochum, Germany. In 2003, they won 3 gold prizes at the International Choral Competition in Mainhausen, Germany, the Premio Pubblico Speziale (People's Choice Award) at the Festival Internazionale Canto di Foklorico in Tuscany, Italy, and Finalist as the 51st Conccorso Polifonico Internazionale "Guido d'Arrezo," Italy.

Their recent accomplishments include the Prix Excellance, First Prize Mixed Category and Prix du Public Premier Prize in Montreux, Switzerland and were the main feature of the 60th Sagrada del Vino Festival in Casarsa, Italy last April and May 2008. Korus continues to return and visit tour destinations of the past, like the USA and Europe; but at the same time, they are challenged to plant cultural seed and friendship across the globe in new destinations such as New Zealand.

The University of the Philippines Concert Chorus, under the continuing leadership of Professor Janet Sabas-Aracama, is not just a horde of talented university students—it is a group with the passion to perform. They have indeed done more than showcase exceptional talents in music and dance—Korus has created generations of Filipino artists, all with the mission to serenade the world with the music they create. All of these, for the love of the choral arts, for the university's honor, for love of country and, most of all, for the glory of God.



B

National and Internacionals Accomplishments

2011 24th Aliw Awards – Manila Philippines Hall of Fame for Best Choral Group 2010 23rd Aliw Awards – Manila Philippines **Best Choral Group** 2009 22nd Aliw Awards – Pasig City, Philippines Best Choral Group 2008 44th Montreux Choral Festival -- Montreux, Switzerland Prix du Public Diploma of Excellence 21st Aliw Awards - Manila Philippines Best Choral Group 2006 45 Concorso Internazionalle di Canto Chorale -Gorizia, Italy Premio Excelenza (Male Chorus) 2004 U. P. Gawad Chancellor – Quezon City, Philippines Best Cultural Group 2003 Guido d'Arrezo - Italy 1st Place, Folk Song Category Förderkreis International Chortage -- Mainhausen, Germany 2nd Place, Mixed Choir Category - Gold 2nd Place, Female Choir Category- Gold 3rd Place, Male Choir Category – Gold People's Choice 2000 Aberdeen International Youth Festival - Aberdeen, Scotland 1997 Aberdeen International Youth Festival - Aberdeen, Scotland



Festival Internacional de Música de Cantonigrós -- Barcelona, Spain

Finalist, Polyphony Category

1996 World View Music Festival -- Sacramento, California, USA

1994 Festival Internacional de Música de Cantonigrós -- Barcelona, Spain 2nd Place, Folksong Category 3rd Place, Polyphony Category Florilège Vocal de Tours – Tours, France Finalist, Folksong Category

1993 CECIL Award for the recording of Ryan Cayabyab's MISA

1992 Cultural Newsmaker of the Year Award – *Tatak Pilipino (TV)*, Manila, Phil. Kor Internasjonale Festival – Stord, Norway Kanbhof Choir Festival – Cologne, Germany International Youth Festival – Aberdeen, Scotland Tivoli Summer Festival of the Arts – Copenhagen, Denmark Summer Music and Arts Festival – Birmingham, England Arts Season Festival – Meridian, Mississippi, USA

1990 Concorso della Guido d'Arezzo – Arezzo, Italy 1st Place – Folksong Adult Category

Finalist - Polyphony Category

Eisteddfodd Choral Music Competition – Llangollen, Wales

3rd Place – Folksong Category

3rd Place – Polyphonic Adult Category

International Jazz Festival - Wigan, England

Gateshead Garden Festival - Durham, England

International Mini-Olympics - Glasgow, Scotland

Semana Coral International - Alava, Spain

International Youth Festival - Aberdeen, Scotland

Tivoli Summer Festival of the Arts – Copenhagen, Denmark

Arts Season Festival - Meridian, Mississippi, USA

1988 Förderkreis International Chortage -- Mainhausen, Germany

1st Place – Polyphonic Adult Category

1st Place – Folksong Adult Category

2nd Place – Polyphonic Youth Category

2nd Place – Folksong Youth Category

International Choral Competition - Pohlheim, West Germany

2nd Place – Folksong Adult Category

3rd Master Prize, Adult Category

Tivoli Summer Festival of the Arts – Copenhagen, Denmark

Summer Music Festival – Richmond, England

Summer Arts Festival - Toronto, Canada

Garden Festival – Liverpool, England

International Choir Festival - Ostiglia, Italy

International Youth Festival – Aberdeen, Scotland



- 1986 Adelaide Centennial Music Festival Adelaide, Australia
- 1985 International Choral Competition Spittal, Austria 3rd Place Polyphonic Adult Category
 Philippine Summer Music Festival Munich, Germany International Chorakademie Krems, Austria International Folk Festival Morecambe, England Semana Coral Internacional Alava, Spain 15th Annual Festival of the Arts Hong Kong International Youth Festival Aberdeen, Scotland
- 1983 International Choral Competition Pohlheim, Germany

 1st Place Polyphonic Youth Category

 International Youth Festival Aberdeen, Scotland
 International Music Choral Competition The Hague, Netherlands

 3rd Place Mixed Adult Category
- 1981 International Youth Festival Aberdeen, Scotland
- 1979 1st Asian International Choral Festival Manila, Philippines International Youth Festival – Aberdeen, Scotland Ethnic Music Festival – Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
- 1978 International Day of Singing Barcelona, Spain
- 1974 4th Lincoln Center International Choral Festival New York City, USA One of the World's Best Choirs



Rey T. Paguio's Music Legacy



Though Prof. Rey T. Paguio (Nov. 29, 1935 – Oct. 14, 1999) gained his laurels in music, and music has virtually defined his life, Rey was actually coerced into music in his youth when his grandfather "ordained" him to be a musician of the family by forcing him to take piano lessons.

Immediately, Rey was recognized as a child prodigy. He had composed his first piece by the age of seven. While he was preparing for his first year at UP High, his grandfather, again, steered the course of his career by making him join a piano competition which, not surprisingly, he won, at a mere 11 years of age. The prize was enrollment as a full-time student at the UP Conservatory of Music.

Rey juggled this load with his high school studies. Thus, he was both a high school and a college student at the same time. His then-frail body could not take this punishing schedule indefinitely. By his third year, he stopped his music studies and concentrated on his secondary education. Upon graduation, he wanted to take journalism. His grandfather intervened once more. Lightning struck for the second time, and he earned a full scholarship at UP by winning the Ernestina Crisologo Jose piano competition.

While a music student, he was also immersed in choral singing in a Protestant church. The choirs were conducted by luminaries like Antonio Molina, now a National Artist, and Eliseo M. Pajaro. After obtaining a teacher's diploma and a bachelor of music degree in piano, Maestro Pajaro got him a scholarship to take graduate studies in the Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas to further hone his skills in conducting and piano. On his way to a masteral degree in sacred music (major in choral conducting) and in music education, Rey garnered all the honors the university could muster: Most Outstanding Graduate Student of the Year, the Nita and Jake Aiken Music Award, the Delta Lambda Sigma Music Award, inclusion in the Dean's Honor List and membership in the Phi Kappa Alpha Music Honor Society.

REY AND THE UP CONCERT CHORUS

Soon after his return to the Philippines, he joined the UP Conservatory (converted to College in 1968) as a faculty member, and became fully involved with the UP Concert Chorus (UPCC). The UPCC was created in 1962 and was handled by four other conductors before Rey took over in 1969.

And thus was born Sir. And thus evolved the UPCC into what it is now. Under Sir's leadership, the UPCC grew from an excellent university choral to an entity of national stature to a choir of international renown. The UPCC has undertaken 11 international tours each lasting between a month to as long as seven months. The UPCC has participated in, and won international competitions, and is the only group in the world to be invited back to Aberdeen International Youth Festival in Scotland for a record of nine times. The group's incursions abroad exposed foreigners to Philippine music, zarzuelas and made the UP youth worthy ambassadors of goodwill.

OTHER MUSICAL ACTIVITIES

The UPCC, though integral to Sir's life, was not his only preoccupation. He has been dubbed a "Renaissance man" for the breadth of his artistic talents, and a genius for the outstanding results of all his undertakings. Many other people have benefited from his forays into other musical activities. Sir has conducted other choirs, has taught many others how to conduct choirs, has been in the board of Music Council of the Philippines, the Philippine Conductors League of the Philippines, and several more organizations.

Another of his talents is composing. He has composed three major works: Sumpang Mahal, a zarzuela; Ms. Philippines, a music spoof; and May Day Eve, a full blown opera based on National Artist Nick Joaquin's short story. He was television host in the initial year of GMA 7's A Little Night of Music, which was Sir's brainchild and reaction to the over proliferation of pop music. Sir has dabbled in stage and television acting, and has been a guest conductor of the prominent Philippine orchestras: The Manila Symphony Orchestra, Philippine Youth Orchestra and the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra.

Sir is also bent on promoting music appreciation throughout the Philippines. Upon his initiative, Sir worked out a two-year concert series at the Asian Institute of Tourism Auditorium, which featured classical music and artist every month. Sir conceptualized and pushed for the Baguio City Dap-ayan Concert Season of cultural shows, and a weekly Wednesday Noon Series of Classical Artists (national and international), which eventually became the Thursday Evening Series. With Dr. Jonathan Malicsi, Prof. Elmo Makil and Augusto Espino, he formed Bel Canto Philippines whose mission is to bring classical music to different regions of the country. Prof. Makil and Sir also teamed up for choral-vocal workshops all over the Philippines to share their expertise with "musically-starved and eager-to-learn choirs."

THE UP COLLEGE OF MUSIC AND DEAN

Through all these years, the UP College of Music has been Sir's home. Sir has molded legions of music students in his years of teaching conducting, music education, and piano. He served as College Secretary to all Deans of the UP College of music: Ramon Tapales, Eliseo Pajaro, Ruby K. Mangahas, Ramon P. Santos and Juan P. Ramos. He was Chairman of the Department of Music Education, and the Department of Conducting and Choral Ensembles, sometimes concurrent with his being College Secretary. He was advisor for the Music College Student Council many times. He was UP Professional awardee as the "Most Outstanding Music Alumnus of the Year" in 1982. He received the 1991 Llames Professional Chair in Music. His years of selfless dedication were capped by his elevation to Dean of the UP College of Music in 1997.



Prof. Janet Sabas-Aracama - UPCC Conductor



"Jai", known by many, has earned her Bachelor's degree and Master's degree in music at the University of the Philippines College of Music as a Choral Conducting major and minor in Voice and Ethnomusicology. Some of her mentors include Prof. Rey T. Paguio in conducting, Josie Bailen, Fides Asencio and Elmo Makil in voice. She is currently a faculty member, Associate Professor I at the UP College of Music with the Conducting and Voice Departments.

She was a member/soloist of the internationally acclaimed UP Concert Chorus from 1976-1986, travelling six world tours under the leadership of the late Dean Rey T. Paguio winning choral competitions abroad as alto soloist and assistant conductor.

In 1982, she won as "Best Alto Soloist" in the Manila Symphony Society sponsored choral competition performing Beethoven's Ninth Symphony "Ode To Joy".

Jai has musically directed and vocal coached many broadway musicales like Repertory Philippines' "Fiddler on the Roof" and "Into the Woods"; New Voice Company's "Chess"; Chase International's "Tribute to Boubil and Schonberg"; the composers of "Miss Saigon and Les Miserables" at the Cultural Center of the Philippines and "Once On This Island" and many others. Her latest is the musical "Fantastiks", a PCI Bankard trilogy series for 1999. She has also coached many famous personalities in classical music, theatre and the pop scene like Joy Virata, Menchu Lauchengco, Michael William, Geneva Cruz, Dulce, Rada, Cris Villonco, Antoinette Taus, Mikee Cojuangco, the cast of "Miss Saigon School" sent to Germany, Australia, London and the Netherlands, and many more.

As a mezzo soprano, Jai performs a wide and varied repertoire ranging from classical, broadway, gospel, jazz, OPM and pop. She has been a regular soloist performer for the Philippine Philharmonic Orchestra under the batons of Maestros Piero Gamba, Julian Quirit, Francisco Feliciano, Ryan Cayabyab, Oscar Yatco, Ruggiero Barbieri and a lot more performing sacred large choral works such as Handel's "Messiah", Beethoven's "Ninth Symphony", Verdi's "Requiem", Vivaldi's "Gloria", Feliciano's "Te Deum", Cayabyab's "Misa" and more.

Her first experience on stage was as dancer of Radaic's Dance Theater Philippines with a debut performance in the Aberdeen Youth Festival in Scotland. Her debut in musical theatre and opera started when Prof. Paguio invited her to sing with the San Francisco Opera Company at the CCP performing "Tosca" with no less than Placido Domingo and Eva Marton playing the leads. After this, she began playing lead roles as Bloody Mary in "South Pacific", Katisha in "Mikado", Suzuki in "Madame Butterfly", another major role in Ching's "Rendezvous in Venice", Tschaikovsky's "Onegin" and others. Her latest was that of Leonard Bernstein's operetta "Candide" done in Filipino at the UP Abelardo Hall and the Philamlife Auditorium. She has undergone training in acting with some of the prominent directors like Jonas Sebastian, Rolando Tinio and Tony Mabesa.

Her recent performances abroad include ASEAN countries and China. She was a member of the Performing Arts International (PAI) for four (4) years under the leadership of Nolyn Cabahug and Chola Navarro. Jai has also been featured in the CCP Filipino Artist Series as solo artist under the direction of Paul Morales.

Jai also directs church choirs like the Greenhills Christian Fellowship Chancel Choir and the UP College of Music Chorus Class. Her latest assignment is directing the "Harvest", GCF's music team for evangelism.

Currently, she is busy coaching named stars for their recording albums and is co-producing for the coming Harvest's CD recording this year. She is appointed as the Conductor of the University of the Philippines Concert Chorus.

She is married to Joey Aracama, an athlete, actor, baritone and also businessman and has two children, Timoune (5 years old) and Misha (8 months old).

From a wife to mother to teacher, singer, conductor, composer and arranger and many more, Jai offers all of these blessings, skills and talents for the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Repertoire

Classics/Sacred

- Bogoroditse Devo Raduisya (Rejoice, O Virgin; All-Night Vigil, Op. 37) Sergei Rachmaninoff
- Exsultate Justi Ludovico Grossi da Viadana
- Et Misericordia (Magnificat) John Rutter
- Caritas et Amor Z. Randall Stroope
- Pater Noster Fidel Calalang, Jr., Latin ed. Joel Navarro
- Ama Namen John August Pamintuan
- Jubilate Deo (Psalm 100) Ko Matsushita
- The Conversion of Saul Z. Randall Stroope
- De Profundis John August Pamintuan
- My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord Arr. Moses Hogan

Competition Pieces

- Madrigal (Cançó de Pere Serafí) Cristòfor B. Taltabull
- Jesus and the Traders (Jézus és a Kufárok) Zoltán Kodály
- Readymade Alice Perttu Haapanen

Traditional/Contemporary Filipino Folk songs

- Gabaq-an Ruben Federizon
- Scenes from the North Fidel Calalang, Jr.
- Ilay Gandangan Rodolfo Delarmente
- Kaming Magmamani Lucio San Pedro
- Kruhay Beny Castillon
- Tuksuhan Arr. Ramon Santos
- Pasigin Eudenice Palaruan
- Tong Song Arr. Tereza Barrozo

Classic/Contemporary Original Pilipino Music (OPM)

- Metropop Medley Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
 - Isang Mundo, Isang Awit (1980 Grand Prize) Nonong Pedero
 - Salamat, Salamat Musika (Grand Prize 7th Metropop Festival) Gary Granada
 - Sinong Baliw (1981 Grand Prize) Elizabeth Barcelona
 - Pain (Finalist, 6th Metro Manila Popular Festival) Alvina Eileen Sy
 - Till I Met You (Finalist, 6th Metro Manila Popular Festival) Odette Quesada
 - Umagang Kay Ganda" (Finalist, 1979 Metropop Festival) Butch Montserrat, Babes Conde, Gryk
 Ortaleza, Anabelle Lee

- Ikaw, Ako, Tayong Lahat Magkakapatid (Second Prize) Jose Lozano
- 50's Medley Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
 - Hahabul-Habol (O, Ang Babae) Bobby Gonzales
 - Waray-Waray Juan Silos, Jr., Levi Celerio
 - Maalaala Mo Kaya? Constancio de Guzman
 - Alembong Levi Celerio
 - Ikaw ang Mahal Ko Tito Arevalo, Levi Celerio
- Tayo'y Magsayawan VST & Co., Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
- Annie Batungbakal Dennis & Rene Garcia, Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
- Macho Gwapito Snaffu Rigor, Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
- Hanggang Roni & Gigi Cordero, Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
- Apo Medley Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
 - Panalangin Jim Paredes
 - Mahirap TalagangMagmahal ng Siyota ang Iba Jim Paredes
 - Pumapatak Na Naman ang Ulan Danny Javier
 - Blue Jeans Danny Javier, Jim Paredes
- Hataw Na George Black, Jungee Marcelo, Arr. Tereza Barrozo

International/Broadway Songs

- Applause! Applause! Arr. Mac Huff
 - Applause Lee Adams & Charles Strouse
 - Broadway Rhythm Arthur Freed & Nacio Herb Brown
- Broadway Legends: Lerner and Loewe Arr. Mac Huff
 - I Could Have Danced All Night (My Fair Lady)
 - Get Me to the Church On Time (My Fair Lady)
 - Wouldn't It Be Loverly (My Fair Lady)
 - I've Grown Accustomed to Her Face (My Fair Lady)
 - *On the Street Where You Live (My Fair Lady)*
 - With a Little Bit of Luck (My Fair Lady)
 - *The Rain in Spain (My Fair Lady)*
 - If Ever I Would Leave You (Camelot)
- Dreamgirls Medley Tom Eyen & Henry Krieger, Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
 - One Night Only
 - And I'm Telling You I'm Not Going
 - Dream Girls
- Man in the Mirror Glen Ballard & Siedah Garrett, Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.

- Glee Medley Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
 - I Say a Little Prayer Burt Bacharach
 - Somebody to Love Freddie Mercury
 - Faithfully Jonathan Cain
 - Listen Henry Krieger, Scott Cutler, Anne Preven, Beyoncé Knowles
 - Don't Stop Believin' Jonathan Cain, Steve Perry, Neal Schon
- One World, One Voice, One Song Kirby Shaw
- Tribute to the King of Pop Arr. Emmanuel "Eman" de Leon, Jr.
 - Will You Be There? Michael Jackson
 - Heal the World Michael Jackson
 - You Are Not Alone R. Kelly
 - We Are the World Michael Jackson & Lionel Richie
- One Day More Alain Boubil, Claude-Michel Schönberg, Herbert Kretzmer
- The Prayer David Foster, Carole Bayer Sager, Alberto Testa, Tony Renis, Arr. Nhick Pacis

Mass Repertoire

- Surely the Presence (of the Lord is in this Place) Lanny Wolfe, Arr. Anonymous
- Mass for Peace Ryan Cayabyab
 - Panginoon Maawa Ka (Kyrie)
 - Luwalhati sa Diyos (Gloria)
 - Alleluya
 - Santo, Santo (Sanctus)
 - Pagpapahayag ng Pananampalataya (Acclamation)
 - Amen
 - Kordero ng Diyos (Agnus Dei)
 - Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi
- Take and Receive Manuel V. Francisco, S.J., Arr. Arnold Zamora
- The Lord's Prayer Albert Hay Malotte
- A Clare Benediction John Rutter
- An Irish Blessing Arr. James E. Moore
- The Majesty and Glory of Your Name Tom Fettke
- Empower Me Claire Cloninger & David T. Clydesdale
- The Lord Bless You and Keep You Arr. Peter Lutkin

• I Believe/Ave Maria (Quodlibet with Bach – Gounod 'Ave Maria') – Erwin Drake, Irvin Graham, Jimmy Shirl and Al Stillman, Arr. Stan Beard and Barry Tucker

Itinerary

Date		Activity/Destination
From	То	
04 Apr Wed		Leave Manila for Hawai'i
05 Apr Thu	12 Apr Thu	Hawaii
12 Apr Thu	18 Apr Wed	Seattle, Wasington
18 Apr Wed	23 Apr Mon	Portland, Oregon
23 Apr Mon	28 April Sat	Hercules/ Vallejo, California
28 April Sat	03 May Thu	Fremont/ Union City, California
03 May Thu	9 May Wed	South California
09 May Wed	14 May Mon	Las Vegas, Nevada
14 May Mon	20 May Sun	Utah
20 May Sun	27 May Sun	Minnesota
27 May Sun	31 May Thu	Iowa
31 May Thu	03 Jun Sun	Chicago, Illinois
03 Jun Sun	7 Jun Thu	Detroit, Michigan
7Jun Thu	12 Jun Tue	Dallas, Texas
12 Jun Tue	19 Jun Tue	Houston, Texas
19 Jun Tue	26 Jun Tue	Florida
26 Jun Tue	02 Jul Mon	Washington DC
02 Jul Mon	10 Jul Tue	New York/New Jersey
10 Jul Tue	10 Jul Tue	Leave US for Europe
10 Jul Tue	19 Jul Sat	Madrid, Spain
19 Jul Thu	23 Jul Mon	Cantonigros, Spain
23 Jul Mon	26 Jul Fri	Andorra
27 Jul Fri	29 Jul Sun	Barcelona, Spain
29 Jul Sun	31 Jul Tue	Palma de Mallorca, Spain
31 Jul Tue	13 Aug Mon	Neuchatel, Switzerland
13 Aug Mon	18 Aug Sat	Zurich, Switzerland
18 Aug Sat	21 Aug Tue	Paris, France
21 Aug Tue	25 Aug Sat	London, England
25 Aug Sat	30 Aug Thu	Dublin, Ireland
30 Aug Thu	05 Sep Wed	Bergen, Norway
06 Sep Thu	12 Sep Wed	Oslo, Norway
13 Sep Thu	19 Sep Wed	Sweden
20 Sep Thu	24 Sep Mon	Helsinki, Finland
25 Sep Tue	29 Sep Sat	Berlin, Germany
29 Sep Thu	03 Oct Mon	Horbach, Germany

03 Oct Wed	06 Oct Sat	Gambach, Germany
06 Oct Sat	10 Oct Wed	Vienna, Austria
11 Oct Thu	16 Oct Tue	Milano, Italy
17 Oct Wed	21 Oct Fri	Casarsa, Italy
23 Oct Tue	30 Oct Tue	Lestans/ Travesio, Italy
31 Oct Mon	02 Nov Wed	Cecina, Tuscany, Italy
02 Nov Wed	05 Nov Mon	Rome, Italy
05 Nov Mon	10 Nov Sat	Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
11 Nov Sun	14 Nov Wed	Kuching, Malaysia
14 Nov Wed	18 Nov Sun	Australia
18 Nov Sun	22 Nov Thu	New Zealand
22 Nov Thu		Return to the Philippines



Touring Personnel

Name	Section	Date of Birth
Aracama, Janet Sabas	Artistic Director-Alto	13-Aug-59
Mercado, Jesper Colleen Aruelo	Pianist	28-Aug-88
Buensuceso, Misha Adrielle Covar	Soprano	8-Dec-92
Calvo, Angela Marie Macalino	Soprano	15-May-90
Fabros, Lesley Maye Racela	Soprano	30-May-93
Laudit, Hazel Grace Apale	Soprano	3-Feb-76
Moreno, Quennie Ann de Vera	Soprano	2-Feb-80
Ongkiko, Denise Marie Alano	Soprano	25-Jan-88
Villare, Roxanne Alquiroz	Soprano	12-Oct-83
Cariño, Audrey Alison Fuerte	Alto	9-Jun-88
Del Monte, Maria Paulina Esguerra	Alto	9-Feb-90
Delos Reyes, Maria Ana Corina	Alto	16-Jan-91
Layag, Sibyl Andreinne Naval	Alto	24-Apr-90
Magalona, Marxanndra Armonio	Alto	17-Apr-90
Mirano, Erlyn Esteban	Alto	26-Feb-89
Rodriguez, Maxine Rafaella Castro	Alto	6-Sep-92
Ancheta, Nowel John Flores	Tenor	12-Nov-82
Aquino, Manuel Grino	Tenor	10-Sep-60
Lindo, Lindo Flores	Tenor	24-May-89
Madriaga, Ruel Pagtacunan	Tenor	2-May-85
Santos, Cesar Ryan Maramag	Tenor	9-Jun-84
Vogel, Brian Andrew	Tenor	8-Nov-88
Abad, Edmundo Jr., Potestas	Bass	20-Oct-84
Atibagos, Jerry Barerra	Bass	3-Jun-78
Balasbas, Cresencio Fortunato Ramos	Bass	26-May-62
De Leon, Emmanuel Jr., Peranca	Bass	5-May-85
Espiritu, Jerome John Fajota	Bass	21-Feb-94
Hernandez, Alvin Juan	Bass	19-Aug-80
Panganiban, Eric Arceo	Bass	14-Dec-72
Patacsil, Alexis Jan Manangkil	Bass	23-Jan-88
Rodriguez, Jotham Angelo Basconcillo	Bass	2-Jan-94
Villorente, Gabriel Fojas	Bass	29-Jul-85

The UPCC Experience

A UPCC profile reads: The vibrancy of music; The vitality and versatility of youth -The prime ingredients that make the UPCC what it is.

Just what is the UPCC all about?

After so much has been said and written about the group, it will be interesting to probe the inner feelings and impressions of the UPCC member.

Being with the Chorus widens one's horizons as it opens the door to a totally different world of varied experiences. From the moment one joins, one feels the magic the group offers. After the anxieties of going through vocal auditions and interviews, the member still has to undergo the usual tests of intrigues, initiations and adjusting to different personalities. For many, the pull is so strong that a little more effort is exerted at surviving these first trials. In time, the new member gains acceptance and fosters close relations among his companions.

Then, he tackles the initial stage fright and consciousness. These give way to confidence grace and poise, coupled with mastery of the stage, as singing and dancing potentials are polished. One learns to develop his own musical style and expression while always blending with the group. Along with this comes learning the meaning and importance of discipline and cooperation with others for the benefit of all.

After a series of performances, it is not difficult to be sensitive and attuned to Professor Paguio's wishes, conveyed by economical, yet precise signals.

The UPCC member is exposed to a whole gamut of musical forms: broadway musicals, light classics, opera, zarzuela, pop, jazz, ethnic, avant garde pieces, and more! One is fortunate to be involved in the propagation and uplift of culture, bringing its message to the Filipinos and to the world. Especially while performing abroad, the member realizes how music encompasses all language.

The pure enjoyment the members derive from singing and dancing compensate for all the hard work at training. Of course, it is also very gratifying to receive standing ovations and thunderous applause combined with shouts of "Encore!" Triumphant in our efforts, we gladly oblige!

Aside from the common liking for music, the UPCC member is also known to be a lover of food and talk. These traits, among others, bind the group together, in spite of clashing individualities and petty rivalries. Not a few observers envy this cohesiveness that helps the group overcome its obstacles. It develops especially after months of exhaustive fund-raising campaigns, grueling rehearsals, tiring singing engagements and tension-filled travels.

The special camaraderie eventually tends to reach out and encircle others. Through music and friendship, the Chorus has bridged cultural gaps all over the world. The members are, beyond doubt, deserving ambassadors of goodwill and fine representatives of Filipino youth.

During his stay with the UPCC, the member profits from coping with different situations: from dividing his time carefully, keeping delicate balance between chorus, studies and other activities; from adjusting to performing in every conceivable place - churches, university auditoriums, discos, parks, private residences, shopping areas and even prisons!; from giving his best, whether singing to half-empty halls, packed SRO audiences (Performance

level, please!); from suppressing a sneeze or suffering an itch to enduring leg cramps at two-hour shows and from adjusting to all kinds of dressing areas: cramped and makeshift to spacious and elegant.

The examples are numerous, so are the virtues and lessons gained. In time, the UPCC member learns to deal with almost everything that comes his way by practicing adaptability, perseverance, resourcefulness.

How does he take to all the rave reviews?

The accolades and profuse praises from music professionals and critics are very inspiring, naturally. Yet, one remembers to keep much room for improvement. Each performance offers a chance to excel. After all, the member has to uphold the UPCC's distinct reputation of being one of the ten best university choirs in the world. It is a tremendous but fulfilling responsibility to continuously reap honors for the country and university.

So there you have it.

Love of music and singing, talent, diversity, enthusiasm, physical endurance, patience....

....Everything that makes up a UPCC member. Good and bad times, strict rules and discipline, training, pressure, traveling, challenges, achievements, opportunities....

....Everything that makes the UPCC experience, exhilarating, rewarding!

One emerges enriched after all these. The growth is worth being a member.

To be part of the tradition makes one truly proud.

Let us hope it shall continue to do so.

We've come a long way and the road still travels further.

- Belle Puruganan

UPCC alumna



University of the Philippines Concert Chorus (Contact in Spain)

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