



Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines

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2nd Night of Sinehan sa Summer 2019 Featuring Shorts Film Draws Rave Reviews from Film-goers



Lineup of shortfilms screened during the 2nd night of Sinehansa Summer 2019 at the Philippine Center New York (Photo by New York PCG)

12 August 2019, New York– The Philippine Center New York’s Kalayaan Hall was jam-packed on Thursday, 8 August 2019, turning the night into a standing room only event as more than 170 film-goers came for the screening of the 12 short films featured during the 2nd night of the Philippine Consulate General New York’s Sinehansa Summer 2019.

The twelve featured short films which were all directed by Filipino and Filipino-American upcoming film-makers, were Joey Agbayani’s *Lola*; Carlo Francisco Manatad’s *Jodilerks Dela Cruz: Employee of the Month*; Craig Nisperos’ *Mr. Immature*; Jameelah Rose Lineses’ *Atareek*; Gabby Malvar’s *Walis*; Joel Ruiz’s *Mansyon*; Nicole Dizon’s *Boxed*; Raymund Eugenio’s *Mukbang Masarap*; Emma Noelle Buhain’s *Wedding Dance*; Mika Fabella & Rafael Froilan’s *Yakap*; Wester Demandante’s *Kaaway*; and Rommel Tolentino’s “P”. The trailer of the film “Yellow Rose” directed by Diane Paragas was played at the beginning of the film screening.

The short films received overwhelming positive reviews from the audience which is a mix Filipino, Filipino-Americans, and mainstream Americans. One described some of

the films as “thought-provoking” while *Lola*, *Mansyon*, and “*P*” elicited good laughter from the audience.

During the talk back at the end of the screening, film directors Craig Nisperos, Jameelah Rose Lineses, Nicole Dizon, Raymund Eugenio, and Diane Paragas were at hand to answer questions from moderator Gil Quito and the audience. Responding to a question about challenges and opportunities they encountered in telling their stories, *Mukbang Masarap* Director Raymund Eugenio said that “family and food are the two things that always connect us and are always part of Filipino culture.” *Boxed* Director Nicole Dizon shared that she wants to bridge the generational gap between her parents’ generation and that of the young Fil-Ams, particularly during this time when culture in America tends to be individualistic. *Yellow Rose* Director Diane Paragas shared that it took her 15 years to develop and get the film produced. She added that the final release of the film comes at an opportune time when debate on immigration is intense.

Consul General Claro S. Cristobal presented certificates of appreciation to the directors present and thanked them for allowing their films to be featured in the Sinehan sa Summer. Deputy Consul General Kerwin Tate likewise thanked the screening committee members, Cinemalaya, TBA Studios, the Cultural Center of the Philippines, and members of Friends from Abra, Association of Fil-Am Accountants Inc. NY (AFAA-NY), Cagayan de Oro City – Misamis Oriental Association of NY, Inc. (CDO-MISOR), Cebuanos Engaging in Building Unity, Inc. (C.E.B.U.), and the Filipino-American Association of Engineers (FAAE) for their continuous support to the Sinehan sa Summer 2019.

Sinehan sa Summer 2019 runs every Thursday of August at 6:30 pm at the Philippine Center New York. Admission is free. Indie film “Mamang” is set on 15 August, Short Films Night II is on 22 August, and indie film “*Kung Paano Siya Nawala*” is set to close the Sinehan sa Summer series on 29 August 2019. - END



(L-R) Craig Nisperos, Jameelah Rose Lineses, Nicole Dizon, Raymund Eugenio, Gil Quito, and Dianne Paragas during the talk back at the first Short Films Night. (Photo by New York PCG)



Consul General Claro S. Cristobal (8th from right) is flanked by (L-R) Consul Arman Talbo, Craig Nisperos, Jameelah Rose Lineses, Nicole Dizon, Raymund Eugenio, Gil Quito, Diane Paragas, Rely Manacay of CDO-MISOR, Deputy Consul General Kerwin Orville C. Tate and Roel Medrano of FAAE. (Photo by New York PCG)



KalayaanHall jam-packed during the 2nd night of Sinehansa Summer 2019. (Photo by New York PCG)



Reception at the Philippine Center Lobby before the start of the film screening. (Photo by New York PCG)

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