



Consulate General of the Republic of the Philippines

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## **Mike De Leon Classic “Batch ‘81” Screens at New York Museum of Modern Art (MoMA)**



MoMA introduces the newly-restored print of “Batch ‘81” prior to the screening at the Titus Theater  
(photo by NYPCG)

25 January 2018, New York City – Considered as a masterpiece of modern Philippine cinema, Mike De Leon’s “Batch ‘81” screened at the prestigious Museum of Modern Art (MoMA) in New York City on 24 January 2018.

For more information, visit [www.newyorkpcg.org](http://www.newyorkpcg.org) and [www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY](https://www.facebook.com/PHConsulateNY)

The film was presented as part of the 15<sup>th</sup> MoMA International Festival of Film Preservation from 18 January to 1 February 2018. The Festival aims to present classic films from around the world which have been newly-restored.

The Batch '81 restoration was curated by the Asian Film Archive at L'Imagine Ritrovata Laboratory. Director Mike de Leon and Cinematographer Rody Lacap supervised the color grading of the newly-restored version.

Mainstream and Filipino audiences viewed the film at the Titus Theater 1 of the MoMA and commented on the timely restoration of the film considered as one of the gems from the second golden age of Philippine cinema.

Noted Philippine Film historian and screenwriter Gil Quito who was on hand at the screening noted that it is a significant for more and more classic Filipino films being restored so that more audiences are able to view these cinematic gems.

Among the attendees at the event were Consul General Theresa Dizon-De Vega and Vice Consul Khrystina Corpuz-Popov of the Philippine Consulate General in New York

Batch '81 was originally released in 1982 and screened at the Cannes Film Festival Directors' Fortnight and the Toronto international Film Festival (TIFF). END



The image shows a community bulletin board for the film 'Batch '81'. At the top left is a cartoon character holding a Philippine flag. To the right, it says 'Philippine Consulate General New York' and 'Community Bulletin Board' with the ID 'CBB-003-2018'. The main text in a box reads: 'Batch '81. Newly restored. Directed by Mike de Leon. 1982. Wednesday, January 24, 2018 7:30 p.m. The Museum of Modern Art'. To the right is a still from the film showing three men in a dark room. Below the box is a synopsis: 'Philippines. Directed by Mike de Leon. Screenplay by Mike de Leon. Clodualdo del Mundo, Jr., Raquel Villavicencio. With Mark Gil, Sandy Andolong, Ward Luarca. DCP in Tagalog; English subtitles. 108 min. The sadomasochistic initiation rituals of a college fraternity become a metaphor for the Philippines of Ferdinand Marcos in Mike de Leon's unflinching study of the joys of submission. Digital restoration curated by Asian Film Archive at L'Imagine Ritrovata laboratory.' At the bottom is a disclaimer: 'This Community Bulletin Board is owned and maintained by the Philippine Consulate General in New York, and may be used to disseminate information on about events and initiatives that concern the Filipino-American community. It may not be used to promote commercial activities, corporate establishments or partisan political actions. Queries and requests for posting of information may be sent to [cultural@newyorkpcg.org](mailto:cultural@newyorkpcg.org) (subject: community bulletin board).

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