



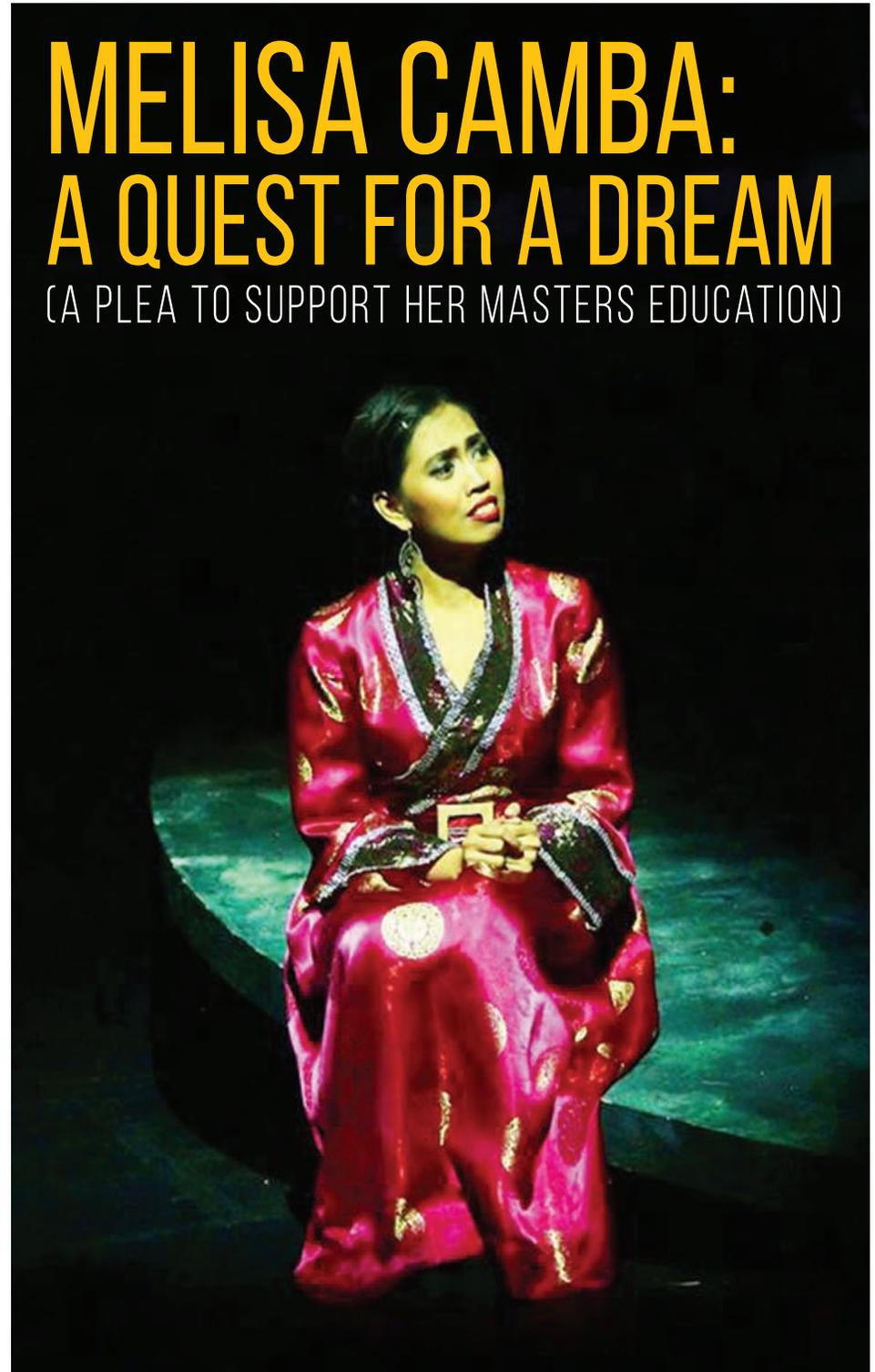
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By Ela Hidalgo

She played the role of Princess Toragana, one of the daughters of the great Kublai Khan, in the musical play, “Marco Polo, The Untold Love Story,” which was held in Shaw Theatre in London in the summer of 2016.

Melisa Camba studied Music Voice Performance under Maestra Irma P.E. Potenciano at the University of Santo Tomas Conservatory of Music. She was a recipient of the Santo Domingo Scholarship (granted to university students with most potential in the field of the arts) and the KALFI (Kalinangan Youth Foundation) LEAD Scholarship. She is an alumna of the Philippine High School for the Arts at the National Arts Center of the Philippines. She was a consistent academic awardee and has graduated with Outstanding Student Artist for Music award.

Melissa credits the following opera, theater and music production staff for their contributions to her theater experience: Short and Sweet Manila’s *How Violet Met Watson* (Violet); Vingtieme Theatre in Paris and CCP Main Theater (Countess Wei Lin); Philippine Opera Company’s *Ang Bagong Harana*, a production directed by Floy Quintos at the Carlos P. Romulo Auditorium; Philippine Opera Company and RankOne Production’s *Ole: A Night of Zarzuela and Flamenco* and *Mad About Mozart*



at the Opera Haus; University of Santo Tomas Conservatory of Music’s production of *Humperdinck’s Hansel and Gretel* (*Sandman*) at the Albertus Magnus Auditorium; Lyric Opera of the Philippines’ *EMMANUEL! A Christmas Celebration*; Kids Act’s Philippines’ adaptation of *Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet* (*Lady Capulet*); LyrOpera’s staging of *Bizet’s Carmen*;

KAMI Arts Center Inc’s *Florante at Laura* (*Batang Minandro/Koro*) and Center for Arts Foundation’s *Ang Damit ng Emperador* (*Yenka*).

Melisa performed as a soloist and ensemble member, at the NAC Theatre, Casa San Miguel, CCP Main and Little Theatre, Ayala Museum, Philam Life Auditorium and

Esplanade Concourse in Singapore among others. She also participated in music festivals and platforms such as the annual CCP PASINAYA Arts Festival, Paco Park Presents, and Concert at the Park.

She also participated in “masterclasses” with London-based actors Michael Xavier (Sunset Boulevard, Show Boat), Natalie Andreou (WICKED) and Marc Antolen (Matilda); New York based music director and composer Carmela Sinco; Broadway vocal coach Michael Lavine; and internationally acclaimed Filipino Tenors Noel Espiritu Velasco and Abdul Candao.

Melisa recently won Best Actress in the *Short and Sweet Manila 2016 Theatre Festival* for her role as Violet in ‘How Violet Met Watson,’ as well as in this year’s *Your Voice Competition in London*, an annual singing competition launched by composers Dan and Laura Curtis.

In September of 2016, Melissa started auditioning for schools in the UK (London, Wales, Scotland) and in New York for her post-graduate studies in Musical Theatre. She got accepted in all three schools as part of their program for the fall semester of 2017. Two of these schools are in United Kingdom, the Royal Academy of Music (London) - MA Musical Theatre and Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama (Cardiff, Wales) - MA Musical Theatre. The other one is in the Institute of American Musical Theatre in New York (a two-year certificate program).

When asked about her motivation to pursue her dream, she says:

“More than helping me reach my dream and making my fellow Filipinos proud, your investment in my education is an investment to strengthen my



country’s belief in the power of the arts. It is an unfortunate reality in the Philippines to have insufficient government support on culture and arts, hence artists are often left to their own devices. Should this continue, I fear our country will soon lose its identity—the soul of our nation.

I want to be an instrument to make people see how much arts—music and theatre in my case—has the power to change people. It’s just the basic ‘butterfly effect’ concept. Art changes people, people change the world.

It seems like a big idea right? But that’s what artists do. We hold on to what’s impossible and make it happen... through our craft. “

Melissa is asking for our support and would be ever grateful for whatever amount we can share

to help her in her ‘quest to a dream.’

“With all these said, I am asking for your help. Any amount will be greatly appreciated and it’ll really mean a lot if you share my story. I have been a scholar since high school and I know the value of determination and hard-work. I assure you that I will be a good investment,” Melissa continues.

If you wish to contribute and support Melissa Camba in her quest to her MA Education, Please donate via the GoFundMe: <https://www.generosity.com/education-fundraising/go-fund-melisa-s-ma-education--2/x/6685278> or through the following:

Andrea Melisa R. Camba
BPI Express Teller

Peso Account: 1999 0875 89

Dollar Account: 1994 0712 93

PayPal: melisacamba@yahoo.com ■