



MARCO POLO

AN UNTOLD LOVE STORY

A NEW MUSICAL
BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY ROGELIO SALDO CHUA

A timeless tale of power, destiny and true love.



UK na UK
by Ella Hidalgo

Marco Polo, a Venetian Merchant Traveler, traveled Asia with his father Niccolo and uncle Maffeo. During their voyage, Marco Polo met the strong-willed daughter of Kublai Khan, Princess Kogajin. He fell in love with the Princess before even knowing that she is royalty. However, Princess Kogajin, who is from the bloodline of Mogul elite cannot marry just for love. The go-getting princess thinks otherwise, and she continues her love affair with the foreigner merchant, Marco Polo. Surprisingly, her father Kublai Khan supported her daughter's love for Marco. But, to marry the princess, Marco Polo needs to surpass the examination to become a civil servant and prove his worth to become a baron. And yes, Marco Polo was successful in passing the examination and became a baron. In the end, Princess Kogajin had chosen to be

noble to face her duties as royalty. So, this is the untold love story of all time.

Marco Polo, the untold story, an enchanting musical opened on August 5, 2016, and it ran until September 4, 2016, in Shaw Theatre London. Rogelio Chua, a Filipino/Belgian singer/songwriter and businessman, wrote the book, lyrics and music, at the same time produced the show as well. They had already shown this musical in Paris and the Philippines. It featured international artists, and there were 7 Filipinos artists who were part of the show. It included the highly acclaimed Filipino singer/actress Pinky Marquez, who played the mother, Empress Wu, and the award-winning actor, Chinggoy Alonzo, the father of Marco Polo, Niccolo in the show. Marquez said that the audition was held at the Cultural Centre of the Philippines,

and luckily, she was chosen to play the role of Empress Wu. She was indeed great in playing this part with her very powerful voice.

Filipinos who have seen the musical were so proud to see the Filipino cast. Aside from Marquez and Alonzo, Princess Kogajin was played by a Filipina US-based, Stephanie Reese, and Melissa Camba who had passed the audition played the role of the princess' sister.

Of course, let us not forget that Marco Polo, the Untold Story was shown in London because of the effort and enthusiasm of Mr. Gene Alcantara, the executive producer. Kudos to everyone involved in the show.

