

A celebration of Pinoy Cuisine

Last November 23, 2009, a new coffee table book entitled PINOY UMAMI: The Heart of Philippine Cuisine was launched at the Ayala Museum.

The book is the first of its kind to explore and document the history, cultural heritage, and diversity of the many regions of Philippine cuisine that give it such distinctly delectable taste. The book boasts of a collection of essays by award-winning Filipino culinary writers and delves into the culture and history of Philippine Cuisine spanning the whole nation.

Bundled together with the coffee table book comes a recipe book entitled Pinoy Umami Recipes. This recipe book boasts 100 recipes with classic standards like Tinolang Manok to regional delicacies like Tamales. These books are like no other, expected to spice up

the already flavorful culinary scene in the Philippines.

The books were made possible by AJINOMOTO. According to AJINOMOTO PHILIPPINES CORPORATION President, Mr. Katsuaki Ogawa, "To commemorate our 100th year anniversary, we created this book in celebration of the unique and delicious food culture of the Philippines. We are so very pleased to present these books to the people of the Philippines."

The books will be available at major bookstores nationwide from the beginning of December.

*Advertising Supplement

Marian in very good...

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who, incidentally nicknamed her Yan-Yan. It was Tina Delposo, assistant to talent manager Popoy "Momsy" Caritativo, now Marian's manager, who said that Tony Tuviera of GMA wanted Marian to team up with Oyo.

Not one to act like a prima donna, Marian wasn't picky about her roles. At such a young age, she even acted as mother in the Philippine-Malaysian drama series, *Muli*, for GMA 7 as well as in the TV fantasy *Super Twins*.

Then came the search for the title role in *Mari-Mar*, the Mexican telenovela, starring Thalia, which became a phenomenon in local television in 1996. Marian auditioned and got the coveted role, and struck up a highly bankable team-up with Dingdong Dantes. The No. 1 soap opera was followed by top hits *Dyesebel* and *Ang Babaeng Hinugot sa Aking Tadyang*.

In 2006, Regal signed up Marian for eight pictures, including romantic comedies *Desperadas*, *True Love*, and *My Best Friend's Girlfriend*.

She enjoys not only acting on TV and in the movies but also having music and dance albums to her name. Under Universal Records are Marian Rivera Dance Hits, *Retro Crazy*, and her single *Sabay-sabay Tayo*. Today, she has more than two dozens commercial endorsements.

Marian claims she does not have hereditary acting talent and has not joined any acting workshop. She watches a lot of foreign movies, but has no favorite movie, actor or director. She says she's very open to advice from her directors and from her co-stars like Maricel Soriano in the movie *Bahay Kubo*.

Marian signed TV and movie contracts against *Lola's* and Ma's consent. Later, unable to dissuade her, they grudgingly permitted her to enter showbiz. "Gusto ko namang makaranan ng hirap," explains Marian, "*iyong ma-enjoy ko ang pinagpaguran ko*." She refused to receive allowances from home. She rented a small condominium unit, hardly owned ap-

pliances, washed the dishes and her clothes, rode a taxi. Now, she owns two cars and buys anything she wants.

Hard work also earned her honors such as Best New Female TV Personality at the 2006 20th Philippine Movie Press Club Star Awards for Television; Favorite Television Actress at the First Annual Pil-Am Visionary Awards; FAMAS German Moreno Young Achievement Award; and Actress of the Year at the PEP Forum Awards.

She has brought her mother to the set of *Darna* in Bulacan so that her mom can see for herself that her work is not a bed of roses. Her mother has seen how acting entails practice and concentration, memorizing lines, quick costume changes, etc.

The downside of showbiz, furthermore, is eternal intrigues. Marian has been rumored to have had issues with Angel Locsin, Kristine Hermosa, and Katrina Halili, all of which, of course she denied. Marian haters have accused her of grabbing juicy roles from others, of stealing rumored boyfriend Dingdong from Karylle, of appearing in sex-scandal videos on YouTube, of possessing no acting or dancing talent, of being a *taray* queen.

During a taping of *Darna*, Marian does pay attention to the director, is not conscious of the camera, knows timing, is good with reaction shots which have no hint of acting. Proof of her being a hard worker is she was taping while running a high fever due to countless sleepless nights under the spotlight—without complaining.

She hopes to marry "at 30 or earlier" to her ideal man who's "responsible, sincere, and understanding." Being an only child without half-sisters or half-brothers, she hopes to have many children, say, three or four.

Marian enjoys spending her free time with her family in Cavite. And for her, happiness means "being in communication with God, and having a happy and peaceful family."

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Accentuate her glam: Worthington patterned tights in scroll, chain and diamond designs (\$12-\$14) and Decree black ballet flats adorned with sequins both take her from day to night without breaking the bank (\$24.99).

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Linden Street cake plates with scalloped edges in light green are perfect for holiday occasions, and everyday use (\$24.99, set of 3).

Keep her warm and cozy during the cold winter months with the luxurious Chris Madden ultimate plush throw (\$14.99), Chris Madden faux-fur pillow (\$17.99) and Chris Madden faux-fur throw (\$24.99).

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Cindy Crawford Style amber luster pillar candleholders (\$19.99-\$24.99) will wow your guests this holiday season.

Izod sueded fleece—a cool, classic piece at the perfect price (\$19.99).

The men in your life will look fashionably casual in a CONCEPTS by Claiborne argyle zigzag sweater (\$24.99).

Little boys will be ready for their family portrait in an American Living half-zip sweater (\$20.99).

If he prefers a modern style statement, J.Ferrari™ has the cool go-to pieces such as a woven vest (\$19.99); solid and argyle fine gauge sweaters (\$19.99) and printed thermal shirts (\$17.99).

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American Living's navy and red fair isle sweater is a fashion-forward yet classic gift option for young men (\$39.99).

If he prefers the classic Ivy League look, tweed paper boy hats (\$27.99), and leather gloves (\$27.99) from Stafford are just the ticket.

Teens want the season's hottest trend – plaid! Try Arizona graphic flannel shirts (\$36.00).

The Worthington long cozy wrap (\$39.99) and plaid wrap

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