

THE MAFFAA JOURNAL

Mid Atlantic
MAFFAA
Foundation for Asian Artists

June 2015

Greetings Fellow MAFFAA Supporters!



I wish to cordially welcome to you the June edition of the MAFFAA Journal. In this issue, we once again seek to highlight the latest developments of our upcoming projects, most notably with the production of the first Filipino opera written in the English language, *Spoliarium*.

Furthermore, this edition will also acknowledge MAFFAA's recent participation and presence with the various local community organizations in the metropolitan DC area.

The summer may be heating up, but so is MAFFAA! Your continued involvement and generosity is most welcomed. Thank you again for your support as we continue to acquire, preserve and present Asian works of art and culture.

Respectfully,
Patrick Realiza
Public Relations Director, MAFFAA, Inc.

COMING SOON: **SPOLIARIUM - The First Filipino Opera Written in English**

Libretto by FIDES-CUYUGAN ASENSIO
Music by RYAN CAYABYAB

JUAN LUNA'S

S POLIARIVM



OCTOBER 3
NEW YORK
2015

FIRST FILIPINO OPERA WRITTEN IN ENGLISH

Background: **Juan Luna**, a distinguished world class Filipino painter brought honors to the Filipino people through his acclaimed international masterpieces. Among his most notable achievements was the acquisition of the gold medal in the Exposición de Bellas Artes (Madrid Art Exposition) for his painting, the **Spoliarium** in 1884. This oil-on-canvas painting features a glimpse of Roman history centered on the bloody carnage in the wake of the gladiatorial matches and is currently the largest painting in the Philippines.

Dubbed as **the first Filipino opera written in the English language**, Spoliarium is a three-act neo-romantic opera that is guaranteed to give all audiences a unique musical experience.

Originally conceived by Fides Cuyugan-Asensio, one of the Philippines' foremost opera singers and with music by Ryan Cayabyab, the opera will transport audiences back to Paris, France to the days preceding **the Philippine Revolution**, where figures such as José Rizal, Trinidad Pardo de Tavera, Félix Hidalgo, and Antonio and Juan Luna were synonymous with the propaganda movement for Philippine sovereignty.

MAFFAA, Inc. invites you to witness this groundbreaking presentation in New York City.

For more information, please contact **MAFFAA's Public Relations Director, Patrick Realiza**, at (202) 735-4301 or via email at patrick.realiza@outlook.com.

NEW LOOK AND FEEL: THE MAFFAA WEBSITE HAS BEEN REVAMPED!



The Mid Atlantic Foundation for Asian Artists, Inc. (MAFFAA, Inc.), was founded to enrich the lives of present and future generations of Asian immigrants, Asian Americans born in the U.S., and non-Asian artists through the acquisition, presentation, and preservation of works of art and culture in the United States.



The mission of MAFFAA, Inc. is to promote international understanding and friendship through cultural exchange by utilizing performance, exhibition and public education.

MAFFAA, Inc. is dedicated to cultivating innovative models for artists to engage with different communities and provide support in shaping their cultural identity for social changes in order to build a better world.

www.maffaainc.org

Click on the link above to learn more about MAFFAA's Executive Board of Directors:

Dr. Lorna Imperial Seidel (Executive Director)

Mr. Matthew Aninzo (Secretary and Treasurer)

Mr. Patrick Realiza (Public Relations Director)

Community Spotlight: **MAFFAA's Presence and Participation (May 2015)**



(Left to Right): **Philippine Embassy Open House** (May 2)

Collaborative Meeting with American University Students (May 7)

Nationals Game with the Philippine Nurses Association of Metropolitan DC (May 9)



(Left to Right): PNAMDC 2015 Induction Ball at the Hilton Alexandria Mark Center (May 23)
Sal Malaki Concert at the Philippine Consulate in New York (May 29)

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