

She's Born To Sing

By Sharon Lee

DON'T be misled by Miss Selly Marina's demure exterior. Soft-spoken and polite to a fault, the 27-year old Assistant Manager hardly looks like the type to perform on stage.

However, a different side of her emerges when she sings. Miss Marina, who is of Indonesian descent, transforms into a confident and sassy performer and carries a tune with gusto.

She snagged the coveted role of Mei Ling, one of the two lead characters in *A Labour of Love* - NTUC's first musical as part of this year's May Day celebrations.

Set against the tumultuous 1960s to present day Singapore, the musical will star more than 20 fellow performers from the labour movement's performing arts group, P.L.a.Y!.

Miss Marina stars opposite Mr Spencer Tan who plays Ah Keong in the production written and directed by local thespian Jeremiah Choy.

"The musical depicts how they go through thick and thin and how the relationship blossoms between the pair over the years," explained Miss Marina.

The lady is quite the veteran in terms of performing.

She started singing at two when her grandfather taught her to sing his



favourite Theresa Teng song, *Ni Zhen Me Shuo*, and as a youngster, joined a performing arts school in Jakarta where she honed her singing, acting and dancing skills.

In 2001, she was part of the chorus for Action Theatre's *Chang and Eng The Musical* and was a cast member in TheatreWorks' *Festival 30 Plays in 30 Days*. Miss Marina was also a chorus member in *Phua Chu Kang The Musical*.

"Performing is my passion so it's a good opportunity for me because one seldom gets the chance to work with the best. We've got the best writer, songwriter and best director so what else can you ask for?" she said.

"The lyrics are wonderful and so is the cast so come and catch it!" she added. ■

“It's a world-class musical. Catch the show quickly before it goes to Broadway and West End. The singing is fantastic; the dancing is fantastic; everything is fantastic.”

Lim Swee Say



Date: 30 April to 2 May 2007
 (1 May only by invitation)
Venue: University Cultural Centre,
 National University of Singapore
Time: 8pm
Price: Public (Category 1) \$60, (Category 2) \$40,
 (Category 3) \$20
 Union Members \$42, \$28, \$14
 OCBC Card Members \$52, \$34, \$20

For corporate and group bookings, please contact Rathika at 6213 8096
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