

## TWO FILIPINO AMERICAN ARTS GROUPS COLLABORATE FOR CHICAGO ARTISTS MONTH

*CIRCA Pintig, a Filipino American Community Theater Arts organization and Filipino Folk Fusion Band SamaSama Project collaborate once again to celebrate Filipino American History Month with CIRCA Pintig's entry, "Tug Of War 2, Stories of War, Work and immigration" to the 2015 Chicago Artist Month from October 24 to November 2015 at Moooh Dulce Gallery. The two groups first worked together in 2011 to mount Rizal's Sweet Stranger the Musical with International Star Lani Misalucha playing Inang Bayan (Mother Country) in celebration of Philippine National Hero Jose Rizal's 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday.*

**Chicago IL (October 29, 2015)-** Community Theater Arts organization, CIRCA Pintig, and Filipino Folk Fusion Band SamaSama Project collaborate once again to participate in Chicago Artists Month with Tug of War 2, staged real-life stories around the theme of war, work and immigration. Complementing these stories are an exhibit of artwork on the same theme.

Featured are the stories of Raza (Alice Da Cunha), a survivor of the Iraq war, and Wayne (Robert-Lee Limbaga Manzano), a Filipino-American soldier returning from the war in the Middle East, as well as Picketlayn Cantata, a story of a caregiver Biyang's journey from the Philippines to Chicago narrated through songs. The cast includes Louella Maningas Cabalona as Biyang, Ruben Pactol and Allan Sargan alternating as Pedro, Mary Ann Espanola, Rosemarie Tom and Ellen Delarosa.

The featured artists are Jose Aggari, Justin Suico and Raven Guerrero. Raza is written by Zaineab Abdulla and directed by Aaron Mays. Wayne is written by Giovanni Ortega and directed by Aaron Mays. Picketlayn Cantata is written by Joy Barrios and directed by Allan Sargan. Musical direction for Picketlayn is by Baron Cabalona.

The two arts groups first worked together in 2011 to stage the highly successful, Rizal's Sweet Stranger the Musical that featured International Singer, Ms. Lani Misalucha as Inang Bayan (Mother Country) commemorating the sesquicentennial birth anniversary of Philippine National Hero, Jose Rizal.

Previews are on Sat (10/24), 8pm & Sun (10/25), 3pm and Regular shows are 3pm on Sun (11/1), Sat (11/7), Sun (11/8) at Moooh Dulce Gallerym 2602 W. Fullerton Ave., Chicago, IL.

Tickets are \$10 (\$5 for students/seniors) during Previews and \$20 (\$10 for students/seniors) for the regular shows

Please call 773-480-4824 to reserve your tickets.

For more info, check [www.SamaSamaProject.com](http://www.SamaSamaProject.com) or [www.CircaPintig.com](http://www.CircaPintig.com)

### **About SAMASAMA PROJECT**

SAMASAMA PROJECT was launched as one of Chicago's premiere Filipino Folk Fusion band in 2008. "Sama Sama" translated as "united, together" truly live up to their name creating a blend of Filipino folk, rock, ska, and Latin music, inspired by a 1970's musical movement called Manila Sound.

Over the years, the talented group led by Baron Lloyd Cabalona, a versatile musician and arranger and wife, Lou Maningas Cabalona, a TV and musical theater actress in Asia and in the US have made their mark showcasing a fusion of Filipino traditional folk and contemporary music at many notable venues and events. SamaSama Project regularly performs around Illinois and other Midwest States notably at the Windy City Ribfest, Chicago Loop Alliance's ACTIVATE Series, Old Town School of Folk Music – World Music Wednesday Series, the Chicago Cultural Alliance's MOSAIC Fundraiser, Chicago Wildlife Conference, Bolingbrook Piyesta Pinoy 2014, Morton Grove Festival of Cultures, Northbrook's Taste Of Asia. They also performed in Madrid, Spain for the Pope's World Youth Day MacroFestival Concert for over 12,000 youth.

Inspired by the drive to promote Culture through music and the arts, SamaSama Project continues to captivate audiences with their unique sound that transcends all boundaries.

For more information, check out their website: <http://www.samasamaproject.com/>

### **About CIRCA Pintig**

Pintig which means pulse in Pilipino, was founded in April 1991, with a mission to serve as a voice of the Filipino American community by engaging in active cultural work – using art as a means to celebrate the community's rich history and culture. CIRCA was a non-profit arts organization that was founded in December 2001 by members of the PINTIG Cultural Group. CIRCA and Pintig merged in 2006 to form CIRCA Pintig, a community theater company and community education and outreach organization.

To learn more, check out their website: <http://www.circapintig.com/>

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CIRCA PINTIG and SAMASAMA PROJECT  
present

# Tug of War 2

Stories of War, Work, and Immigration

A retelling of actual experiences of immigrants - soldiers, refugees, domestic workers - who lived through regimes of political and military terror as they navigate the complex interstices of American Society.

Piketlayn Cantata in Act II is a story of a caregiver's journey from the Philippines to Chicago narrated through songs. Presented in collaboration with SamaSama Project.

## PERFORMANCE

Opening Night: Sat 10/24, 8pm  
Sat -- 10/24, 8pm/ 11/7, 3pm  
Sun -- 10/25, 11/1, 11/8 3pm

## EXHIBIT

Opening Reception: Sat 10/10, 7pm  
Exhibit hours: Oct 10 - Nov 15, 2015  
7-10pm Saturdays  
3-8pm Sundays

at the  
Moooh Dulce Gallery  
2602 W Fullerton Ave, Chicago

**For more info, visit:**

[www.circapintig.com](http://www.circapintig.com) | [www.samasamaproject.com](http://www.samasamaproject.com)

**CHICAGO ARTISTS MONTH**

This project is made possible in part by a grant from The Asian Giving Circle, Crossroads Fund, Bank of America and UIC Asian American Studies Program.

# CHICAGO ARTISTS MONTH

## Tug of War 2

Stories of War, Work, and Immigration



**JOSE G. AGGARI, JR.** is part of the excitement of the Chicago art scene because he paints the way nobody does. From his method to his subject matter, Aggari is one of a kind. Aggari uses luan, a finely grained plywood as a canvas. After smoothing the luan with sandpaper, he applies varnish. For composition, he uses colored pencil. He then applies oil paint. When the paint dries, he uses a palette knife for scraping and etching.



**JUSTIN SUICO** [born 1985] on the outskirts of Chicago. An only child left with nothing but the manifestation of his imagination. As he nurtured his abilities, he found himself garnering praise and critical acclaim from his peers. He attributes his abilities to a developed sense of appreciation for the avant-garde, the fine details and the absolute obsession to fall in love with his work that he produces. For Suico, painting has filled the void of his silent affair. However, his artistic merits began to transition towards multimedia. Filmmaking evoked a raw introspection into the world and to Suico, it was the ultimate love.



**RAVEN GUERRERO** is an island boy lost in Chicago. His art draws from a well of dream-images and archetypes. While this tendency to dream images in a free flowing manner often clashes with his obsession with pre-planning, the work produced has more or less given to the landscape in his head. Raven works as a graphic designer, web designer, and printer. He has recently launched [roostdesigns.net](http://roostdesigns.net), a graphic design studio. Some of his work can be seen at [www.ravenguerrero.com](http://www.ravenguerrero.com)



Rosemarie Tom (Supervisor), Allan Sargan (Pedro), Mary Ann Espanola (Enchang) and Louella Maningas Cabalona (Biyang) sing “Limot Na Bayani”, a tribute to the Forgotten Hereos



Musical Director Baron Cabalona on keyboards with Ellen Delarosa on Violin and Percussion



The Cast and Crew of Piketlayn Cantata as part of Tug of War 2. (Clockwise Fr L to R) Visual Arts Director Tattianna Howard, Louella Maningas Cabalona, Mary Ann Espanola, Rosemarie Tom, Director Allan Sargan, Technical Director Edwin Martinez, Musical Director Baron Cabalona