



Cultural Center of the Philippines

ENCYCLOPEDIA OF PHILIPPINE ART

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VELASCO, JOHVEN (Jovenal Dulay Velasco) b. Manila 28 Dec 1947. d. Quezon City 1 Sep 2007. Playwright, director, actor, teacher. He was the son of Carmen Dulay Velasco and stepson of Antonio Flores Carluen. He finished elementary school at Malate Catholic School, valedictorian, 1960; high school at the University of Santo Tomas (UST), 1964; and college with a bachelor's degree in foreign service at the University of the Philippines (UP) Diliman, 1968. He attended courses in video, film, and theater scriptwriting, and TV directing. In the 1970s and the 1980s, he worked as administrative officer at Ayala Museum. He was assistant to the artistic director and project officer, Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), 1986-88; was head of the CCP's Special Publications Office; and was one of the managing editors of the first edition of the *CCP Encyclopedia of Philippine Art*, 1994. From 1997 to 2007, he taught in the film program of the UP College of Mass Communication, where he also served as assistant coordinator for the Film Institute Archives. He also lectured at St. Scholastica's College and the College of Saint Benilde, and conducted workshops on film appreciation, scriptwriting, video production, and acting.

Velasco had been a Philippine Educational Theater Association (PETA) mainstay, serving in various capacities as actor, researcher, writer, director, costume designer, and editor. He was head of PETA's Documentation, Research, and Publication Unit, 1984-87. He acted in PETA's *May-I, May-I, Ang Sistema ni Propesor Tuko* (Professor Gecko's Way), and *Juan Tambo*, 1979, and *Canuplin*, 1980; Tanghalang Pilipino's *Francisco Maniago*, 1988; and CCP's TV film *Noli Me Tangere* (Touch Me Not), 1993. He likewise directed PETA's *Aray Ko!* (Ouch!), 1987, and *Sa mga Kuko ng Liwanag* (In the Claws of Light), 1993.

For television, he directed *Fantasya Mo, Fantasya Ko* (Your Fantasy, My Fantasy), 1988; *Hindi Kita Kayang Mahalin* (I Cannot Afford to Love You) and *Sa Pagbabalik ni Amboy* (When Amboy Returns), 1992; and *Sugatang Kahapon* (Wounded Past), 1993. He wrote the script of *Si Nenita de la Cruz Atbp.* (Nenita de la Cruz and Others), 1989.

In 1990, Velasco won third prize for *Si Tomboy Atbp.* (Tomboy and Others) in the teleplay category of the Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature. Also in the same year, he was a finalist in the documentary category of the Film Academy of the Philippines for *The Art of Napoleon Abueva*, which he wrote and directed. In 1996, he won the Bahaghari Awards, as well as the Star Awards for Best Movie Made for Television for *Oriang: Ang Marangal na Dalit ng Lakambini* (Oriang: The Solemn Lamentation of the Lady). In 1997, he won the Star Awards' Best Movie Made for Television for *Relikaryo: Ang Agnos ni Maria Clara* (The Reliquary of Maria Clara), which he directed and co-wrote. In 2001, he wrote and directed *Nonoy*, an advocacy docudrama on young people in conflict with the law, which received a production grant from the Cinema Values Committee of the National Commission for Culture and the Arts. He was posthumously conferred the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines-Episcopal Commission on Prison Pastoral Care's Special Gawad Paglilingkod. He participated in conferences like the Sangandaan Philippine Studies Conference and the Freeze-Frame Conference, both in 2003; the International Philippine Studies Conference in 2004; and the Whither the Orient Film Conference in Gwangju, Korea in 2006.

He was managing editor of *The Politics of Culture: The Philippine Experience*, 1984; *Pilipinas circa 1907* (Philippines circa 1907), 1985; *The Cultural Traditional Media of ASEAN*, 1986; and *Tuklas Sining* (Discover Arts), 1991. He was also executive editor

of the magazine *The Review*. His writings were also crucial to the creation of PETA's book, *A Continuing Narrative on Philippine Theater: The Story of PETA (Philippine Educational Theater Association)*, 2008. A selection of his writings was compiled in a volume titled *Huwaran/Hulmahan Atbp.: The Film Writings of Johven Velasco* (Model/Mold, Etc.), 2009, which was subsequently shortlisted for a National Book Award. His scholarly articles are published in refereed journals such as *Pelikula*, *Plaridel*, and *Sanghaya*.

His sudden death occasioned on-screen tributes from his students and colleagues. Two films—Jerrold Tarog's *Confessional*, 2007, and Ellen Ongkeko-Marfil's *Boses (Voice)*, 2008—were dedicated to him, and a pivotal character in Tarog's historical drama *Heneral Luna* (General Luna), 2015, was also named after him. ☀ Bonifacio P. Ilagan, updated by Joel David

VELOSO, LOU (Luciano Marinas Veloso) b. Pasay City 7 Jan 1949. Stage, film, and television actor and director. His parents are Silvestre Veloso, a photographer, and Matilde Marinas. He finished elementary at Don Bosco in Makati, and high school at Southeastern College in Pasay City. He enrolled in a course for medical laboratory technicians at the University of the Philippines (UP) Manila.

Veloso's early stage experiences include acting in the Dulaang Babaylan productions of *Kahapon, Ngayon at Bukas* (Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow), 1975; *Bagong Kristo* (New Christ), 1977; and *La India Elegante y el Negrito Amante* (The Elegant India and Her Aeta Suitor), 1981. He also appeared with Dulaang UP and the UP Repertory Company, in plays like *In Dis Korner* (In This Corner), 1979; *Man from La Mancha*, 1978; *Peer Gynt*, 1982; and *Tribu* (Tribe), 1979. In 1985, he played the title role in *Taong Grasa* (The Tramp), written and directed by Anton Juan.

He appeared in productions of major theater groups such as Metropolitan Theater's *Operang Tatlong Kusing (The Threepenny Opera)*, 1982; *Kismet*, 1981; and *Juan Tamad Meets Paltos V*, 1979. With Teatro Pilipino, he was cast in *Caligula*, 1981, and *Ang mga Tagahabi (The Weavers)*, 1981. A member of the Bulwagang Gantimpala, he appeared in its productions of *Dingas sa Langit* (Fire in Heaven), 1981; *Hiblang Abo* (Strands of Gray), 1980; *Sandaang Panaginip* (Hundred Dreams), 1982; and *Bongbong at Kris* (Bongbong and Kris), 1986. For Tanghalang Pilipino, he acted in *Dalagang Bukid* (Country Maiden), 1987; *Taga sa Panahon (A Man for All Seasons)*, 1987; *Lysistrata*, 1988; *Ang Taong Yungib ng Peking (Peking Man)*, 1988; *Bayan-bayanan* (Little Country), 1990; and *Paglipas ng Dilim* (After the Darkness), 1991. He was also in the musical *Katy*, 1988. In 1983, he was a member of the cast of *Senakulo* (Passion Play) shown in France in 1982-83; and in 1991, was with *Paglipas ng Dilim*, presented for the Filipino community in Canada.

In 1989, Veloso organized the Tanghalang Santa Ana (now known as Manila Mobile Theater Foundation), a community-based theater group that has been mounting the traditional *sinakulo* since the group's establishment. He provides organizational and artistic leadership to the group. During his incumbency as city councilor of Manila from 1995 to 2012, the group also presented the *panunuluyan* and the *santacruznan*. Veloso is also credited for the construction of a theater building, the Santa Ana Arts Center, which is located at the back of Plaza Hugo.

Veloso has starred in more than 30 films during his career, which started in the 1980s. Some of his earlier works as a film