



Chapter 2's Mass Appeal

By Herbert Y. Magtoto

Newark, New Jersey. On the night of the Manny Pacquiao's Meet and Greet, Oct. 1, 2008, the Chapter 2 Band entertained the attendees with their ambitious orchestrated set that proved that they're just too good to remain the most promising acoustic band even if the thought of mass appeal, you'll surely love their music and you won't regret attending their gig because it's worth listening to their line ups. That's why the Bogart's Lounge at Hilton Woodbridge gave the band a regular schedule for the remainder of the year (including the New Year's Eve Ball).

The weather was kind, although it was raining, but the event's obvious contradictions that the occasion won't be well attended. They're wrong; the event was well attended by Manny "Pacman" Pacquiao's fans. The event was well organized, of course with the cooperation of MP Entertainment headed by Marisse Panlilio (who else?).

The event began appropriately in the cool room of Sheraton Hotel, with the Chapter 2 Band delivering the first song "Landslide."

A patch of brilliant guitar playing, Noel and Carlo Tampac, and Sheldon Magbanua; soft and fantastic voiced, Cutuy Herrero, Dennis Sy, and Grace Hernandez; the drums of Wenchie Olitan, and Ken Villafrancas' keyboard, completes the palsy efforts to jolly Chapter 2's audience. And of course, that big "Reminiscing" beat.

As I was touring the room, I've heard from Top Rank's member that the band is

joyous and doing a fantastic sounds. Bob Arum of Top Rank, personally said that the band is outstanding especially the blending of "Bless The Broken Road," "Way Of The World," "Everybody Wants To Rule The World." Walter Halloren of MGM appreciated their music and congratulated the band before they (Bob and Walter) left the room.

And when Ken started barking and wailing his keyboard (and kept right on with it), to the tune of "Don't Stop Believing," the band played that Journey song with such taste, not to mention unerring pitch and a beautiful sound, that you felt could be right next to you with the greatest and promising band, the Chapter 2 Band.

Chapter 2 had proceeded with a lively and vigorous set of Pinoy Medley, urgently rhythmic and blessed with some pretty tunes that suited the band's powerful voice.

The set also included plenty of light moments in the likes of "Love on the Rocks, Tattooed on My Mind, "Fallen," and "Smooth."

Such hits as "September," "Let's Groove," "Play That Funky Music," and "Let's Get Loud," seemed to have been bathed in fantastic colors, also left the crowd mesmerized (the audience were humming and singing) to the tune of the disco sounds. Not to mention, the band's disco sounds led the audience to the dance floor.

Most of all the dinner benefit truly lived up to the Chapter 2's promise. By just circling the room throughout the night, hitting the various stages, one could experience a remarkable array of sounds, styles and often gifted artistry, fulfilling Chapter 2's vision of infinite diversity in infinite combinations, of pop acoustic fusion...harmonies collide.

That's the inevitable result of the benefit dinner that has been a production of Calla Lily.

Photos by Herbert Y. Magtoto

