

PARADISE -A PINOY CAFÉ

A video installation with a cup of coffe

Kunstraum Kreuzberg / Bethanien
March / April 2011

Glöbäl Stórieš

Paradise - A Pinoy Café opened September 2010
at Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Copenhagen

Copenhagen, Denmark
May 15th, 2010

Dear ...

We hereby send you a video letter from your mother. It's part of an art project called 'Paradise - A Pinoy café', that we would like to present you for.

Within the last five years, thousands of Philippine au pairs have come to Denmark. Women who live with Danish families and take care of the house and the children. As you of course know, the Danish situation is just a tiny corner of a global labour market. A market which needs hands for care, and lots of Filipinas leaving their families to do this care work - as au pairs, domestic workers and nurses. What is the life situation of migrant women leaving their country? And of their families back home? These question engage us, and in 2009 we created the theatre performance 'HUSH LITTLE BABY' in Copenhagen. We now create a new artwork.

'Paradise - A Pinoy Café' is an installation in a outdoor public cafe accessible to everyone. In the café, young Filipinas will serve the guests, offering them a neck massage, a manicure or a song. And there will be a videoscreen - presenting elderly Philippine women, whose daughters work overseas. We have interviewed and filmed six different women, your mother is one of them. The overall purpose of our work is to present global stories, which can give new perspectives on our local lives here in Denmark.

If you have any questions about the project, do not hesitate to contact us.

All the best

Ditte Maria Bjerg
Stage director

Filippa Berglund
Set designer/
Architect

Pinoy -

is a slang word used for Filipino self-identification. It was 'invented' during the anti-colonial struggle against the US in the beginning of the 20th century. The word is formed by the last four letters of 'Filipino' and the diminutive '-y' from the tagalog language, one of the dominant dialects in the Philippines.



**Thank you daughter for the house you bought us.
There are no drunkards and it's very secure**

Nenita Valencia is 60 years old. She just moved into a brand new house in the gated community North Olympus in Manila together with her 20 year old husband, an unmarried son and a disabled daughter. Nenita is originally from the island Bohol but migrated to the capital when she was young. Her daughter Jasmin has migrated to New Jersey, USA, where she works as a physio-therapist in a hospital. Jasmin also does extra jobs to earn more money.

» ... Jasmin is the sweetest child. She sends packages, clothes, canned goods, chocolates...

Gated Community-

is a subdivision of the city, where neighbourhoods are closed with fences and guarded gates. The concept is becoming more and more widespread in cities all over the world, also in Metro Manila. Often these gated communities have privileges such as private social services, recreation activities, stable electricity, their own supermarkets etc.





*Paradise for me was
when my children
finished their education.*

*Paradise will be to see my
grandchildren running
around here.*

» ... Jasmin was always dreaming about going abroad – ever since she was a small girl. I'm not sure if she has fulfilled her dream in New Jersey. She already bought her dream car, a BMW, even though it's second hand...

» ... Since she left in March 2007, she hasn't returned. I told her: 'child, just remain here in the Philippines'. But she said that the salary here is low. I supported her: 'whatever your dream is – go.' From what I know, they want to live there ... We also tell her that we're saddened, we miss her. 'Child, when can we hug, when can we embrace...' She says: 'Mama, just wait, after one year I'll be there'.



*» ... I shall tell you the truth.
As a young girl I escaped
from the province to Ma-
nila because I was jealous
of my friends. When they
returned to the province,
they had pretty dresses ...
But in Manila I cried and
cried, because I was a stu-
dent and I only did laundry.
Then I started to sew and
make pretty dresses for gay
celebrities...*



It would have been happier if you were here

Milagros Sanchez Mendoza is 75 years old and lives in a tiny wooden house in Bulacan in the outskirts of Metro Manila. She lives with her husband, a daughter and four grandchildren. One of them is 16 year old John Michael whose mother Mona works in Gran Canaria.

Mona sends money home every month for living expenses, for John Michael's education – and for the 10 percent tax to the Methodist Church. Mona works in a private home where she takes care of two young children.

Religion -

is very visible in everyday life in the Philippines, which – like the US – has several Christian churches, both Catholic and Protestant. The Methodist Church is one of the bigger congregations. Some religious leaders have TV shows and run for Congress. There are also big Animist and Muslim minorities in the country, the latter concentrated in the southern island Mindanao.





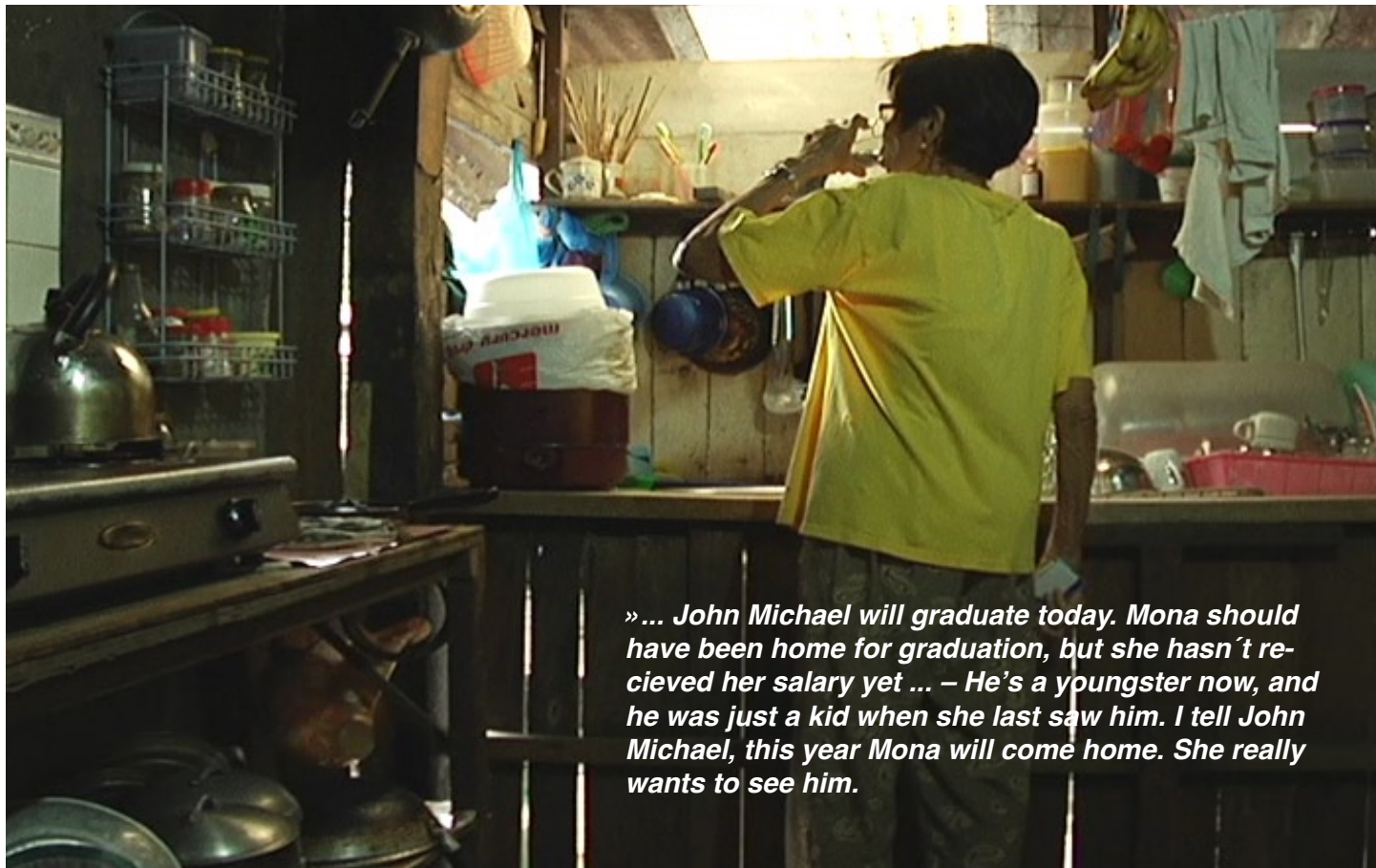
Paradise is when you're living peacefully.

It's when your supply of coffee is used up, and you have money to buy again.

It's also when you can share even just a little with your neighbours.

» ... They sent me photo albums... I often look at the pictures. I think they'll all come back one day. I entrusted them to God – that cheers me up... I often worry that something bad should happen to John Michael...

» ... Mona was the fourth to leave. Soon my last daughter will also go – then all my five children are in Gran Canaria. The first one to go abroad was my Lisa. She met a Spanish man who wanted to marry a Filipina... At the departure area she didn't look back at us.



»... John Michael will graduate today. Mona should have been home for graduation, but she hasn't received her salary yet ... – He's a youngster now, and he was just a kid when she last saw him. I tell John Michael, this year Mona will come home. She really wants to see him.



You're there in Denmark, so I will sing for you

Gloria Pulinar is 51 years old and lives in the city Taglibaran on Bohol island. The two dogs Honey and Darling are keeping her company. She also has a helper called Mary-Jane. Her daughters work in Denmark, and from the money she and her daughters have saved, they've built a house with a high fence, an upstairs floor and a downstairs for tenants.

Gloria divorced her husband many years ago. He only wanted boys and did not take responsibility for their daughters. Gloria worked for 13 years as a domestic worker in Hong Kong, seeing her children for one month every year.

*My paradise is my children.
I want them to have a good
life where they have their
own way of living and are
happy. I'm not wishing for
us to become rich, not even
middle class, just not poor.
My family is complete. I
have Sweetheart, Honey,
Darling and Love-love.*



Divorce -

is illegal in the Philippines. The laws regulating marriage is known as The Family Code, and here marriage is characterized as the foundation of the family and an inviolable social institution between man and woman (same sex marriage is illegal). It is however possible to have a 'marriage annulment' on certain grounds, including: 1. Lack of consent from the parents if one of the married parts are below 21; 2. Insanity; 3. Fraud; 4. Force, intimidation or undue influence; 5. If the man is impotent or; 6. If one of the married parts have sexually-transmitted diseases.

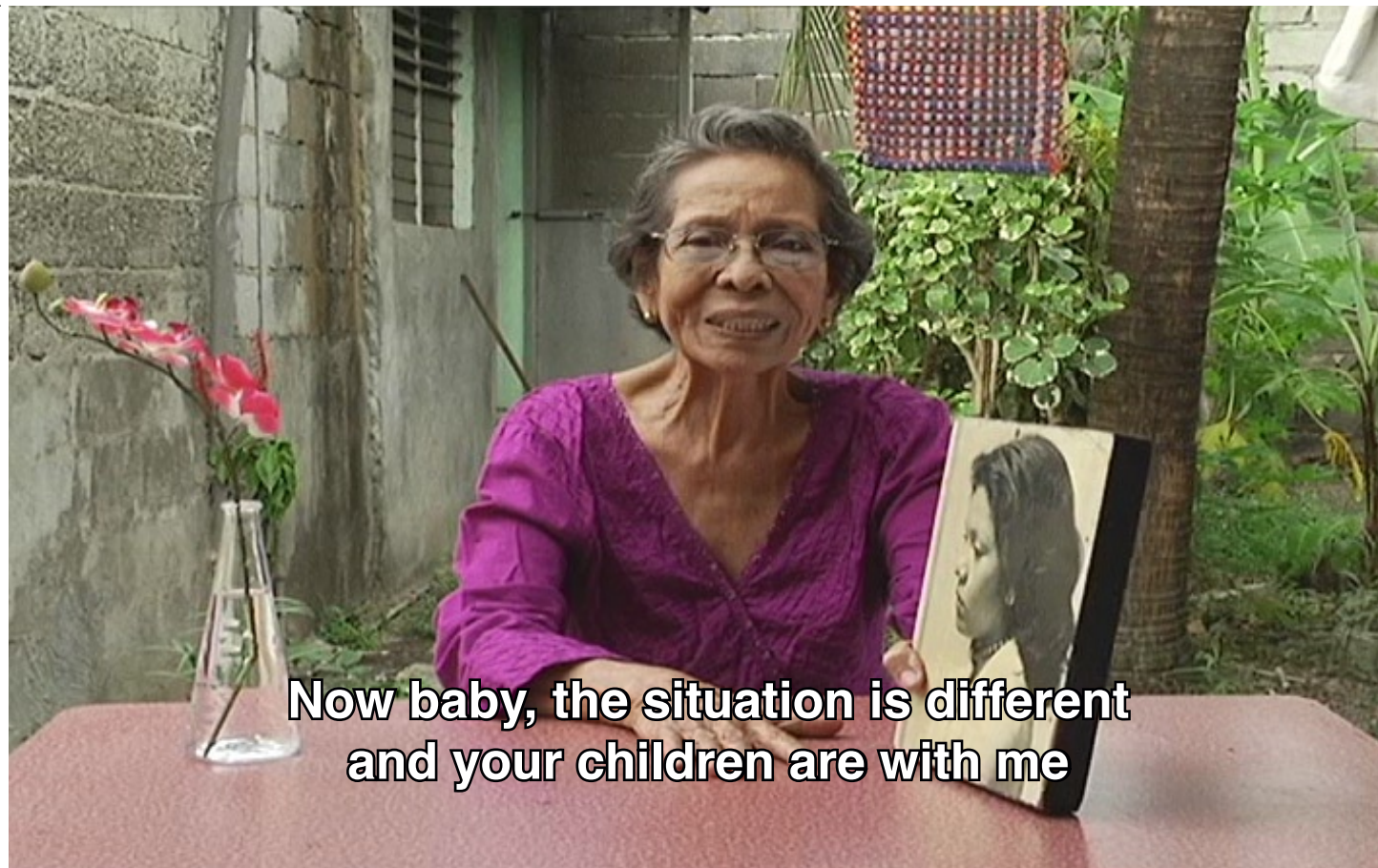
***»... I think they will come back – yeah, when they have more money...
We text each other every day, every night.***

» ... Honey and Darling are expensive, they use more than us humans, I have to feed them meat every day. They belong to my daughters, and I look after them.



» ... When Girlie graduated, she could provide for the family, and they asked me to come home. Sometimes they blame me: 'We grew older without you raising us'. And it's true ...



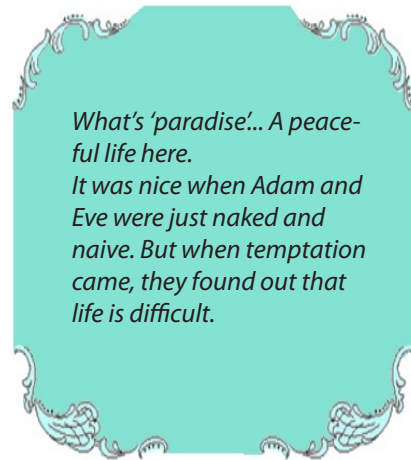


**Now baby, the situation is different
and your children are with me**



Candelaria ‘Candy’ Sanchez is 78 years old and lives in a small village in Bulacan with her husband Enteg and lots of dogs and cats. She has made her living by sewing dresses, and selling them at the street markets in Manila. Candy’s son lives with his family in the neighbouring house, and her daughter Febbie has been living in New York for 20 years, working in a nursing home for the elderly. Febbie also takes care of an elderly American woman in the woman’s private home for two hours every day.

In 2006 Candy got sick. Her grandchildren returned to the Phillipines where they now study. They are in close contact with their grandparents. Candy’s own daughter Febbie also grew up with her grandparents.



*What’s ‘paradise’... A peaceful life here.
It was nice when Adam and Eve were just naked and naive. But when temptation came, they found out that life is difficult.*

Health care –

was first institutionalized in the Philippines by the US army in 1898 in order to take care of the soldiers that got injured during the American takeover of the archipelago from the former colonial power, Spain. The health care system today is similar to the American – with minimum public services and individuals mainly dependent on private insurance.

Jollibee -

is the biggest fast food chain in the Philippines, serving American inspired meals.

» ... I don't call Febbie, she calls me. The longest I talked to her was when I had cancer. I was at the hospital every week, and Febbie sent dollars for the bills. She called and we talked for half an hour ...

» ... We are grateful for life. We stopped working because God blessed us with a wonderful child, Febbie, who is in New York now. She provides for us. On my birthday I could even bring my fellow church officials to Jollibee. My Febbie is God's gift ...



» ... Just after I gave birth my parents-in-law took Febbie. She grew up there. I was working, and they said I don't know how to take care of my babies ... I was heartbroken. If only I could bring back time, it wouldn't matter if we're poor, as long as we're together. But I knew my parents-in-law could provide better ...





Give your employers my thanks
because they take care of you



Nazaria ‘Cherie’ Escalona is 62 years old, and lives in Philcoa, a slum area in Manila. Cherie used to work as a bus inspector, and her husband recently stopped working as a jeepney driver. She has five children; one of them is Rhea, who left to work in Qatar one year ago. Rhea’s husband looks after their four children, and every month Rhea sends money back to him. She also sends 1500 pesos to her parents.

» ... In Qatar Rhea lives on the 12th floor and has her own room. She takes care of a little girl, and when it’s her day off she works extra jobs. She’s on a contract, so she’ll stay there for ... maybe two years...

Jeepney -

is one of the preferred commutes in the Philippines, run by small private contractors. You pay a few pesos and cram up on benches in rebuilt American military vehicles, designed with colours, paintings and individual driver slogans like: ‘Pride of Malay’, ‘Cocaine’ or ‘Jesus is the driver’. There’s always room for one more in the truck bed of a jeepney.



Clark Air Base –

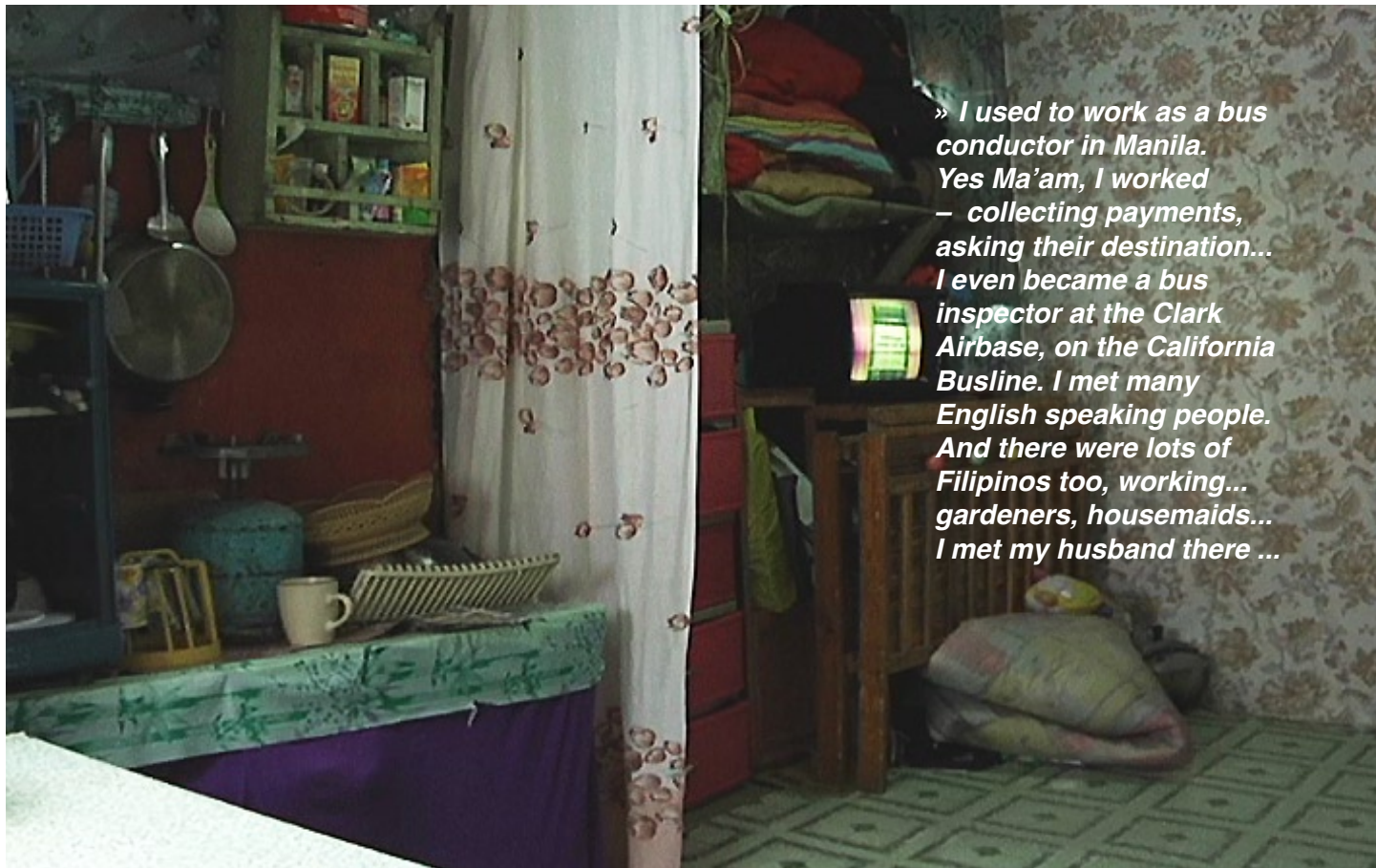
served as an American military base from 1903 to 1991. It was used as a logistic center for the US troops during the Vietnam war. Clark was one of the biggest and most urbanized military bases in the world, with a population of 15,000 in 1990. After the Aquino-government refused to renew the contracts with the US in 1991, the facilities were turned into a Freeport Zone and an international airport.

Ah, paraiso.....

Paradise is what I want. If people respected each other, it would be nice to live.

Paradise doesn't exist yet, not even in the provinces...

People have their own problems, especially with money nowadays. Papa Jesus said that when we're with Him, we're all equal. There's no improvement where we live, because when people progress, they move...



» *I used to work as a bus conductor in Manila. Yes Ma'am, I worked – collecting payments, asking their destination... I even became a bus inspector at the Clark Airbase, on the California Busline. I met many English speaking people. And there were lots of Filipinos too, working... gardeners, housemaids... I met my husband there ...*



**When are you coming home?
...We are waiting for you**



Adelaida Gamao is 79 years old and lives in the village Lila at the Island of Bohol where her parents used to work as farmers and fisherfolks. Adelaida was a school teacher when her children grew up. They lived in a house made of bamboo and wood, but with the money her daughter has earned abroad, they've built a new house next to the old one.

Adelaida's only daughter, Daisy, has been living in Canada for almost twenty years where she works as a nurse.

Adelaida can't remember when her daughter last visited the Philippines. They mostly communicate through Daisy's brother.

Paradise is when no one quarrels.

I am happy because I receive money from my children. Besides from Daisy I sometimes receive money from my two sons from Mindanao.

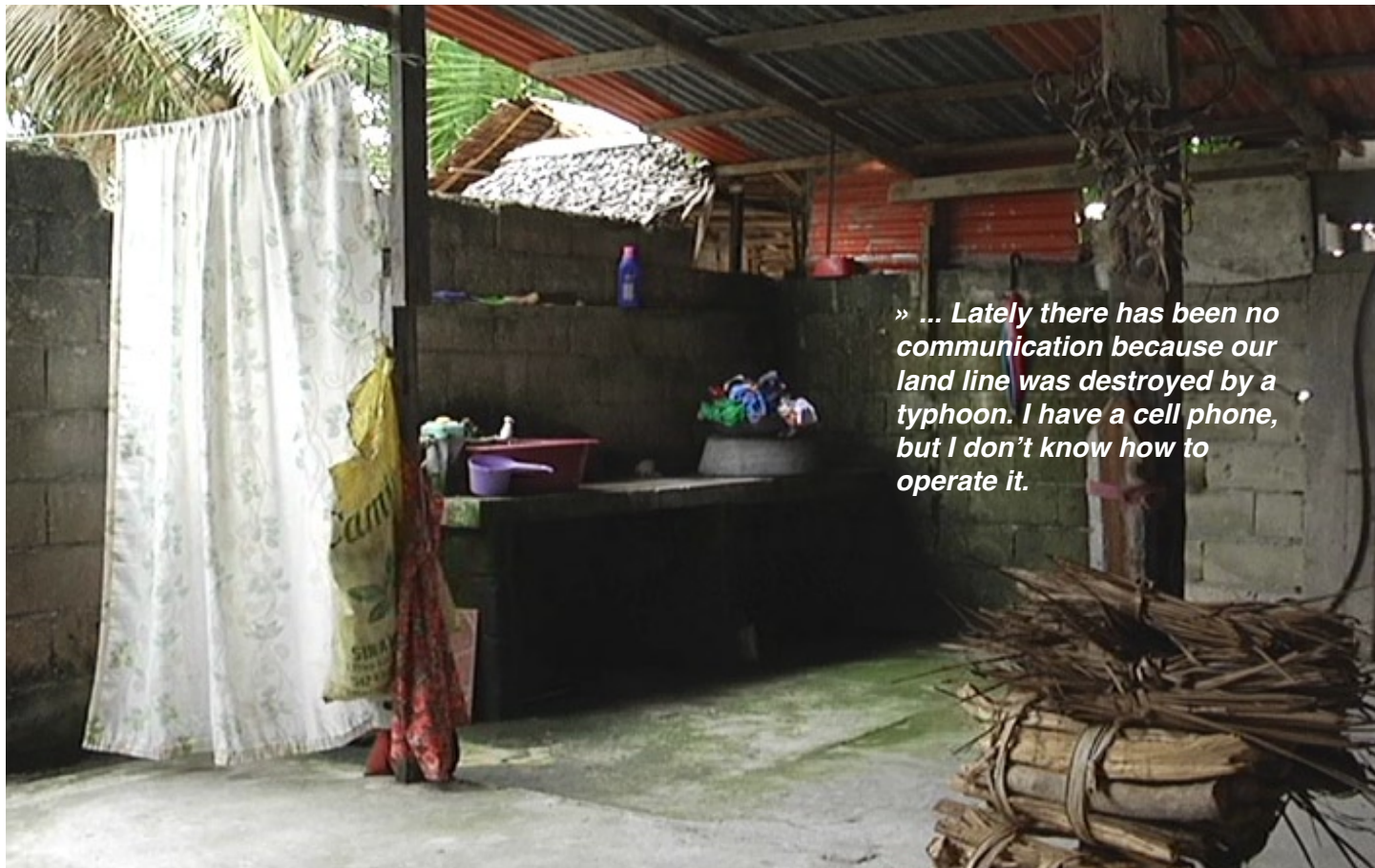


Typhoons -

or tropical storms are very common in the Philippines; they destroy homes, leave farm land wasted, sink ferries and cause floods. The one Adelaide is referring to was known as 'Ondoy' or 'Ketsana' and hit in September 2009. It killed hundreds and left millions homeless. Natural disasters in the Philippines have become more frequent and less predictable in the last 5-10 years.

» ... Daisy's husband was not good to her and the children. He was jealous and sometimes angry. So she applied for work overseas. Now she just forgot everything about him...

» ... I went to Canada and helped my daughter. I went back because I don't feel at home there, and it's too cold in Canada ...



» ... Lately there has been no communication because our land line was destroyed by a typhoon. I have a cell phone, but I don't know how to operate it.

Domestic workers

is the term for people who work for others in private homes. An estimated 40 percent of Overseas Filipino Workers, most of them female, are employed in the domestic field. Hong Kong, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar and Kuwait are the top 5 destinations, but many also go to Europe and the US. In the European countries many work under the au pair system and are therefore not counted as domestic workers.

Skype me your love

Still more Filipinas leave their families to do care and domestic work for families in Denmark and other rich countries. This global care chain is reflecting and creating old and new global inequalities and family structures

By Helle Stenum

Years ago in Denmark, many men, many fathers, left their families for months because of employment as seafarers. The Philippines has also traditionally been a seafarer nation, and men still migrate for employment, for example as seafarers.

But migration patterns in the Philippines have changed during the last decades. More women than men now migrate from the Philippines to work in North America, Europe, Asia and the Middle East.

This increasing number of Filipinas go abroad primarily to do domestic and care work in wealthier countries. They are daughters, sisters, mothers, singles or married. They migrate because of economic conditions in the Philippines – and against a backdrop of global economic and social inequality. Feeling responsible for their children, siblings, parents or grandparents, they choose migration as a way to sustain their family.

Care market

The feminization of migration is rooted in an increased demand for care and domestic work in the wealthy parts of the world. Here the increase in women's labour market participation, demographic changes towards an ageing population, changes in middle class lifestyle and family structures, as well as limited public care for children and the elderly, is often met by supply of migrant domestic and care workers from poorer countries. At the same time, migrating has become logistically easier and more flexible, and communication across huge distances cheaper and more common. A global labour market of domestic service and care has emerged. First world parents (most often mothers) have become employers of third world domestic and care workers, of whom some are mothers themselves.

Global Care Chains

Global care chains are personal and transnational networks based on paid and unpaid work of caring.

The concept of the global care chain describes the social process in which a parent – often a mother – hires another woman to take care of her home and children. This woman will often leave her own children

Extended families –

a 'broadened' version of the modern, western nuclear family ideal, where two adults live together with their children.

In the Philippines many children grow up with other adults than their biological parents. With aunts, uncles, older siblings, grandparents or neighbours.

Educating for export –

has been a government strategy to 'solve' poverty and unemployment in the country since the 1970s during the Marcos dictatorship. The education system in the Philippines is actively organised to meet the global demands of labour recruitment. So when the US needs nurses, the Philippine state educates more nurses, when Australia needs butchers, the Philippines sets up more butcher courses. From 2000-2009 the amount of remittances has tripled and now make up approximately 10 % of the GDP of the Philippines.

or dependent family members behind to be taken care of by members of the extended family, or by a hired care worker in her neighbourhood. When leaving behind children, husbands, elders or siblings, she changes her position in the transnational family from close to distant, from local, physical presence to global, virtual absence, from huggable to memorable and from an everyday-life member of the family to a Skype member. Emotional and social relations are not necessarily destroyed or broken, but rather transformed. Doing, acting, sensing and hugging becomes missing, trusting, imagining – and sending money.

Global inequalities and migration regulations

Class, ethnicity, gender and citizenship socially structure the international system of care giving. Gendered house and care work is often outsourced from well-off families in affluent parts of the world. Domestic and care workers in these wealthy countries are often temporary or undocumented migrants with few labour rights, and most of migrant domestic and care workers are non-white. A crucial element in producing this global care chain is that the migrant domestic or care worker cannot bring her own family to the country where she works. This is in contrast to other

kinds of labour migration, typically men migrating for employment and then later bringing the family to the new country. This is excluded for most migrant domestic and care workers of today. She is a permanently temporary migrant – often only allowed to work as a domestic or care worker for a limited time or to live as an undocumented migrant worker. Researchers characterize the global care chain as producing a care drain from those parts of the world from where these women leave. However, migrating women earn money abroad in order to provide for their own families.

Denmark

In Denmark, the global care chain is widely known through the au pair scheme, admitting several thousands, mostly Filipinas, to work as domestic and care workers in Danish middle class families.

Although portrayed as a cultural exchange ‘on equal foot’, few among both host families and au pairs regard the au pair employment as primarily cultural. But in a country like Denmark, with official gender and labour market equality, this construction is needed to uphold the low wage and the exclusion from common labour protection agreements.

VISA –

is required if Philippine migrants in Denmark want a visit from their loved ones. The Danish state divides countries outside the Schengen-agreement in three categories: Asylum, Immigration and Tourism countries. The Philippines is in the latter category with the least restrictions. Even so, you have to provide documentation such as: an official invitation from someone in Denmark, an amount of money “suitable” to sustain the length of the stay – at least 50.000 Danish crowns – and a health insurance covering at least 30.000 Euro.

Money transfer -

is partly facilitated by the Philippine state, but most often by private corporations. Western Union is the biggest company specialized in private money transfers with more than 370.000 agents worldwide. Of them, 7.300 are located in the Philippines – even more than there are islands in the archipelago. The Western Union website is also available in Tagalog. The cost of transfers is at least 0.15 % of the total amount. Western Union has slogans like: 'Can I connect with loved ones? Yes!,' 'Can love be transferred? Yes!'

Danish families typically see the au pair as an important help to sustain family life and marital harmony, by outsourcing or sharing the gendered domestic and care work in the family. Because gender equality is most often an ideal more than a practice, delegating the gendered work to the migrant woman creates more time and space for the female part of the host family.

Transnational families and globalized care

For many Danish families the au pair is both a private solution to ease everyday stress and a challenge to deal with in everyday life: inviting a stranger to live with you; the discomfort occurring when the au pair turns out to be a mother of small children herself; managing the relationship between the au pair and the children (lack of common language, children maybe treating the au pair as a servant, the emotional stress and loss when the au pair leaves etc.); justifying the low salary of the au pair – knowing that she might not be paid more than the amount spent last month on a new pair of boots.

To deal with this imbalance of economy and power in the private sphere, employers of au pairs often promote the relation as a win-win situation and as something separate from themselves. Culture and poverty are

often the key words that people use to defend the au pair scheme: 'It is their culture – to them it is quite normal. And they earn much more than they could have done in the Philippines...' So the legitimizing comparison is made not between migrant domestic workers and 'Danish' workers, but between income level in Denmark and the Philippines – in opposite ends of the global political economy.

Between private and public

The Philippine au pairs who come to Denmark participate in the global care chain, supplying families in wealthy countries with love and affection in the care for children and doing domestic service. They migrate as a private solution to the global wage gap, where Danish pocket money can be transformed into a Philippine breadwinner salary, but they and their children and families pay a huge emotional and social price in doing so.

As highlighted by researchers (Hochschild, Widding-Isaksen 2008): "when enough people – adults and children alike – become part of a private problem, it becomes a public issue to which we need thoughtful public answers."

Helle Stenum is a migration researcher. Her focus is on management of migration, illegalized migration in Europe and migrant domestic workers – specifically Filipina au pairs in Europe and their living and working conditions. She has, among other things, published a report on the situation of Filipina au pairs in Denmark for the Danish trade union FOA: <http://applikationer.foa.dk/Publikationer/pjecer/Arbejdsmarked/Aupair-i-DK-2008.pdf>



A Philippine film crew was responsible for filming of Milagros, Nenita, Gloria, Candelaria, Cherie and Adelaida in their homes. Here producer Khavn de la Cruz and stage director Ditte Maria Bjerg are working on location in Metro Manila.

[« Tilbage til Indbakke](#)

Arkiver

Anmeld Spam

Slet

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Etiketter

Flere handlinger

PARADISE - A PINOY CAFÉ

Indbakke X

Ditte til Khavn

[Vis detaljer](#) 21/05/09 09:37

Hi Khavn

After having cruised your homepage and trailers, I so much want to attach you to the project 'Paradise'. Cause your political, documentary and social heart cries out very loud.

My starting point for this project is the story of the Philippine woman, G., who participated in a performance 'Hush little Baby' on au pair girls:

G's father left his family in the Philippines, when her younger sister was born – "he didn't like girlchildren". G's mother had to work in Hong Kong all her childhood, and G and her sister moved around between aunts "calling them all mum".

The mother then moves back, they fight, and G leaves for Denmark to do au pair work. Later follows her sister. They clean for Danish people and take care of the old, they marry white men, and will probably stay in Denmark.

What happens to the mother in the Philippines, what are her needs, her Paradise? To get chocolate, orgasms, her girls back, a million dollars, a new president or total quietness? And who will fulfill her needs?

The portrait of this mother and other Philippine mothers, whose daughters are overseas doing care work, will be the heart of a performative installation in a public space ...

Best,Ditte

[Svar](#)

[Videresend](#)

[Au Pair Denmark](#)

Looking For Au Pairs? Register for Free & Find Your Perfect Match Here [Aupair-Options.com](#)

[Beautiful Filipina Brides](#)

Filipina Ladies Seek Love, Dating And Marriage. Join Free Today. [www.FilipinaHeart.com](#)

[WOW Paradise Philippines](#)

Wow Paradise Philippines is the tourists and travellers guide written in blog by a group of Filipino blogger. ... [www.wowparadisephilippines.com/](#)

[Why European Men Like Filipino Women?](#)

Why do European men like Filipinas in particular? Learn if men always want younger women in this relationship advice video ... [www.articlesbase.com/.../asian-europe-dating](#)

[Interracial marriage – Wikipedia](#)

Concerns were repeatedly voiced regarding white adolescent girls forming relationships with coloured men, including South Asian seamen in the 1920s. ... [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Interracial_marriage](#)

[Caregiver Jobs in Canada](#)

In Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) website, [Caregiver jobs](#) is an in-demand work for many Filipinos (OFWs). [www.internethilippines.com/jobs/caregiver-jobs](#)

[Maids: Cheap and Priceless](#)

[Philippines Maids, Philippines Maid, Advantages and Disadvantages of Having A Maid, Domestic Helper, Philippines Helper](#), how much is the salary of a maid in ... [www.livinginthephilippines.com/maids.html](#)

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PARADISE - A PINOY CAFÉ

Indbakke X

Khavn til Ditte

Hi Ditte,

[Vis detaljer](#) 22/05/09 23:47

Sounds great! Count me in. I go to Denmark in October.

Best, Khavn

Khavn til Ditte

Hi Ditte

[Vis detaljer](#) 16/10/05 18:09

Some notes, just to make sure you fully grasp the Philippine situation regarding senior citizens, caregiving and migration.

The general vibe here, especially among the lower and middle classes, is that if you have a child/relative/parent working outside the Philippines, that's a good/happy thing economically, since they'll be secure financially.

Some family members even raise their kids to work outside the country so that they can support the family/parents economically.

Most middle and upper class families in the Philippines (especially in the cities) have maids/helpers themselves.

And it is very rare that a person lives alone – one usually has the emotional support of relatives (if not immediate family, then cousins, uncles/aunts, grandparents, etc). The home for the aged here is usually for old people who have been abandoned or 'orphaned'.

Let me know your thoughts about this before we proceed to the subject of budget ...

Best, Khavn

[Svar](#)

[Videresend](#)

Family Structure

Although expanded through bilateral lineage, the extended family system is further enlarged by the compadrazgo system, a legacy of Spanish colonial ...
www.livinginthephilippines.com/philculture/family.html

Extended Family, papaano mo i handle?

I called it extended family because I'm already married and may sariling pamilya na nahihiya ako sa hubby ko kasi most of the times sa akin/amin ...
www.smartparenting.com.ph

Jesus is the Christ. The Son of God

Baptist Conference Church of Bacolod | Ikthus Ikthus Bacolod, otherwise known as the 18th Street Church ...
www.bccbikthus.org/

Pangako - Dogpile News Search

Son of God, a collaboration between Khavn de la Cruz and Danish filmmaker Michael Noer, will have its world premiere on Aug. 30 at the 2010 My World Images ...
www.dogpile.com/dogpile/d5/wedir/_/j_cseUnrFlag=11?

Overpopulated nurses in the Philippines

Overpopulated nurses in the Philippines. There are over 200000 to 400000 of nursing graduates ...
theipinonurse.blogspot.com

Philippines, Men looking for Women

BORED LONELY HORNY MALE HERE. as she is working abroad, I'm bored of my daily routine (house-work) ...
www.olx.com.ph

Philippines, Casual Encounters

I'm married but my wife is working abroad. I'm looking for someone who can fill the sex ... any lady or lonely wife may contact me to enjoy the afternoon. ...
www.olx.com.ph/q/wife/c-408

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PARADISE - A PINOY CAFÉ

Indbakke X

Ditte til Khavn

[Vis detaljer](#) 01/11/09 23:01

Hi Khavn

Thanks for your notes and for enlightening us. It was a consistent theme in the interviews with the Philippine au pairs that they were worried about their parents, especially their mothers – and all had different models back home for taking care of them. So this is the emotional (and global economical) starting point for this project.

I do know that there is a tradition for extended families in the Philippines, and that precisely this model is endangered by the migration of many young women ...

About the casting of women and locations – The Danish Foreign Ministry is warning against travels in Mindanao, so do you think we should stick to the women in Bohol and Luzon?

Best, Ditte

Khavn til Ditte

[Vis detaljer](#) 12/01/09 15:45

Hi Ditte

Sorry for the late reply. I am in the middle of shooting 'Son of God' among other things.

Regarding extended families being endangered by migration: Maybe. Maybe not.

The Philippines is so over-populated that this might not be an issue.

Of course, the basic feeling of missing someone, especially your loved one (child/parent) happens all the time. So that the parents left in the Philippines can feel extremely lonely because of the absence of their children ...

Best, Khavn

[Svar](#)

[Videresend](#)

Mindanao-

is one of the poorest regions in the Philippines with three main population groups: the Bangsa Moro (Islamised tribes), the Lumads (tribes neither Christian nor Muslim) and the Christian-Filipino settlers. Both religious, communist and nationalist organisations are struggling for autonomy. There are frequent armed conflicts between rebel groups on the one hand and the Philippine army and American 'support troops' on the other.

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PARADISE - A PINOY CAFÉ Indbakke X

Ditte til Khavn

[Vis detaljer](#) 02/03/10 14:34

Hi Khavn

What kind of gifts for the women would be smart of me to bring?

Best, Ditte

Khavn til Ditte

[Vis detaljer](#) 04/03/10 8:25

Soaps, perfumes, clothes, chocolate, anything ...

There are two women contacts in Bohol. Kints is still following up to know who would agree to be interviewed. They seldom reply to her text messages ...

Best, Khavn

Ditte til Khavn

[Vis detaljer](#) 10/03/10 14:34

Hi Khavn

When will we meet Sunday, do you come to my hotel? Please return the contract, signed.
See you Sunday in Manila ...

Best, Ditte

[Svar](#) [Videresend](#)

[Best Europe airport buys](#)

PARIS—For airport shopping deals, Rome tops Europe's busiest airports, but best buys for bags, perfumes or ... [showbizandstyle.inquirer.net](#)

[Mother's Day Message | Funny Pinoy ...](#)

Funny Text Messages, Valentines Text Messages, Halloween Text Messages, Graduation Day SMS Messaging, SMS Jokes, Funny Inspirational Friendly Message, ... [www.pinoytextmessages.com/](#)

[OFW story: hopes, dreams outweigh fears](#)

The stories of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) don't necessarily ... Going back to my wife's pained text messages. [opinion.inquirer.net](#)

[www.ProudlyPinoy.org](#)

This "Proudly Pinoy" logo expresses pride in being Filipino. It is available for all Filipino designed or owned websites ... [www.proudlypinoy.org/](#)

[Paraiso - The Movie](#)

Three inspiring stories of ordinary people touched by Gawad Kalinga are highlighted in the movie "Paraiso: Tatlong Kwentto in Pag-Asa ... [www.ancopusa.org/wwgk/paraiso_themovie.htm](#)

[Paraiso – Wikipedia](#)

Ang paraiso ay isang lugar na napakaganda, kasiya-siya, at kasaya-aya. Isang pook na tinuturing na paraiso sa Lumang Tipan ng Bibliya, partikular na sa ... [tl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraiso](#)

[Life abroad is not paradise](#)

It was a very big adjustment for me, adopting western life. ... well, if you love your work...most likely it is a paradise but ... [www.istorya.net/forums](#)

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PARADISE - A PINOY CAFÉ

Indbakke X

Khavn til Ditte

[Vis detaljer](#) 04/06/10 21:46

Hi Ditte,

Since it's a pinoy cafe, can we call it Paraiso (the Pinoy word for paradise)?

k :)

Ditte til Khavn

[Vis detaljer](#) 10/06/10 14:34

Hi Khavn

We have discussed it, but dropped it, cause there is also the double meaning about the potential Western Paradise for the guests at the café:
They will be served and cared for by the Philippine waitresses, who sort of represent the daughters.

Best, Ditte

[Svar](#)

[Videresend](#)

[GlobalPinoy.com -- Keeping You Closer to Home](#)

A public service directory portal for overseas Filipinos which caters to their communication and information with the latest updates in the country.
www.globalpinoy.com/

[Paraiso - The Movie](#)

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www.ancopusa.org/wowgk/paraiso_themovie.htm

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tl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Paraiso

FAD -

The Filipino Association of Denmark was founded in 1970 to bring the small group of Filipinos together to deal with common issues; such as immigration, and to celebrate culture. At the moment there are approximately 10.0000 philippine migrants in Denmark. The current board members of FAD have various professional and educational backgrounds and consists of young second generation Filipinos, and Filipinos who migrated to Denmark at a young age. The diversity of the FAD-officers enable the association to touch upon issues for the Filipino community which affect the elders, the younger and the emerging young professionals which are now are growing part of the community.

The Filipino Association

The recent and steady influx of thousands of Philippine au pairs creates a growing migrant community as well as new tasks for the Filipino Association of Denmark

In recent years, more than 2,000 Filipinos are annually granted an au pair visa to enter Denmark for the first time or are granted a renewal of the existing au pair visa. With this new influx of people there has been a number of issues which the Filipino Association of Denmark (FAD) has had to address. Issues such as abuse and misinterpretations of the au pair scheme have been the challenges which the Filipino community in Denmark has had to face. The FAD has taken action on different fronts, working side by side and together with different networks and other Filipino organizations in order to improve the situation of the au pairs in Denmark.

During recent years we've had many activities and projects. FAD has actively joined different activities with Københavns Kommune,



These 49 Filipinas were recruited in 1973 as maids by SAS Radisson Hotel in Copenhagen.

supported events with trade organizations furthering the Philippine culture and worked together with FOA in the Au Pair Network. We are also starting up work on gender equality in Denmark.

www.fad4u.dk

In 1973 -

49 Filipinas were recruited to work as maids in Denmark by SAS Radisson, Amager-Copenhagen. At the hotel their co-workers were Irish maids and stockroom workers. Staff Manager Mr. Go from Hotel Sherlang in Singapore was conducting the interviews with the women in the Philippines, and the labour unions were involved – securing that the papers, the education, insurances etc. was in order for the women. When the Filipina maids had been selected by Mr. Go, the staff manager from SAS Radisson, Axel Kristiansen, came to the Philippines to escort them on the travel to Denmark. The women left from Manila on november 7, 1973 – just before the Danish state carried oil-crisis related restrictions on labour immigration. On the day of their arrival they all experienced snow for the first time in their life. They got one-year work permits, but many later got renewals, and some never went back to the Philippines. The women still meet, calling themselves 'the 49'ers'.

Film Crew

The Philippines 2010

Film Directors:	Ditte Maria Bjerg Khavn de la Cruz
Visual design:	Filippa Berglund
Production Managers:	Katrina Palad, Kristine Kintana
Cinematographer:	Albert Banzon
Editor:	Lawrence S. Ang
Sound recording:	Tristan Salas
Assistant:	Morten Nielsen
Stills:	Mina Cruz, Katrina Palad

Production Team

Copenhagen 2010

Artistic Director:	Ditte Maria Bjerg
Set and costume design:	Filippa Berglund
Sound design:	Tad Ermitaño
Sound Assistant:	Andreas Elkjær
Production Manager:	Hanna W. Grue
Video editing:	Jonas Schoustrup Thomsen /Dorrit Andersen
Coffee and Care Assistant:	Solveig Pedersen
Assistant:	Morten Nielsen
Builder:	HK Design
Research:	Jan Overgaard Mogensen
Programme research and editing:	Nina Trige Andersen
Programme layout:	Filippa Berglund
Caregivers:	Anita Amapoloquio Chloe Inventor Gabriella Bautista Høgh Katrina Palad Mona Soliman Rizza Bautista Klein

Programme photos : The cover, p.11, p.19, p.34 are credited to Mina Cruz. P.15 to Katrina Palad and p. 45 to Morten Nielsen. The rest of the photos in the programme are extracts from the film material.

Thanks to:

Candelaria Sanchez, Milagros Mendoza, Nenita Valencia, Nazaria Escalona, Gloria Pulinar, Adelaida Gamao, Anna Belle Sanchez, Nino Valencia, Jedd Gamao, the driver Rey, Jeffrey Tribina, Michael Sayson, Faye Laquiao.

The very caring staff at Kunsthal Charlottenborg, Café Kunsthal Charlottenborg, and Café Vivaldi - Stændertorvet. Museet for Samtidskunst, Gimle in Roskilde, The Filipino Association of Denmark, New Life Copenhagen, Vartov, Allehelgens Kirke, Sankt Annæ Kirke, Helle Stenum, Jakob Bang, Annie Geron, Britta Thomsen, Morten Nielsen, Statens Teaterskole, Luzviminda Palad and Børge Eskelund-Hansen for the chickens.

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Aktualitetspuljen, Scenekunstudvalget
DIVA - Danish International Visiting Artists
Exchange Programme



ROSKILDE
KOMMUNE



KØBENHAVNS KOMMUNE
Københavns Scenekunstudvalg

FOA
FAG OG ARBEJDE



CENTER FOR KULTUR OG UDVIKLING | CKU
DANISH CENTER FOR CULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT | DCCD

Ditte Maria Bjerg

Ditte Maria Bjerg graduated with a qualification in directing from the Danish State Theatre School in 1992. Ditte works with research-based docu-fiction, using performative and interactional strategies with a focus on economical, sociological and political issues. Her latest stageworks include: "Hush little baby" and "Shopping" at Camp X. In 2009 she founded the production company Global Stories. First production in Global Stories was "Afterparty at Børsen" January 2010. Ditte Maria Bjerg works also as a curator, columnist, reviewer and lecturer.

Filippa Berglund

After studying architecture at Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts Filippa Berglund has been working as an architect. Since 2006 freelance as both architect, set and costumer designer. Her latest stageworks include: "Kunst", Svalegangen 2009, "Er Jeg Don Quixote?", FIGURA Ensemble 2009, "Hush Little Baby", Camp X 2009, "Den Sømand han må lide" and "Shopping", both at Camp X 2008. Filippa Berglund has also been teaching at the Royal Danish Academy of Fine Arts since 2005.

Khavn de la Cruz

With 23 films and more than 70 short films, Khavn de la Cruz is one of the most productive filmmakers in the Philippines. His films have been screened at festivals and competitions all over the world from Rotterdam to Italy, Sweden, New York and Montreal. He is former director of the independent production company Filmless Film and current director of the Philippine digital film festival MOV. Khavn de la Cruz has published a number of books, both poetry and novels, and has taught at Ateneo De Manila University. He is also a rock singer, song writer and composer of film music.

Tad Ermitaño

After studies biology at Hiroshima University and a bachelor in Philosophy from The University of the Philippines, he studied film and video design at Mowelfund Film Institute in Manila. Today Tad Ermitaño works with digital sound design and produces video for stage and concert events, and his work has been promoted at international festivals, for instance Yamagata International Documentary Film Festival and Hong Kong International Film Festival. Tad Ermitaño is a resident artist with Global Stories as part of the DIVA residency programme (Danish International Visiting Artists Exchange Programme), sponsored by the Danish Arts Council.

Global Stories is a cultural institution producing cross-disciplinary works of art and communication. Humans have always needed stories to understand themselves and their neighbours. Now the neighbours live far away, so now we need global stories.

- Global Stories focuses on global dilemmas, which we are all part of.
- Global Stories creates diverse artwork and debates, involving and including its audience.
- Global Stories strives to stimulate global empathy.

Artistic director: Ditte Maria Bjerg

Upcoming projects:

MADE IN INDIA - a lecture-performance on surrogacy.

WITH OTHER EYES - an arts education project about identity construction.

The project is supported by The Danish ArtCouncil and Tryg-fonden.

www.globalstories.net





What is Paradise ?.....

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