



Department of Education
Region III
DIVISION OF ANGELES CITY
Angeles City



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January 30, 2015



DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No. 22 s. 2015

**EXHIBIT ON THE WORKS OF NATIONAL ARTIST
SALVADOR BERNAL TO THE CITY**

**To: Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors
School Heads of Public and Private
Elementary and Secondary Schools**

1. The Angeles City Tourism Office (ACTD) in line with its thrust to bring culture and the arts closer to Angelenos and in cooperation with the Cultural Center of the Philippines and National Commission for Culture and the Arts will be bringing the works of *National Artist Salvador Bernal* to the City. After an exhausting year of tedious screening process of selected key cities and provinces, Angeles City is privileged to have been granted this rare honor, as one of only ten venues nationwide, to host the said exhibit. The exhibit will run from *February 10, 2015 to March 9, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily* at the Angeles City Library and Information Center along Sto. Entiero St. near the Holy Rosary Parish Church.
2. In this regard, your pupils/students may visit the said exhibit as this is a rare opportunity to expose them and experience firsthand the works of one of our National Artists without the expense of going all the way to Manila. A special maintenance fee of only Php 10.00 is extended to your students, faculty and staff.
3. For further queries and scheduling of your students' visit to the exhibit you may contact Mr. Jun Cruz with Globe no. 0917 812 2106 or Sun cell no. 0922 898 0456
4. Immediate and wide dissemination of this memorandum is desired.

NICOLAS T. CAPULONG, Ph.D., CESO VI
Schools Division Superintendent



Angeles City Tourism Office

2/F Angeles City Hall, Brgy. PulungMaragul, Angeles City 2009 Philippines
Email Address: acto.ac50@gmail.com * Direct Line/Telefax: + (63 45) 625 2286 (ACTO)



January 28, 2015

DR. NICOLAS CAPULONG

School Division Superintendent
Division of Angeles City
Department of Education

RECEIVED
DIV. OF CITY SCHOOLS
ANGELES CITY
1-28-15 11:11 am

Dear Dr. Capulong,

Good Day!

The Angeles City Tourism Office (ACTO) in line with its thrust to bring culture and the arts closer to Angelenos and in cooperation with the Cultural Center of the Philippines and National Commission for Culture and the Arts will be bringing the works of **National Artist Salvador Bernal** to the City. After an exhausting year of tedious screening process of selected key cities and provinces, Angeles City is privileged to have been granted this rare honor, as one of only ten venues nationwide, to host the said exhibit. The exhibit will run from Feb. 10, 2015 to March 9, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily at the Angeles City Library and Information Center along Sto. Entierro St. near the Holy Rosary Parish Church.

It is in this regard that we would like to humbly request students under your division to visit the said exhibit as this is a rare opportunity to expose your students and experience firsthand the works of one of our National Artists without the expense of going all the way to Manila. A special maintenance fee of only Php 10.00 is extended to your students, faculty and staff. Attached is a backgrounder about Salvador Bernal together with his exhibition pieces.

For further queries and scheduling of your students' visit to the exhibit please feel free to contact Mr. Jun Cruz with Globe no. 09178122106 or Sun cell no. 09228980456.

We look forward that this request will merit your favorable response.

Very truly yours,

Richard G. Daenos, Ph.D.
City Tourism Officer

SALVADOR F. BERNAL: THEATER DESIGNER

Salvador F. Bernal was honoured with the National Artist for Theater Design Award in 2003. It was the first time in the history of the Awards that the honour was given in this field. Bernal pioneered theater design in the country and was the first to develop it as a profession and to elevate it to the level of an art form. Born in 1945 to a family that ran a *terno* shop, Bernal was exposed to the rudiments of fabric, cut, and silhouette early in life. At the Ateneo de Manila (BS 1966), he honed his talent as a poet and philosopher, acquiring the ability to read a text and imagine its theme as a visual conceit. At the Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois (MFA 1972), he studied, practiced, and handled courses in the art and craft of theatre design. After his return in 1973 Bernal taught briefly at the Ateneo and the University of the Philippines, but soon plunged headlong and full-time into a life of design, which until then was largely uncharted territory. In the beginning it was difficult to earn a living from design, since the production budgets of most performing arts companies were often just barely sufficient and sometimes even less than adequate. But with his discipline, resourcefulness, and industry, Bernal's exceptional talent began to be noticed. After a decade, he was acclaimed as the foremost theater designer of the country and directors were lining up for his services. After four decades of intense work, he had designed more than 250 productions in ballet, opera, theater, and film, mentored two generations of production designers, trained a pool of artisans (seamstresses, carpenters, metal workers, painters, among others), initiated and supervised the building of the country's first Production Design Center at the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), and founded the first and only professional organization of production designers in the Philippines. For all this, Bernal has earned the title "Father of Theater Design in the Philippines."

THE EXHIBIT

The art of theater design remains largely unappreciated because most people are unaware of what it is, what it requires, and how crucial it is to a theater production. The present exhibit aims to introduce and explain this emerging art form through some of the most expressive and impressive works of Salvador F. Bernal. In the four main alcoves of the gallery are selected maquettes and photographs that illustrate the four major aspects in Bernal's process of design: under **Symbol**, the selection of the key metaphor that crystallized the director's interpretation of the dance or theater production; under **Sources**, the range of bases from which Bernal drew his design concepts and styles; under **Surfaces**, the local and inexpensive materials that Bernal discovered and developed for the stage; under **Space**, Bernal's successful experimentation with theater space and successful solution to stage limitations.

Facing these alcoves are four sections under the title **Silhouettes**, where surviving Bernal costumes are displayed. Opposite Space are the costumes of *The Magic Flute*, whose budget allowed Bernal's imagination free rein. Opposite Surfaces are the attires from *Orosman at Zafira*, which used indigenous materials as costume decor. Opposite Sources are the Asian-inspired ensembles created for *Reallizing Rama* and finally, Opposite Symbol are the *ternos* with fish-motif designed for *Sa Bunganga ng Pating*. Outside the gallery, a timeline traces the patterns of Bernal's creativity of one wall, while the opposite wall showcases the sketches he himself made for selected productions.



