

Biboy Ramirez takes off his actor's mask

Written by Amy Schlanger
Sunday, 06 March 2016 17:38



Biboy Ramirez with the author, Amy Schlanger.

Contributed to the Filipino Reporter

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"I am doing what I love to do," he starts and with a gleam in his eyes he exclaims, "it's a nice feeling. Very fulfilling as an artist."

Biboy Ramirez is known as an actor in mostly independent award-winning movies like "In Nomine Matris," "Maestra" and "Sitio."

His guest appearances in TV shows like "Imbestigador," "Maalaala Mo Kaya" and "Honesto," among others, are unforgettable.

But what amazed me is his portrayal of Jose Rizal on stage in "Pepe."

His characters are interesting and he manages to make a new persona out of every role.

The memorable characters are not him.

He puts on a mask and portrays it.

He is an old-school actor.

Twenty years in the world of entertainment, Biboy has more than love of his work.

He has a creed, "If you want immortality or longevity you do film. If you want big money you work for television. If you want to improve your craft as an actor you go on stage, do theatre."

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His practical sense makes his views about the industry of make believe not dreamy.

Instead, he embraces his artistic journey as a craftsman who wakes up everyday looking forward to his work.

Biboy describes himself as an independent actor.

What is an independent actor?

Artists, the good ones, yearn for control over their work.

Artistic control comes with success.

The business of media is willing to trade for that control if they trust the artist.

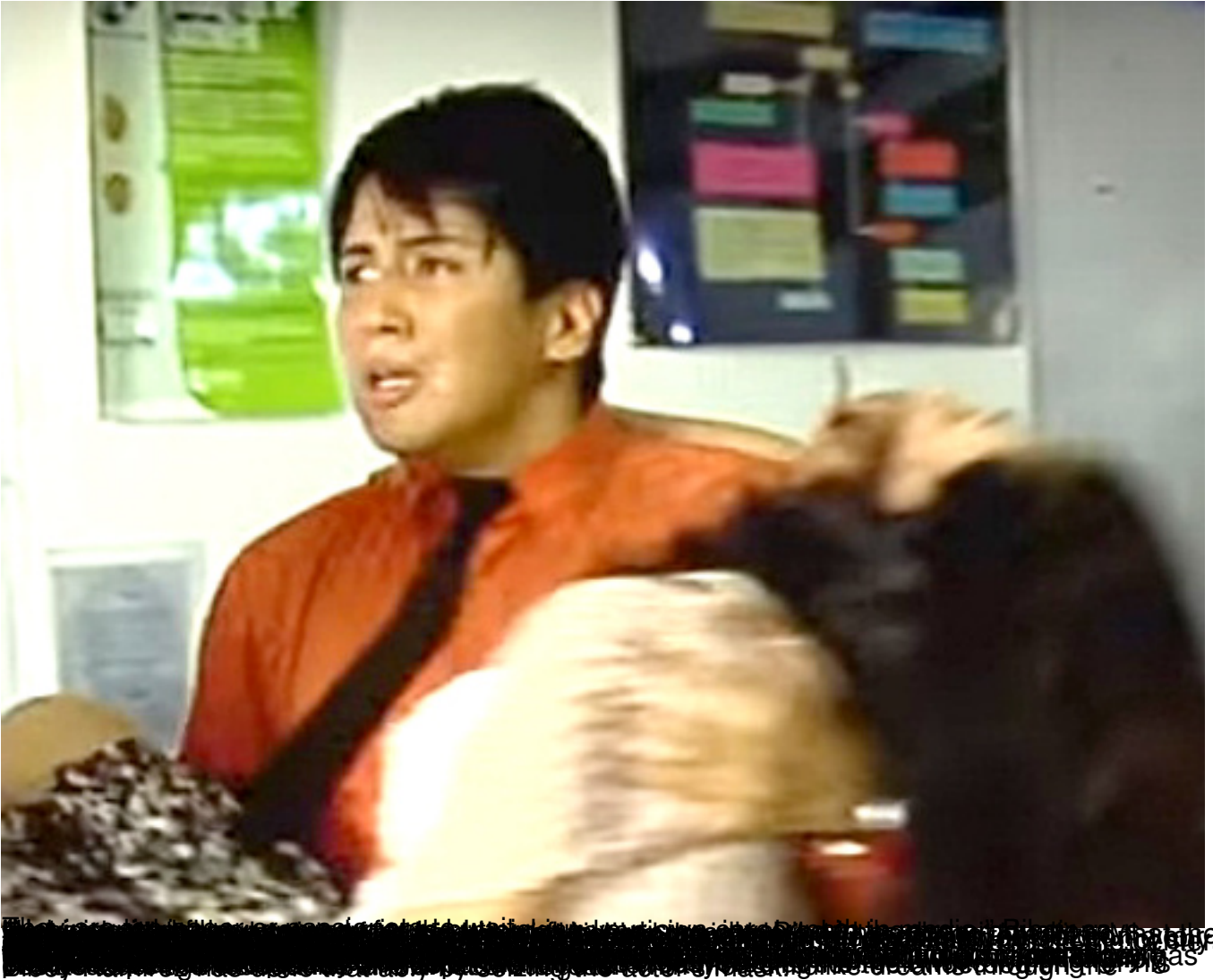
But that trust doesn't come quickly or easily.

It takes years.

That's what makes artists independent of the "system" so special.

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