



Patricia Chan

1976, F5

Professional Vocalist

The Cradle of a Star

Patricia started her "career" in performing arts probably as early as primary one when she joined the primary school choir. Being an all-rounded performer, she performed ballet in the City Hall with the dance team and was awarded in the inter-school Speech Festival as a primary student. She also took part in musical and drama productions later in her secondary years.

In secondary school, Patricia spent a lot of her school days in the music rooms. She was trained by Mrs. B. Chow for vocal solos and she participated in the Music Festival every year. Within the school, she swept prizes in different singing categories like folk group singing and classical vocal singing, just to name a few.

The school choir was led by Sister Carmela. Patricia was naturally part of it. She even conducted for the junior choir. One Christmas, she joined Sister Carmela and a small group of choir members on board a U.S. navy ship for Christmas caroling. It was understandably an unforgettable experience for a young teenage girl to perform in front of the strong and bold U.S. navy. Their voice had indeed moved the men as some were tearing during their performance. It dawned on Patricia the power of music and how it could touch people's heart.



Patricia in her student days

With her achievements in singing as a student, she challenged herself with open competitions. She entered the Asian Amateur Song Contest in 1977 and started her professional singing career with PolyGram (now Universal Music) and the two television channels ATV and TVB. She debuted with TVB in the Miss Hong Kong Pageant Final in 1978. Later in the same year, she won the Hong Kong Popular Song Festival and represented Hong Kong in the World Popular Song Festival in the Budokan, Tokyo. Besides singing, she also acted on TV and in films and hosted TV programs and live shows. She took a break off the stage in 1981 to complete her Bachelor degree in Canada and returned to continue pursuing her singing career in 1985 with EMI Records. In 1986, she represented Hong Kong in a grand concert in the World Expo held in Vancouver. She also performed in London in the presence of the Lord Mayor of London in 1987. These are some of the highlights of her performing career.

Later Patricia decided to focus on raising her family. She has always treasured her childhood experience of competing in the Music Festival. In order for her two daughters to have a taste of it, she coached them to participate in the vocal solos, piano solo and duets sections of the Hong Kong Schools Music and Speech Festivals. Having Patricia's gene in their blood, her girls did well with frequent appearances on the winner's podium. Now that they have grown up, Patricia thinks it was a valuable training for them. The family still reminisces about it and the bonding amongst them has been tremendous.

Recently, she proudly produced her own jazz album “Let Me Dream” in Canada with American & Canadian musicians. Patricia believes in "Perseverance" and "Perfection" in what one does, as this is the way to achievements in life.

Written by Clara Poon (2000, F7)