



REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA



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PHILCONGEN LOS ANGELES HOSTS PRESS BRIEFING FOR “1521: THE QUEST FOR LOVE AND FREEDOM”



Los Angeles, 09 June 2023 – The Philippine Consulate General in Los Angeles hosted a press briefing for the movie, “1521: The Quest for Love and Freedom,” at its community hall on 08 June 2023.



Consul General to Los Angeles, Edgar B. Badajos, delivering his welcome remarks (left photo). Fil-Am film producer Mr. Francis Ho fields questions to members of the Fil-am press and the community during the press briefing.

At its core, “1521” is a love story between a native princess and Ferdinand Magellan’s interpreter, Enrique Malacca, against the backdrop of the Battle of Mactan in 1521, which was the Philippines’ first recorded resistance against western intrusion into the islands that would later become the Philippines.

In brief remarks, Consul General Badajos said that although the movie is a love story, “it more importantly tells of the bravery, courage and never-say-die spirit of a people who only wanted to live their lives free from any form of foreign control or domination.” He added that “Lapu-Lapu and his men’s bravery would reverberate in the ensuing centuries, culminating in 1898 when against all odds, we proclaimed our independence from Spanish colonial yoke.”

The press conference was part of the Consulate General’s month-long celebration of the 125th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and Nationhood.

Produced by Filipino-American filmmaker Francis B. Lara Ho of Inspire Studios, and directed by another FilAm, Michael Copon who played Lapu-Lapu in the film, the movie breaks barriers as the first Filipino-produced Hollywood production featuring Philippine history at the cusp of western colonialism. In his words during the press conference, Mr Ho said that the movie is his offering to the Filipino people on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of Philippine independence. He added that “Filipinos have a great story to tell and it is high time that we shared this with the rest of the world through the medium of the silver screen.” END



Left photo shows some members of the Fil-am media and community who attended the press briefing. Mr. Steve Angeles (right photo) of ABS-CBN TFC Channel raises a point about the movie.