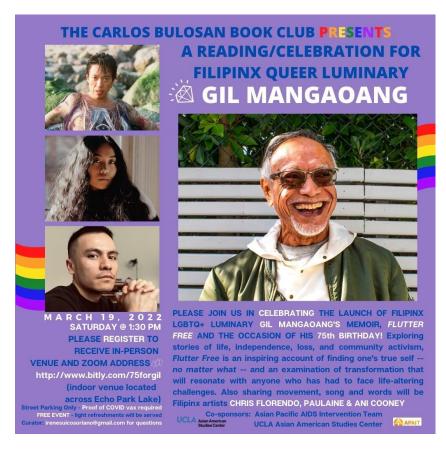
PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE LAUNCH OF FILIPINX LGBTQ+ LUMINARY & ELDER GIL MANGAOANG'S MEMOIR, FLUTTER FREE AND THE OCCASION OF HIS 75th BIRTHDAY!



Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 1:30 PM The venue is adjacent to ECHO PARK LAKE in Echo Park

FLUTTER FREE is a personal reflection on the successes, the challenges he has resolved, and the failures he has encountered in his life. Gil's memoir is a culmination of a personal writing project in which he began to understand the lessons learned in his

journey of self-discovery and identity. Exploring stories of life, independence, loss, and community activism, Flutter Free is an inspiring account of finding one's true self -- no matter what -- and an examination of transformation that will resonate with anyone who has had to face life-altering challenges. Also sharing movement, song and words will be Filipinx artists' CHRIS FLORENDO, PAULAINE & ANI COONEY

Many thanks to our event co-sponsors: Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team and the UCLA Asian American Studies Center

<u>GIL MANGAOANG</u> was born in San Francisco, California in 1947. He will be turning 75 years old in March 2022. He is the fourth of seven generations in his Filipino family born in the United States. For more than five decades, he has been active in social justice and equality movements in the United States and the Philippines.

He was one of the leaders of a group founded in 1973, Katipunan ng mga Demokratikong Pilipino (KDP). KDP was a group of Filipino Americans and immigrants who fought for social justice and campaigned against Ferdinand Marcos' dictatorship in the Philippines.

Gil came out as a gay man in 1975 and, after leaving KDP, moved to Hawai'i in 1985 and worked in the HIV/AIDS social services arena. Gil moved back to Los Angeles in 1988 and was diagnosed with HIV the following year. He has worked for Loyola Law School and was at the Asian Pacific AIDS Intervention Team for many years working in Client Services. He is now living out his retirement in Los Angeles with his husband Juan, who he has been with since 1976.

ANI COONEY: A UCLA and VONA alum, Ani Cooney is a winner of a PEN/Robert J. Dau Short Story Prize and a Manuel G. Flores Prize from the Philippine American Writers and Artists (PAWA). His work has been nominated for the Pushcart Prize and can be found in Best Debut Short Stories: The PEN America Dau Prize, Epiphany, LikeWise Fiction, and ONE Archives. @jarheadofwords

CHRIS FLORENDO: I am a multi-dimensional mixed media artist. My focus is on Movement, Performance, Art, and the creative process as an act of transformative radical self-love. My hope is to transcend time and space and be able to reach others via its intuitive powers and to support others' own journey and the weaving and unraveling of their narratives.

PAULAINE: Paulaine Sano, or known as Paulaine, is a Filipinx-American vocalist and performer based in Los Angeles. She received her Bachelor of Arts in Music Business at Berklee College of Music in Boston. In search of her own voice, she is now more than ready to dive back in the world of music to share her truth. Find Paulaine on IG: @bbysans

Curated by Irene Suico Soriano: About: Twitter & Instagram

@LAirenesoriano

Photo credit for Gil Mangaoang's photo: Chris Florendo

EVENT INFORMATION:

- Proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 will be required to attend the event
- Please plan on arriving at least 15 minutes early to have adequate time to find street parking, walk to the venue & complete the proof COVID vaccination process upon entry. Your timely appearance will ensure we start on time and will be very much appreciated

For any questions, contact the curator, Irene, at irenesuicosoriano@gmail.com

View Event Recording Here