

## **PRESS RELEASE**

**29 August 2014**

### **Opening of SAN' TO' Art Exhibit at Toronto PCG**

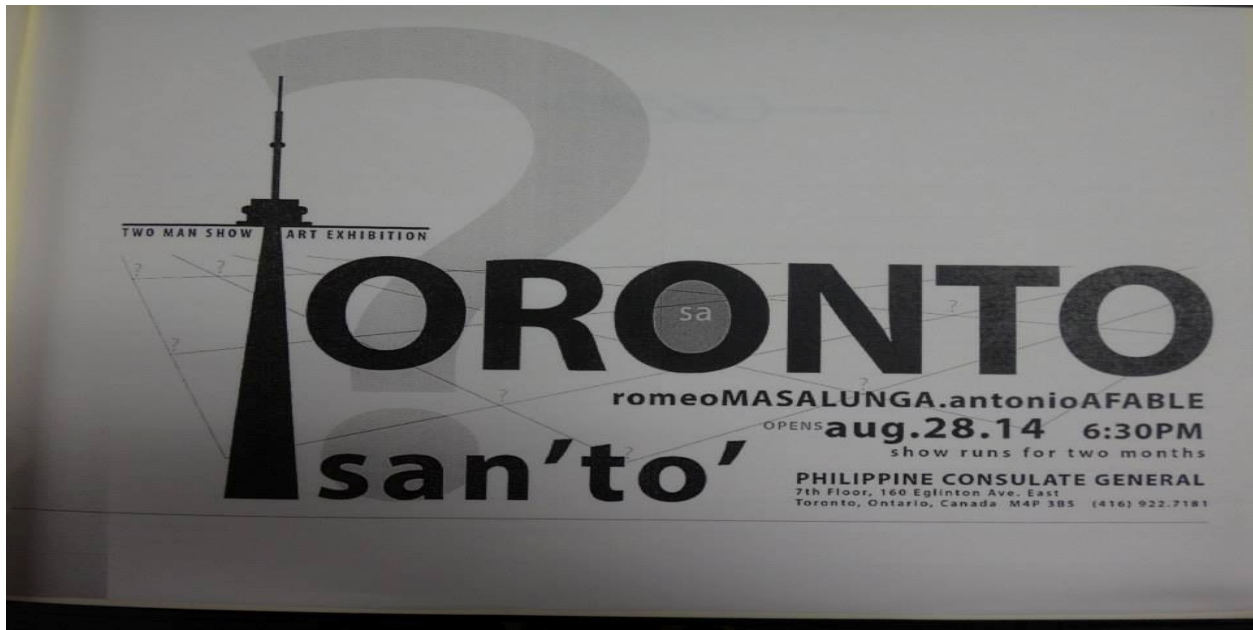
In the second of a series of Art @ Philcongen exhibits, the Philippine Consulate General in Toronto is proudly hosting **SAN' TO'**, a two-man show of Philippine Artists Group (PAG) members, Messrs. Romeo "Omel" Masalunga and Antonio "Jun" Afable, Jr., on 28 August 2014 for a period of two months, at the Consulate General premises. This is the second time this year that Toronto PCG is hosting PAG exhibit with the Filipino community in Ontario as part of Post's art diplomacy program.

**San' to'**, according to Masalunga, is the shortcut or slang for the Filipino expression "Saanito?" (Where is it?), featuring more than 20 paintings of famous street corners in the city of Toronto.

The ribbon cutting of the art exhibit opening was led by PAG founder and former president Maestro Romeo Mananquil and Consul General Junever Mahilum-West, honorary member of PAG. Omel and Jun stirred the excitement of the guests with a "guessing game" wherein participating guests were requested to identify the streets or landmarks depicted in the paintings. Their works featured famous streets in Toronto such as Yonge, King, Queen, University, College, Front, Alexander, Wellington, Church and Adelaide, as well as the famous Fairmont Royal York Hotel and the CN (Canadian National) Tower.

Most of the paintings in oil, ink, watercolor and acrylic were mounted in century-old frames. Filipino-Canadians of different groupings, art enthusiasts and students, and members of press corps in Ontario were among the guests who attended the opening of San 'to art exhibit which will be on show for two months.

This event was geared once again to promote the talent and creativity of the Filipino artists in Canada and drum up appreciation of Philippine art and culture among the Filipino-Canadian community Ontario-wide.



The Philippine Consulate General in Toronto proudly hosted the opening of **San 'to** two-man art exhibition of Romeo "Omel" Masalunga and Antonio "Jun" Afable, members of Philippine Artists Group (PAG) in Canada, on 28 August 2014 at the Consulate premises. In photo (right) is Consul General JuneverMahilum-West with the two artists and one of the guests.



The ribbon cutting of **San 'to** was led by Consul General Mahilum-West, a PAG honorary member, and Maestro Romeo Mananquil, PAG founder and former president. The art exhibit features more than 20 paintings of famous spots and landmarks in the city of Toronto. This is the second time this year that the Consulate celebrated PAG's exhibit with the Filipino-Canadian community in Ontario as part of Post's art diplomacy program.





The highlight of the art exhibition was the “guessing game” (*Saanito?*) where invitees were requested to identify the streets or landmarks depicted in the paintings before these were unveiled and presented to the guests. Most of the paintings of Messrs. Masalunga and Afafe in oil, ink, watercolor and acrylic were mounted in century-old frames auctioned by the famous Fairmont Royal York Hotel in Toronto. San ‘to will be on show for two months.



PCG staff (above photo) at the reception desk during the opening of San' to' Art Exhibit at the Philippine Consulate General premises. Filipino-Canadians of different groupings, art enthusiasts and students, and members of press corps in Ontario attended and graced the August 28<sup>th</sup> opening of the art exhibit of famous street corners in the city of Toronto.