

Flight of an Angel

Philippines, 2011, 94 mins, Drama. (Not rated)

Director: Clodualdo del Mundo Jr.

IMDb score -

FVFS panel voted 3.5 (out of 5)

Borrow it from the FVFS with screening rights for \$10.

A 9 minute interview with the director can be found at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EYr4ovVJwiQ>.

Gabriel works in the accounts department of a TV production company along with Lucy plus 3 other co-workers.

He lives alone and doesn't appear to have any ambition apart from doing his job well and being kind to his fellow man.

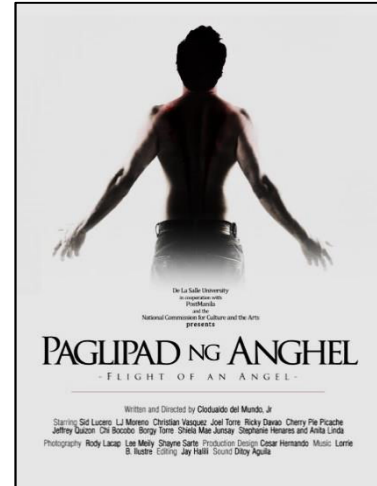
He wakes up to a regular day, does his daily routine and despite running late for work he stops to help an old woman begging in the street. She is very frail so he goes out of his way to take her to a hospice for the elderly where the Nuns agree to take care of her.

As a result of this good deed – or perhaps because of his overall good attitude – a set of wings start to sprout on his back. Initially he is able to hide them but they soon become obvious despite attempts to hide them, and he has to go on the run to stop being a TV story. Even Lucy, his would be friend from the office, sees him as a potential TV sensation story. The possibility of earning good money and fame are too much for those around him and the secret eventually gets out. Gabriel's dilemma is whether to use his gift of healing to help the sick and needy, but at the cost of unwanted publicity and the opportunity for the unscrupulous to take advantage of the situation.

As the wings on his back complicate his life, he starts to face the consequences of being an "angel."

Although a fantasy, the message is one that will get you thinking. Is it better to be an obvious "Angel" together with the benefits and pitfalls, or are you better off just being yourself and be thoughtful towards other people around you?

The production values of the film are good although the camera movement was obvious in a couple of places. The story develops logically and Gabriel's dilemma develops logically. The story had a couple of "flights of fancy" but overall I did feel for Gabriel and understood his predicament.



It is very interesting to see a film from the Philippines – something you do not get every day.

Flight of an Angel was nominated for 6 Philippines Golden Screen Awards, of which it won 3. See IMDb,

http://www.imdb.com/title/tt1961456/awards?ref =tt_awd

The director also made another independent film in our Indie library – *Pepot Artista*, which also won many awards.



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