

THE GODDESS OF FLOWERS

-- A Short Review by Kat Avila

I was recently able to visit the San Diego Asian American Repertory Theatre (AART) to see the world premiere of Thelma Virata De Castro's *The Goddess of Flowers*, the playwright who was featured in JADE's [March-April 2002 issue](#).

In *The Goddess of Flowers*, a classic first-generation overachiever must come to terms with her decision to drop out of college, a choice not likely to sit well with her long-suffering mother who has pinned a lot of her hopes and dreams on her daughter Flora. Flora's life is complicated by her visions of a mysterious Flying Man and her strained relationship with her wilder sister Carina.

The Goddess of Flowers was a well-realized production with good pacing and a strong finish. *The Goddess of Flowers* is receiving support from the local Filipino/a community, many of them first-time theatre goers. The play because of its visual and textual richness deserves to be made into a film - and JADE hopes to be there for that premiere!



Actress April Doctolero (who played Flora); playwright, Thelma Virata De Castro; and actor Jeff Lorezco-Sanchez (who played the Flying Man).

Playwright Thelma Virata De Castro and Andy Lowe, co-founder of AART, its Artistic Director and Director of *The Goddess of Flowers*.

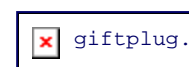


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The cast and staff of *The Goddess of Flowers*.

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Kat Avila (buscandocalifornia@yahoo.com) has an M.A. in Communication and regularly writes on issues affecting both the Asian American and U.S. Latino communities. She has a web site dedicated to Chicano/U.S. Latino and Asian American theatre at <http://www.geocities.com/buscandocalifornia/>.

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