

Headline **Dayang Nurfaizah sings of hope, love**
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Dayang Nurfaizah sings of hope, love

BY EFFA NATRAH MOHD RIDUAN AND NORNASHEILA ZAIDI

KUCHING: "Dayang is, without doubt, one of the most talented singers in the country and Malaysians should be proud to call her theirs.

"I fell in love with her voice when I first heard it and told myself that one day I would definitely have to record a song with this girl. Dayang has a unique voice and sings from her heart," famous Indonesian singer, Marcell, once said.

Now, one of the songs in Dayang Nurfaizah's latest album features Marcell.

The release of her eighth album entitled "Sayang & Cahaya" (Love & Light) marks a new chapter in Dayang's life.

The album is the fourth to be released under her own label, DN&AD Entertainment. "Dayang Sayang Kamu" was the first album to be released under her own label in 2004.

The "Sayang & Cahaya" album is in major music stores now; it is being distributed by Warner Music Malaysia Sdn Bhd.

"All songs chosen for this new album speak of love and exude positive and inspirational vibes," Dayang told a press conference here at Victoria Arms, Merdeka Palace yesterday.

The singer, who will be presenting a "Sayang & Cahaya" Showcase tomorrow at 10.00pm at Victoria Arms, Merdeka Palace Hotel & Suites, aims to inspire her fans with hope and love instead of creating more broken hearts.

The lyrics in all the songs are meant to stop violence against one another in whatever form and bring love to one's heart and soul.

The love she sings about is love for all including love for another human being, love for nature, love for the downtrodden and the marginal society.

Dayang is currently Ambassador for Conservation and Wildlife under the Pulau Banding Foundations and the Bukit Merah Orang Utan Island Foundation as well as the Red Ribbon Celebrity Support for the Malaysian AIDS Foundation.

"I am looking forward to collaborating with the Sarawak Government to promote the importance of preserving Mother Nature and if there is any offer, I will definitely take it up," added Dayang.

On the increasing number of Sarawak singers who were making news on the national music scene, she said: "It is a positive thing. I am proud of all the Sarawak singers because together, we are promoting the "Anak Sarawak" brand.

"It is good for more Sarawakians to be involved in the music industry. But they must be really talented and be interested and passionate about singing if they really want to be succeed in this field."

Dayang added that there were actually many talented performers in the state. "But they do not know the platform that they should use to promote their talents."

When asked about marriage, Dayang, who's in her early 30, said she was not ready for it and wanted to concentrate on her career first.

"I will announce it when the time comes, but honestly, I do not have any special relationship with anyone at the moment," said Dayang.

Meanwhile, the tracks in her latest album include "Mulanya Di Sini" (a great song with a new

arrangement but same melody), "Sayang" (a duet with Indonesia's finest, Marcell), "Rahsia Cinta", "Sabarlah", "Kau Bintangku", "Stay" (English song), "Sempurna Selamanya", (the perfect love song), "Hingga Ke Akhirnya" (accompanied by the Beijing String Section), "Saat Itu", "Life With You" (first local English ballad and a perfect wedding song), "Perlukan Cinta" (featuring Indonesian singer, Tompi) and "Ku Temu Cahaya" (the theme song for the Malaysian AIDS Foundation, a song about strength and hope).

Big names in the industry like Jenny Chin, Yasin, Afdlin Shauki, Omar K, Zain Almohtdar, Nuur Iman, Zuriani Zonneveld, Stella Reid, Chuckii Booker, Audi Mok, Shah Shamsiri and Ad Samad have all lent a hand in this cooking pot of love to stew what is undoubtedly Dayang's finest album in her 12 years' career.

The talented group (producers, arrangers, composers, lyricists, musicians, backing vocals and engineers) who worked on this album have obviously put a lot of love into this album. The quality of production is superb.

The tickets for the "Sayang & Cahaya" Showcase are being sold at RM40 each. Each ticket is inclusive of a drink. Interested fans are urged to contact 082 258000 ext. 8004 (F&B Office) from 8.30 am to 5 pm.

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DAYANG Nurfaizah showing the promo poster for her upcoming showcase. PHOTO: JOHN CHAN