



Anyone who can attempt to introduce a form of dance unheard of in Hong Kong and who keeps it going has never had what you would call an easy job. But Lina Chol, Founder and Chairman of The Hong Kong Line Dancing Association has made this incredible journey with credibility for the past ten years. Ever since she returned to Hong Kong from New Zealand in early 1998, Lina has been teaching and promoting Line dancing locally as well as choreographing, taking students to competitions overseas, and accepting invitations to conduct workshops abroad. She is well known and respected not only in China but the world over.

For this very special lady's tenth anniversary, Lina hosted a tenth Anniversary party last January at The Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre. Around 360 guests attended what would turn out to be a fine event. Amongst those who had come for this party of all parties were Lina's current and former students, dancers' friends, families, and visiting Line dancers from USA, Canada, Australia, Japan, Korea, China, Taiwan, Singapore and Switzerland. The guest of honour

was Roy Verdonk, the well known Line dance instructor/choreographer/technique training coach from Netherlands whom Lina had invited. The Emcees and Co-Directors of the Evening Showcase were Doug and Jackie Miranda.

The evening formally opened with a fun party dance taught by Doug and Jackie titled "Pencil Thin What?" It was followed shortly by Lina's Dances, a half hour special (led by Lina) during which all students and guests danced to seven of her choreographed works. Business partner Pei Wah Tsang and Lina spoke emotionally about their dance journey during a Toasting Ceremony. Other highlights were a rather splendid East meets West buffet dinner, and a lively, entertaining showcase.

The showcase opened with Lina and Pei Wah who performed a traditional Mongolian Dance taught by Idy Kwong, a local instructor in Chinese Dance. Many of the evening's other dances were choreographed by Doug and Jackie especially for the occasion. With their usual flair and easy way with an audience, the Mirandas' dancing was a joy to watch.

Roy dazzled everyone with his superb technical skills in an original routine he created himself. Currently a specialist in technique training, Roy has coached many successful students who have gone on to become Multiple World Champions.

Another entertainment treat for all was a Latin Dance number by Vincent and Felicia Chia of Singapore.

"CELEBRATION 10" was an equal combination of work and play for The Hong Kong Line Dancing Association. Prior to it, four consecutive days (January 16-19) of workshops were held in the studio in Wanchai. Roy's workshops were as ever terrifically well received and many loved his two Technique sessions too. And many people were truly excited at seeing the talented and popular Doug and Jackie in Hong Kong again. This great occasion was a landmark not only in Lina's Line dance career but to the many people who enjoyed it by simply being there. It will be remembered as a true celebration of an inspirational dancer and all the good that Line dance can represent.