

Many passions of Janet

By GABEY GOH



SOUL DOCTOR: Janet Lee

NEVER underestimate the power of passion, in life and love alike. For many people, it is the one "must-have" in the pursuit of happiness and in any definition of success. In fact the 19th century German poet Hebel once wrote: "Nothing great in the world has ever been accomplished without passion."

Just ask Janet Lee aka Soul Doctor. This 31 year-old full-time performer, blessed with angelic vocals and vivacious personality, can wholeheartedly testify to the importance of passion in any endeavour. How else would she be able to maintain seven active blogs? (see Blog-folio on right)

"Some friends label me as mad," she admits with a laugh, when asked about her many blogs, "I too believe I'm quite out of my mind - but what to do, I get a kick out of maintaining these blogs because they are all relevant to the things I do and what I'm passionate about. The blogs are very useful to me, professionally and as serious hobbies."

And if blogs are indeed to be considered a reflection of a person, then Janet, with her many passions, simply has too big a personality for just one mere blog to contain. Be it about music, fashion or environmental issues, one can be sure that her writings will be suffused with the same heartfelt warmth and depth that is characteristic of her approach to life.

Tell us a little about yourself...

I'm a full-time performer, quite active in the performing arts circle and commercially. My parents have come into terms with my "unique" occupation. My sister runs a music school with her husband and she is the author of two books (The Sky Is Crazy and - The Vanity Drive), my brother works in the Singapore in the IT business.

Proud facts and achievements? I feel more lucky than proud to be pursuing what I love doing on a full time basis. I guess my achievement is the fact that I am gifted with the love for music and performing arts,

driven by my craving to grow as a performer and as a person.

Achievements highlighted in media? Yes I have a few scrap books of news clippings and on various things that I do, performing, blogging, my indulgence in secondhand shopping, fashion, etc.

What made you start blogging?

I started my first blog (www.souldoctor.blogspot.com) so that I could write on a regular basis and get to publish my thoughts and writing.

My second blog (www.shopwithsouldoctor.blogspot.com) followed when I started to promote secondhand shopping and secondhand fashion to friends. I also started it because I wanted to host a directory of all upcoming secondhand sale events in the Klang Valley in a form of a blog. I guess I have achieved this because now people do refer to my blog as reference to where to shop during the weekends for secondhand stuff, and organisers of such events update me on their activities. I have also interested many people through my blog in exploring a new lifestyle in secondhand shopping.

My portfolio site ([\[janetsing.com\]\(http://janetsing.com\)\) is still my main source of business today, I get bookings to perform and inquiries from the public through this blog.](http://www.</p>
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Has blogging changed your life?

Yes it has. I have made more contacts through the Net, made many new and good discoveries. I have contributed by sharing my experiences as a performer and shopper with friends and strangers out there. Blogging gives me regular practice in writing and arranging my thoughts in a more organised fashion.

Any regrets?

No la, are you kidding? It has enriched my life in many ways :)

Things in "Cybersphere" that irritate you?

I can tell you this with my eyes closed - I absolutely loathe Internet and email users who press the 'forward' button in email without thinking. I loathe people who pass on hoax email and useless chain email - these people lack critical thinking and they never investigate the authenticity of the information in these emails they have received from other idiots who forwarded it to them. I hope Internet users

will make use of websites (and their brains) such as www.snopes.com to check on the accuracy of the "chain email" they receive.

If you had to really choose one website/blog to interact with, which would it be?

At the moment I enjoy reading many blogs, of all topics, such as politics, fashion, green issues, so I don't have one blog that I favour most. However, I must say I LOVE LOVE LOVE wikipedia.

Through Cyberspace communication many things can happen. What would you really like to achieve? Some personal ambition? Changing something in your life?

I hope to get more people and Internet users connected, and to rethink their current lifestyle in relation to caring for the environment. We only have one earth and it's ours and our children's to be cared for. If not us, then who? That's why we started sites such as Project Daily Million (www.projectdaily.com) and The Recyclists (www.therecyclists.blogspot.com) with the hope that more people will be inspired to make small changes in their lives for the good of our future.

If there were someone you could influence to take up blogging, who would it be?

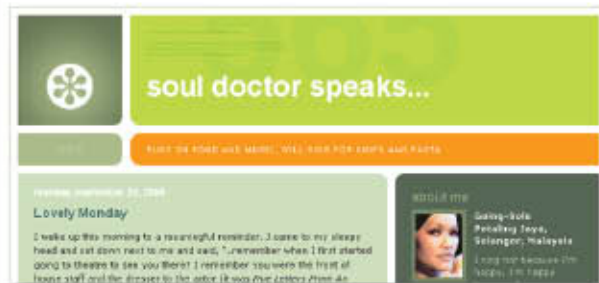
I have asked my sister why hasn't she started a blog, since I enjoy her writings in her books but she said it's the time factor. I do hope soon I will get to read about her daily thoughts and stories through her blog.

Additional thoughts?

Keep blogging folks, drink lots of water, eat less meat, use less plastic bags and turn off the lights when you leave the room.

SPOTTED anything of interest in the big world out there that you would like to share with our readers? We'd love you to compass the way - just email the URL directions to: themalaymail@gmail.com

Janet's Blog-folio



• www.souldoctor.blogspot.com
"My personal blog"



• www.souldocfashion.blogspot.com
"My blog on fashion"

• www.janetinthemedia.blogspot.com
"Where I file my press-features, etc."

• www.janetsing.com
"My portfolio site"

• www.shopwithsouldoctor.blogspot.com
"My secondhand shopping community blog"

• www.janetshowcalendar.blogspot.com
"Where I file all my upcoming public performances"

• www.therecyclists.blogspot.com
"My volunteer group The Recyclists has a blog too which I maintain"

Watch Janet!

Until Sunday, music and comedy fans can head to the KL Performing Arts Centre and watch Janet Lee along with a talented ensemble cast in "BROADWAY PARODIES LAGI LAH! Malaysian Spoofs of Songs from the Musicals". For more information, log onto broadwayparodieslah.blogspot.com