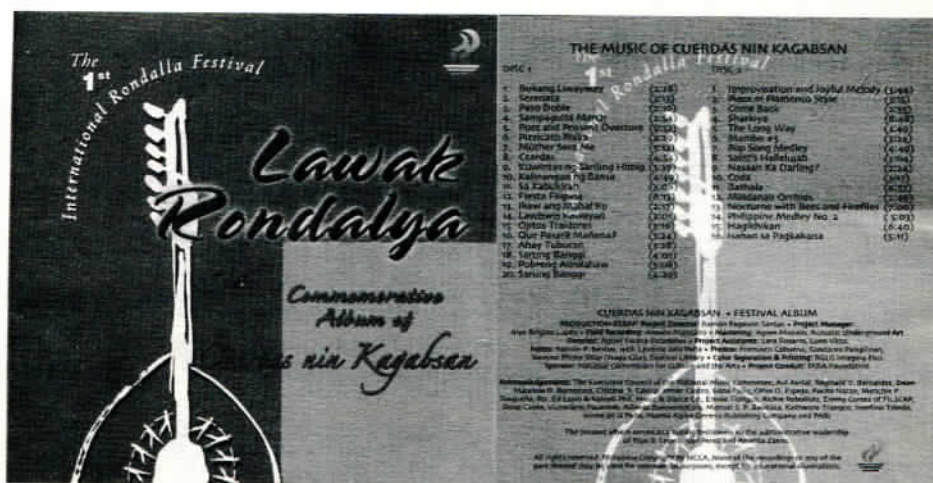




A REVIEW OF LAWAK RONDALYA

Arwin Tan

LAWAK RONDALYA. Commemorative CD Album of Cuerdas Nin Kagabsan produced by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts

The 1st International Rondalla Festival Cuerdas nin Kagabsan, held in Bicol in 2004, captured the universal appeal of the plucked string ensemble, popularly known in the Philippines as the Rondalla. Lawak Rondalya is a two (2) CD compilation of festival highlights featuring superbly recorded pieces organized according to genre: opening pieces, the classics, Filipino light classics, love songs, Filipino folksongs, international folk styles, popular entertainment, contemporary styles and closing numbers. Recorded live at the festival's official concerts in different venues, the items in this collection display the extensive range of the rondalla's diverse performance practices, displaying both the richness of their repertoires and the diversity of the instrumental combinations.