Retrotista is the name taken by a group of thirteen individuals of differing backgrounds with a common passion for black and white photography. The group’s name merges the words *retratista* (Filipino for photographer) and *retro*—to reflect the group’s nostalgic preference for the black and white genre.

This collection of photographs presents images of Filipino art and culture, viewed through the lenses of nine Retrotista members. The collection reflects their varying orientations and distinct styles. In so doing, it presents a diversity which is, in itself, uniquely,distinctively Filipino.

Nieves B. Alvarez
Emily Bomasang
Darwin G. Chiong
Margie Lopa-Pérez
Valee Manzo-Rivas
Chinqui Roldan
Dino B. Romano
Rhoda Ramos
Bernadette Tamayo
PANANGLAW  Badette Tamayo
GRAIN OF LIFE  Margie Lopa-Pérez
KALESA  Rhoda Arleen R. Ramos

BUDHI 1 & 2 ～ 2003
BATA, BATA...BILI NA!  Rhoda Arleen R. Ramos
OLD MAN IN BATANES  Chinqui Roldan
ANILAO SUNSET  Chinqui Roldan
The Retrotistas

NIEVES B. ALVAREZ
Trained and having worked in finance, Nieves yearned for a creative outlet. After exploring drawing and painting, she stumbled onto photography, following efforts to produce better pictures of her travels. Since then, photography—both color and black and white—has evolved for her into a most enjoyable hobby.

EMILY BOMASANG
Emily is a physician whose curiosity about photography developed into a commitment to it following a course she took on the subject earlier this year. She says the creativity required in photography is a perfect complement to the technical nature of her main profession. With her newfound perspective, people and objects now seem anything but ordinary.

DARWIN G. CHIONG
In his search for creative rush, Darwin basks in the artistic pursuits of photography and creative writing. He is a graduate of the University of Queensland Business School where he developed a multicultural perspective and immersed himself in Australian aboriginal art, travel and style. He studied photography under EyeAsia, Inc. and holds a special interest in black and white film photography. Darwin is currently doing his Master of Fine Arts in creative writing at De La Salle University.

MARGIE LOPA-PÉREZ
Margie caught the photography bug one idle and freezing winter in Boston. It has, since then, become one of her primary outlets for creativity. These days, she is busy merging her interests in food, travel, writing, social research and photography.
VALEE MANZO-RIVAS
Valee learned her first lesson in photography when she dropped her 2-day old Nikon on the way to the Empire State Building two years ago. A lover of poetry and paintings, she now brushes with the colors of light and her images become her odes. She dreams of returning to New York City, where it all started, with her husband and 2-year old daughter.

CHINQUI ROLDAN
An alternative traveler and keen observer of diverse cultures, Chinqui pursues the raw, the real, and the more intense. Travel photography has become for her a creative tool through which she can share her unique experiences. Accredited with the Australian News Syndicate, she holds a diploma from the Australian College of Journalism where she earned recognition for her travel writing.

DINO B. ROMANO
Dino, a trade-marketing executive in a consumer goods company, discovered an interest in photography upon being tasked to prepare corporate product shots. He took this interest to a new and more serious level after taking basic lessons this past February with the FPPF. He aspires to one day study photography in New York, set up his own studio, and specialize in portraits of celebrities and models.

RHODA RAMOS
Rhoda took up a bachelor of music and then worked in the corporate world for fourteen years. Since taking on early retirement, photography has become something more than a serious hobby; Intent on pursuing photography as a second career, Rhoda is leaning towards documentary or travel photography. Her wildest dream is to become the resident photographer at an international travel magazine. Given her skills and passion, this dream may very well become reality.

BERNADETTE TAMAYO
Bernadette is a journalist presently covering the defense beat for People's Journal. She loves to immortalize places and events through film. Aside from photography, she's also into mountaineering, spelunking, and environmental volunteer work.