

# She's Jess simple and sweet

Practically fitting all male perceptions of feminine beauty to a T, Jessica must have broken quite a few hearts when she chopped off her lovely long silky tresses recently.

As one of Mediacorp's newly-crowned Seven Princesses, we were expecting just a tad bit of airs from fresh-faced Jessica Liu. But we were definitely not prepared for the wave of non-pretentiousness from the former model. Despite having come out from a relationship recently, the brand ambassador for MARIGOLD NON FAT Yoghurt Drink and Hoyu Bigen Silk Touch seems to have emerged for the better.

**Q: WE SAW FROM PICTURES THAT YOU HAD YOUR HAIR CUT! ANY TINGE OF REGRET?**

**A:** Well...No! In fact I feel great! Being an actress means having to sport different hairstyles and hair colors to portray the diverse roles that I am tasked to act in. As you know, Singapore has a hot and humid weather. It definitely feels refreshing with short hair. I also feel that having short hair gives me more flexibility in the types of roles I can play with, just like the versatility of hair colors. Whether I have long hair or short hair, I can always play them up with different hair colors for the different looks.

**Q: THE PRESS OFTEN DESCRIBES YOU AS SWEET AND NICE, JUST LIKE A VILLAGE GIRL. DO YOU WANT TO DEBUNK THOSE STATEMENTS? HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE YOURSELF?**

**A:** Thanks for the compliments! I think these statements are real... I mean I'm sweet and nice to the people around me. (laughs) If I were to describe myself, I would say that I am a straightforward, simple and boyish girl.

"In SHOU ZU, yes, there are sparks as [Elvin Ng and I] are a couple. But off screen, we have very few interactions as we are so tired after filming the whole day, we just want to go back home to sleep."



**Q: YOU STARTED MODELLING BEFORE GETTING TALENT SPOTTED. WHAT MADE YOU GO INTO MODELLING IN THE FIRST PLACE?**

**A:** I was still schooling at that time and was looking for some ways to earn extra pocket money without affecting my studies. One of my friends introduced me to a model agency for interview and I was recruited to be a part-time model. But after a while, modelling got boring as you only had to walk on the runways and look pretty. I'm glad to say I was talent spotted by MediaCorp and then as they say, the rest is history...

**Q: GIVE US A BEAUTY QUICK TIP?**

**A:** My busy schedule also means that I am always on the lookout for simple and effective haircare products. Hoyu has a leave-on treatment range called Beautylabo ColorCare that is designed specifically for colored hair. I use Beautylabo ColorCare Leave-On Treatment Spray as a styling base every morning and apply Beautylabo ColorCare Leave-On Treatment Gel to repair and moisturise my hair during my beauty sleep at night. I also love my Bigen Silk Touch, which is really convenient and easy to use, with long lasting color! The special ingredients such as silk protein moisturises and smoothes my hair, while ginseng extract protects the hair from damage and reduces color fading.

**Q: YOU'RE CONSIDERED RELATIVELY NEW IN MEDIACORP AND YET, YOU'VE ALREADY WON SOME AWARDS, NAMELY BEST NEWCOMER IN 2005 AND TOP TEN MOST POPULAR FEMALE IN 2006. HOW DOES THAT FEEL?**

**A:** Definitely happy and lucky! I think I have been blessed with good roles that allow me to display many different personalities. I'm grateful for the company's efforts in grooming me and giving me a lot of exposure.

**Q: OH, AND YOU ARE ONE OF MEDIACORP'S SEVEN PRINCESSES. HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT THAT STATUS?**

**A:** It is really an honour - we have Zoe Tay as the Queen of Caldecott Hill. But I do feel a bit pressured. Out of the seven princesses, I have the least experience besides Dawn Yeoh. So being crowned this title means I'll have to put in extra effort, and I hope the audience can see my improvements. It will be wonderful to remain in the castle with the other six princesses.

**Q: HOW DO YOU MAINTAIN YOUR FIGURE AND YOUR HEALTH, WITH SUCH A BUSY SCHEDULE?**

**A:** As an artiste, the hectic filming schedule very often can upset my tummy. Thankfully, I drink MARIGOLD NON FAT Yoghurt Drink everyday to maintain a healthy digestive system. It is full of the goodness of live probiotic cultures, and provides me with my daily boost of friendly bacteria to keep my digestive system in tip-top condition. It is also a healthier choice for me as it has none of the fat, and I do not have to worry about gaining those extra pounds.

Drinking MARIGOLD NON FAT Yoghurt Drink everyday also gives me the calcium I need to help maintain strong bones so as to cope with the increased demands of my job, especially when filming action-packed dramas like Shou Zu. With its range of five delicious and refreshing flavours, I get to choose different flavours to suit my taste on different days. My favourite is Tropical Mixed Fruits Flavour!

**Q: TELL US MORE ABOUT SHOU ZU (KINSHIP), THE SHOW YOU'RE ACTING IN NOW. AND HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ROLE YOU ARE ACTING AS?**

**A:** It's a story about two Chen brothers, Anping and Anxing who owned the Da Ying Jia - a foot reflexology chain. Though Anping started the business, younger brother Anxing has expanded it and is now in charge. Anping is a simple man who is content with letting his brother take the credit, but his wife Meiqiu and two adopted daughters Jinsha and Yinsha want a bigger pie of the family business. The third adopted daughter Yusheng, who is not interested in the family business, but is secretly in love with her cousin, Andrew, Anxing's only son, played by Elvin Ng.

Unlike Anping, Anxing is an aggressive man with foresight and drive, who unfortunately is also a philanthropist. Though he plays the field, he has never thought about divorcing his wife Meiqiu, Mei's sister, until he meets Shuilin, a gold-digger and Andrew's fiancée. Despite the ambiguity, Anxing insists on marrying Shuilin and this brings about a major change in the family.

**Q: AND HOW WOULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ROLE YOU ARE ACTING AS?**

**A:** I'm playing the role as Yusheng, a righteous prison warden who is hot afraid to stand up for what she believes in. She knows Judoo and is quite a tomboy. In the show, she's into fighting and chasing scoundrels which are by far, the most physically demanding show that I have ever worked on.

**Q: YOU APPEARED VERY CHUMMY WITH ELVIN NG DURING THE INTERVIEWS AND PROMOTIONAL TRAIL SHOTS FOR SHOU ZU. SO ARE THERE ANY SPARKS FLYING BETWEEN YOU TWO OFF SCREEN?**

**A:** Well...well...I personally don't think there are. In the show, yes, there are sparks as we are playing a couple. But off screen, we have very few interactions as we are all so tired after filming the whole day, we just want to go back home to sleep. (laughs)

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**Q: WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE ROLE TO DATE?**

A: It will be the Malaysia drama *Falling In Love*. In the show, I was even more boyish and sloppy than the character in *Shou Zu*. Besides having no makeup, I had to put on a wig and a pair of very old-fashioned glasses. Oh my goodness, I looked so ugly back then! But it was very fun and satisfying. It's like playing the real me.

**Q: YOU'VE NEVER PLAYED AN EVIL PERSON BEFORE. WOULD YOU LIKE TO TAKE UP THAT ROLE SOMEDAY?**

A: Of course I'm always game for something new. I would also love to take on a role that leaves the audience guessing whether I'm the good or bad guy.

**Q: HOW ABOUT TAKING UP A CONTROVERSIAL ROLE I.E. RAPE VICTIM BENT ON TAKING REVENGE, LESBIAN OUT TO KILL MEN? WHY?**

A: That would also be great! As I am still new in the industry, I treasure the opportunities given to me and it would be great to have a breakthrough in my acting career.

Furthermore being tasked with this kind of challenging roles means that my efforts and acting skills are being recognised, which is really rewarding for me as an actress.

**Q: WHICH ACTOR DO YOU ENJOYING PLAYING OPPOSITE MOST?**

A: I have worked with Pierre before in *"Mars VS Venus"*. He's a nice guy to work with, straightforward and sometimes absent minded. For Elvin, he's like a little boy, very playful and likes to tell jokes to make you laugh. It's quite comfortable working with him.

But so far, I enjoyed working most with Yao Dong. We are both Malaysians and we speak Cantonese with each other. He was also a model before joining MediaCorp. So I think because of the similar backgrounds that we have, we tend to have better chemistry.

**Q: IF YOU CAN CHOOSE ANY ACTOR (INTERNATIONAL OR LOCAL) TO ACT WITH, WHO WOULD IT BE?**

A: Hmm...I think it would be Eason Chan. I have been his fan since college days. I buy his albums, watch his movies, and even attended his concert recently! I think he's not only a good singer, but also a promising actor. It would be a dream come true if I can act alongside with him in a musical.

**Q: WHERE DO YOU FORESEE YOURSELF TO BE IN TEN YEARS' TIME?**

A: Ten years is too long! For me, I take each step at a time, so I don't think that far. Maybe two to three years will be a better gauge. Of course, I hope I can achieve greater success in my acting career. Otherwise, I'm thinking of setting up my own business.

**Q: LASTLY, COULD YOU TELL US SOMETHING ABOUT YOURSELF THAT NO ONE ELSE KNOWS? (I.E. YOU HAVE A LUCKY DANCE THAT YOU DO BEFORE EVERY FILMING ETC)**

A: That's hard. Let me think...Well...Whenever I'm feeling stressed, I love to go shopping at furniture or ornament shops and buy a couple of things there. Or I will clean up my house and do some furniture re-arrangement. That's my way of de-stressing. Strange right?