

# Tripping Out With Angel

Strong-willed and gorgeous, Angel Locsin reveals her quirky and *kengkoy* side. Who knew?

BY CANDICE LOPEZ-QUIMPO

**C**hanneling the vixen can be effortless for someone like Angel Locsin. Posing with one shoulder bared, pout in place, and eyes smoldering—she makes sexy look easy.

If you've never had any real interaction with Angel, you'd probably call her guarded. You're not sure what to expect from her. At the shoot, a bichon frise is brought in, and the way the production team oohed and aahed at the canine says that we have a potential show-stealer on board. The dog—Angel's dog—is just way too cute.

A couple of shots with her furry friend, and it happens: The dog breaks Angel's reserve. A warm smile plays on her lips as she cuddles her pet.

"*Halos lahat ng kaibigan ko, first impression nila suplada ako,*" Angel relates. "*Nagsa-smile naman ako, ha!*" She laughs at the thought. The thing is, Angel does have a wonderful smile. It's endearing and pulls you in.

## Joke Time

Perhaps we're so used to her ball-breaking roles and dramatic acting that we expect her to be, well, serious.

But, at the shoot—her fifth with Cosmo—the actress knows how to keep things light. She'd break out of her sultry persona to laugh with the crew or make a funny face. And, we hear her actually call that adorable dog of hers "*Pwet-pwet.*"

"*Kasi masyado na s'yang cute!*" Angel laughs, as if that alone explains the ridiculous name. Then, she pretends to scold her dog "*'Pwet-pwet!' O, 'di ba? 'Di ka na magagalit kasi ang cute din ng name niya!*" The girl is quick to see the funny side of things. It's refreshing.

## Working Girl

Still, Angel is one of the most hardworking actresses in the industry. Since seeing her last in Cosmo, she has done several movies and teleseryes (including *Only You* with Sam Milby, and *Imortal* with John Lloyd Cruz). "*Ngayon, may gagawin kaming movie ni John Lloyd,*" she shares, a romantic comedy that's considerably lighter fare than the violent scenes and heavy dramatic acting they did for *Imortal*. It should be refreshing for Angel's fans to see her this way, and timely that they both headline this month's Cosmo mag.



Laidback and more relaxed—Angel shows a more balanced side of herself.

(photos) YANDER ANGELLES, (styling) editha VINCE IV, ZO AQUILA AND PHILA PRANGAN, (makeup) JADA FERRER, (hair) JESSICA JACQUES, (props) ANA QUIRONES, (props) CATH SOBREVIEGA AND MAITA BALELO. (On Angel, wearing) TOPSHOP. (shorts) ZARA. Shot on

But, it isn't just in acting roles that Angel lightens up. When we talk about all the work she's been doing nowadays, she gives off an air that's almost carefree and unfrazzled.

**Pro Princess**

"Yung work ngayon mas balanced naman," she explains. "Mas okay kasi may time ako para sa akin, sa family ko, sa friends." We know she's being careful with her words, only confirming that she's become more secure and determined about what she's doing. Angel's increased steadiness now makes her able to manage the stress of being in the spotlight with grace. She states as an example, when she shot *In The Name*

of *Love*, her film with Aga Muhlach, and *Immortal* at the same time. "Ang hirap lang kasi drama pareho, 'yung isa may action pa. Gigising ka, tapos iisipin mo kung sino ka. Teka lang, ano nga 'yung character ko ngayon?" she explains. So, she developed her own sanity-saving style: "Habang nagsh-shower ako, [iniisip] ko na 'yung mga kukunan [na eksena]. Ire-ready ko lang para 'pag kailangan ko na magtrabaho, alam ko agad 'yung situation, hindi na ako magtatanung-tanong. I can cry or laugh on cue. Whatever the director asks, hindi na siya masyado mahihirapan kunin sa akin."

It's evident that Angel is a pro. She has always risen to her responsibilities to

deliver a job with aplomb, no matter what difficulties lay ahead. While this hectic stint would've rattled her before, she's learned to take everything—busy schedules and challenges—in stride. Now, what gives her strength and soothing peace is the value she places on balance, one she's had to learn on the job, through experience.

**Fighting Stance**

Angel's been in the industry for nine years now. She's portrayed various emotions for the camera countless times. But when she talks about work, you start getting a sense that Angel's on some sort of personal mission: to push herself to be more than what's expected of her. She's also redefining what she wants a career to be: steady and stable. At this point, after conquering almost every nook of the industry, what Angel really wants now is "to fight."

"Ang gusto ko talaga malinya ako sa action. Mahilig ako sa mga fight scenes. I don't like weak women. Gustong gusto ko 'pag nagpo-portray ako ng mga babae na strong," She smiles before she adds an important criterion: "Pero, girl pa rin."

Angel's penchant for strong roles spills over to real life. She's a supporter of women's rights, lending her time to the NGO Gabriela as well as to the Philippine Red Cross. She speaks of it matter-of-factly: "Kailangan mo ma-elevate ang kababaihan. Hindi lang 'yung mga nakasamayan natin na 'yung babae sumud-sunuran. Pwede ako magtrabaho. Pwede ako mag-decide. Gusto ko 'yung mga characters ko 'yung mga hindi nagpapatalo."

One begs to wonder if this same feistiness carries over to her love life. Right now, she is "single, not looking, but dating." But, men must be so intimidated, right? "Siguro. But really, I'm more intimidated of them."

This is tricky territory, since Angel also doesn't believe in traditional *ligaw*. "Yung mga nag-best-foot-forward, hate na hate na hate ko. Kung gan'un ka talaga sa lahat, okay lang. But if I'm the only one you open doors for, ayoko nang gan'un."

**Dating Rules**

Recently, she's been portrayed as a man's ideal girl—the anything-goes, fishball-

eating, commute-friendly gal. Honestly, we ask her, would you really go out with someone who just slums it?

For Angel, it's a no-brainer. "Of course! Basta gusto ko 'yung kasama ko, 'di ba? Gan'un lang naman 'yun, eh. Kahit sa likod ng pick-up nga lang, d'un na kayo kumain. Basta okay ka sa kasama mo."

Anything goes with this girl, yes. But, date just anyone? Not really. "I'm super picky," she says. She must be. No less than Azkals superstar and last month's Cosmo Centerfold Phil Young husband has expressed interest, and she dismisses it with a shrug. "I think, nung una, people thought it wasn't serious. Hindi ko naman sinasabi na masama siya. Sinabi ko rin naman sa kanya, 'feeling ko hindi ka seryoso. Pero 'di ko naman jina-judge 'yung pagkatao mo.'"

And yet, Angel is learning to be more open. "Truth is, ang dami kong dapat pang baguhin. I had a rule before that I wouldn't date anyone younger than me. Pero nagbago na 'yon." Has Phil changed her heart? Many dare to speculate. As if to answer those queries, Angel adds: "So, girls, 'wag na kayong gumawa ng checklist. Basta hindi sinungaling, okay na."

**Flights Of Fancy**

If there's one thing we can be sure of, Angel's own brand of fun takes some balls. For instance, you're more likely to find her at an airline ticketing office than at the club.

Picture this: Whenever she has free time, Angel herself marches up to a ticket counter, checks the flights listed, and buys a ticket for the next available flight—US, Hong Kong, Bangkok—it doesn't matter. "Ayoko talaga mag-plano

ng vacations, as much as possible. Sa work natin, laging may schedule. So, minsan masarap rin kung ano lang gusto nating gawin. Kaya tawag ng friends ko sa akin 'Random.' I love telling them, 'Tara, alis tayo. Basta. Mag-drive ka lang.'"

She speaks of these snatches of personal time as if they were such valuable luxuries. Her commitments keep her so busy, that when we asked where she'd jet off to if she could take off for one year, she gets giddy. "One year?" Her smile widens.

"Gusto kong pumuntang Italy. 'Di pa

ako nakakapuntang Rome. Backpack lang, iikot ng Europe. Ang dami kong gustong gawin, na-excite ako! Tapos, gusto kong matuto ng tatlong bagay: Musical instrument; mag-fly ng plane; and makabisado ko 'yung streets sa Pilipinas." She laughs, imagining the experience.

In the meantime, she'll settle for her impromptu ventures closer to home. Whether it be eating fishballs on the street or setting up a tent in her own driveway, Angel is up for anything. ■

This five-time Cosmo cover girl is a ballsy chick at heart.



Angel definitely knows how to make a Cosmo shoot über-fun! Watch videos and view photos from our shoot with her at [WWW.COSMO.PH](http://WWW.COSMO.PH).

The Cosmo Quiz

Name: *(Angel Locsin)*  
*Angelica Coumenares*  
Birthday: *090985*  
Age: *26*  
Nickname: *ACL*

If you looked in my purse, you'd be surprised to find:

*eyemask ☺*  
*(I forgot to remove it ☹)*

Angel needs her beauty rest, too.



My ultimate dream is:

- a. To win an acting award.
- b. To write a book about my showbiz life.
- c. To have a family.
- d. To find The One.

e. Other

*to have a lake house / farm for my family ☺*

A real man:

- a. Opens the door for a woman.
- b. Isn't afraid to wear pink.
- c. Knows how to take the lead in bed.
- d. Isn't intimidated by successful women.

e. Other

*- knows when to shut up ☹*  
*- not afraid to say "I love you" in front of his friends.*  
*- can make decisions.*

The perfect date is:

*someone with my special someone ☹ (- naks!)*

I'm really attracted to:

- a. Athletic boys ☺ *7 plus points ☺*
- b. Macho men.
- c. Guys who are fans of mine.
- d. Fellow celebrities.
- e. Other

*-> funny guys*

Plus points for...his being funny perhaps?

