



SEALED WITH A KISS

words: KRISTINA PUGA

"Don't be at the airport when your ship comes in" is one of Kiki Melendez's favorite sayings. This dynamic woman is never one to sit still and will take any mode of transportation to get where she's going. Born Christian Dolores Melendez Almonte, not only is she a talented actor, writer, and host; she also runs her own production company, Latin Hollywood Films. The extremely vivacious Melendez got her career started as the morning host for La Nueva FM, 105.9 in New York, and then moved to Los Angeles' KRLA, Groove 103.1. From there a stint on television came knocking (*Kiki desde Hollywood*, a highly-rated show on Galavision). Now she is producing a hit show, *Hot Tamales Live!*

TELL US ABOUT YOUR TAMALES

Hot Tamales Live! was created as a showcase for female comedienne and to celebrate the beauty of our diversity. We mix stand up comedy, sketch comedy and we have The Yemaya Dance Company bring the beauty of Latin dance to life. It is an exciting show that motivates all those who experience it. Due to the amazing success and critical acclaim the show has received it has been picked up for distribution by Western International Syndication and executive producer Chris Lancy and I are working overtime to launch the home video, DVD, national tour, and TV show. We just completed the video and DVD and are getting ready for worldwide distribution, so pick it up at your nearest video store.

YOU ARE ALSO WORKING ON INFLUENCED BY GLORY ...

It's based on Aline Hernandez's best-selling book *Gloria Por El Infierno*, which depicts her life with Gloria Trevi and her manager Sergio Andrade.

WHAT PROJECTS DO YOU ENVISION FOR THE FUTURE?

Lupe Ontiveros' (*Real Women Have Curves*) LaLu Productions and I are developing a movie called *Exonerating Evidence*. It's the story of a Puerto Rican mother from the projects who fights to free her son from jail. With Wilson Cruz's company we are developing *The Other Side of the Rainbow*, a coming of age story about a homosexual boy. Wilson is from *My So Called Life*, and the new movie *Party Monster*. I strive to create an entertainment empire for quality, marketable, and profitable Latino-themed projects for television and film. 📺

OUR SHOW *HOT TAMALES LIVE!* WAS CREATED AS A SHOWCASE FOR FEMALE COMEDIENNES

