

= Pinkan Mambo =

Pinkan Ratnasari Mambo (born 11 November 1980) , also spelled Pingkan Mambo , is an Indonesian pop singer . She achieved success as the vocalist in the Indonesian music duo Ratu between 2000 and 2004 , then continued her career as a soloist .

Born and raised in Jakarta , Mambo began singing at an early age but only began to sing in public as a teenager . While still in senior high school , she found a job as a café singer and performed in numerous venues throughout Jakarta . In 2000 she joined songwriter and music producer Maia Estianty as part of Ratu after she met Estianty 's husband Ahmad Dhani , the singer for the band Dewa 19 ; after six casting calls , Dhani invited her to join the band , which he had established for his wife and let her manage . The duo was successful , but because of conflict between the two members and Mambo 's unintended pregnancy , she left the group . She then began a solo career with Sony BMG , releasing three solo albums as of 2012 . She also acted in one film , *Selimut Berdarah* , in 2010 .

Onstage Mambo is known as an energetic performer who often includes her audience in her act . She generally collaborates with other artists , working with local bands when she performs and has other people write her songs . The mother of two children , as of 2013 , she 's married to music @-@ video director Steve Wantania .

= = Early life = =

Mambo was born in Jakarta on 11 November 1980 to Yoke F. Mambo and his wife Deetje Syarif . She was the eldest , and only girl , of three children born to the couple . When she was five years old , her parents divorced . Not long afterwards , Mambo was sent to live with her grandmother because her mother , who received custody , could not afford to send Mambo to school . The two boys stayed with their mother .

Life with her grandmother was strict and , as Mambo felt depressed without her father , she became withdrawn , sticking to a daily routine of prayers and studying . However , she performed well at school , ranking amongst the top five in her class at Yapenka Elementary School in South Jakarta . She later became more outgoing and was known among her family and friends as a very feminine child , enjoying dresses and make @-@ up . While in elementary school she began singing along with songs by her favourite singers Mariah Carey and Whitney Houston in her bedroom . Her mother , believing that Mambo had the ability to be a professional singer , convinced Mambo to try and sing in public while the latter was still in junior high school .

Mambo began her studies at Cendrawasih Senior High School in Cilandak , South Jakarta , in 1997 . In 1998 , while visiting a friend at Amigos Café , where she worked , Mambo was asked to sing and later booked as a singer at the café ; her mother supported the decision . Mambo held the job while continuing her studies . She changed venues often , telling the entertainment magazine *Tabloid Nova* that within a year she had sung at almost every café in the city .

= = Ratu = =

In 1999 Maia Estianty and her husband Ahmad Dhani established a musical duo consisting of a singer and musician , based on concepts pioneered by international bands such as Roxette and Savage Garden . They began looking for a singer . Mambo convinced Dhani to hire her by calling " at all hours of the day " after meeting him while at a café in Pondok Indah Mall in South Jakarta ; she had chosen to seek out Dhani because of his previous experience with new singers , including Reza Artamevi , and had heard that he frequented the mall . After her sixth audition for the band , named Ratu , meaning Queen , she was chosen to be its vocalist . Although Mambo begun studying economics at Trisakti University , owing to the pressures of her contract she dropped out .

After three years of training , during which time Mambo joined Dhani 's band Dewa 19 as a backing singer , Ratu released its first album , *Bersama (Together)* , in 2003 . It had an rhythm and blues (R & B) flavour and featured Mambo on vocals and Estianty on instruments . The album was a

commercial success , selling 250 @, @ 000 copies . With her portion of the proceeds , Mambo paid for both of her brothers to attend university and bought a car .

Although Mambo and Estianty began work on another album , Mambo withdrew from the group in 2004 after widespread reports that she was pregnant and unmarried ; Mambo said that she had been fired by Estianty , although she admitted that her pregnancy had been a factor . She was officially replaced on 7 April 2005 by Mulan Jameela , a café singer from Bandung who took the stage name Mulan Kwok .

= = Solo career = =

Mambo had long nurtured a desire to become a solo singer . After she left Ratu , she was signed by Sony BMG for six solo albums . Distancing herself from her former band , she found inspiration for her first album from a doll named she saw in a magazine . Considering herself as coquettish and pampered as the doll , she decided to base her album on the concept . Her debut solo album , *Aku Tahu Rasanya* (I Know How It Feels) and its singles " *Kasmaran* " (" Passion ") , " *Aku Tahu Rasanya* " , and " *Dirimu Dirinya* " (" You and He ") , a mix of pop and R & B , were successful . That year she recorded tracks for the compilation albums *Portrait of Yovie Widiyanto* and *Best Female Idol* .

Mambo began drifting toward a rock sound . She moved away from her on @-@ stage overly feminine persona , her previous " girly " look and her known affection for the colour pink , and marketed herself as a sexy , sensual singer . She released her second album , *Wanita Terindah* (The Most Beautiful Woman) , on 2 July 2008 .

Mambo acted in the 2010 film *Selimut Berdarah* (The Bloody Blanket) , playing a young woman who unknowingly sends her younger sister to an organ harvesting ring . Despite the film 's lack of success , Mambo received numerous acting offers , which she refused . Also in 2010 she recorded " *Kau Tercipta Untukku* " (" You Were Made For Me ") for The Masterpiece of Rinto Harahap , a tribute album to songwriter Rinto Harahap . On 30 November 2011 she released her third solo album , *Tentang Cinta* (About Love) .

= = Music style = =

Mambo does not write her own songs ; rather she uses the works of numerous Indonesian songwriters , including Melly Goeslaw and Glenn Fredly . Since leaving Ratu , Mambo has successfully distanced herself from her coquettish , ultra @-@ feminine look . Her on @-@ stage performance is characterised as very " energetic " ; she dances and mingles with the audience off stage , and invites them to sing with her on stage . She often performs at clubs , using local bands for the music .

= = Personal life = =

Mambo 's 2004 pregnancy led to her cancelling her wedding to Meiza Reza Tobroni , as the father of her unborn child was another man . Mambo gave birth to a boy , Muhammad Alfa Rezel , on 28 January 2005 . That year Mambo 's cousin introduced her to a classmate named Sandy Sanjaya . Mambo and Sanjaya , after three months dating , agreed to be married . On 17 April 2006 they had a daughter , named Michele Ashley Rezya . She and Sanjaya divorced on 14 October 2009 , after having been separated for several months ; towards the end of their relationship , Sanjaya spent more time in Bali than in the couple 's home in Jakarta . Mambo was romantically involved with the association football player Febrianto Wijaya , and they considered marrying . The relationship , however , fell through , and in 2013 Mambo married Steve Wantania , a music @-@ video maker in the United States .

= = Discography = =

Bersama (Together ; 2003 , with Ratu)
Aku Tahu Rasanya (I Know How It Feels ; 2006)
Wanita Terindah (The Most Beautiful Woman ; 2008)
Tentang Cinta (About Love ; 2011)

= = Filmography = =

Selimut Berdarah (The Bloody Blanket ; 2010)

= = Awards = =