

# Mylene Lising

Filipino archaeologist and project director of The Traveling Museum PH.

She grew up in Tuguegarao, Cagayan, 40 minutes east of modern-day Kalinga, where stegodon fossils were found, and 40 minutes west of Callao Cave in Peña Blanca, where the oldest human fossil in the Philippines was excavated. When she was six, her grandfather took her to see the site where they found the first megafauna fossils. That was the reason for her passion for archeology.



from : <http://www.townandcountry.ph/people/inspiration/mylene-lising-on-her-journey-to-becoming-an-archaeologist-a00179-20170422-8fm>



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## Archaeological site in RIZAL, KALINGA

### Most interesting sites you've visited?

The Rizal, Kalinga, site because there is decades' worth of discoveries waiting to be unearthed. Our French-led team that works in partnership with the National Museum has found an almost complete fossil skeleton of a rhino and fragments of other extinct animals, such as the two kinds of dwarf elephants that we had around 500,000 to 700,000 years ago.

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### BACKGROUND TIMETABLE

DATE	EVENT	COMMENTS	REFERENCE
1935	Site first discovered	The first recorded find in the site, a rhinoceros lower jaw, took place in 1935.	<a href="http://zigzagweekly.net/archeological-rush-in-kalinga/">http://zigzagweekly.net/archeological-rush-in-kalinga/</a>
1973	The original site visit by Longacre	The original site visit by Longacre, during the summer of 1973, aimed to determine that pottery-making in Kalinga was happening at that time on a household level	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project</a>
1979 - 1980	Political instability in the region.	Longacre planned to return from 1979-1980, but was prevented from doing so by political instability in the region.	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project</a>
1987 - 1988	Longacre was able to return to field.	Political instability in Kalinga was subsiding, Longacre was able to return to field.	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project</a>
since 1980s	Kalinga collections are now housed at the Arizona State Museum in Tucson.	Kalinga collections are now housed at the Arizona State Museum in Tucson. Research and analyses have continued, as several members of the project have visited Kalinga at least once since their primary fieldwork was conducted.	<a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kalinga_Ethnoarchaeological_Project</a>

TABUK, Kalinga – Encouraged by the recovery of more stonetools and animal remains in the Early Man Open Site in SanPedro, Rizal, Kalinga, local and international archeologists and paleontologist are stepping up efforts to find direct evidence of the existence of prehistoric man in the area.



## Map of Rizal, Kalinga site



"The finds from the Kalinga excavation are important because, for one, so far they are the oldest in the country. While we do not yet have direct evidence of human presence—like human bones, we do have stone tools that point indirectly to the existence of humans

possibly alongside the rhino. We do not yet have a date, but initial studies point to between 800,000-400,000 years ago," Lising said.

The Callao Man whose foot bone was unearthed in the Callao Cave in nearby Penablanca, Cagayan in 2007 is believed to be 67,000 years old while the Tabon Man of Palawan is believed to be 50,000 years old.



Since 2013, the excavations have unearthed the fossilized bones of a stegodon, an elephant, pig, tortoise, a big lizard, deer and rhinoceros in the site, the team composed of archeologists and paleontologists from the University of the Philippines -Archeological Studies Program, the National Museum and the Musee de l'Homme in Paris, France.

Archeologist Mylene Lising said "that to find the sought after evidence, there is need to continue the archaeological excavation and research in Rizal to find more fossils and stone tools which are evidence for the existence of early humans and animals and how they co-existed at this site in the deep past, and also, to continue the analyses on these specimens in the labs offsite."

On account of the stone tools, the archeological community commonly believe that prehistoric man had existed in Rizal.

### References

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