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Accessories, stylist's own

The Sib Crib

TV host and musician **Sib Sibulo** opens up his home to show off his massive toy collection

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WHAT STARTED OUT AS AN INNOCENT JOKE BETWEEN SIB SIBULO AND HIS YOUNGER BROTHER NOW BALLED INTO ARMIES UPON ARMIES OF ACTION FIGURES THAT STAND GUARD IN HIS BEDROOM AND, WELL, THEIR FAMILY DEN.

"My brother and I are big fans of the animated series, *Justice League Unlimited*," Sib shares with *Celebrity Living*. "And this

one Christmas, we gave each other an action figure as a present. And then we thought, 'You know what? Since seven *lang naman sila sa Justice League*, why don't we complete them all?' That pretty much sparked it."

Sib officially started collecting toys in 2005, a couple of years before his foray into hosting began. He admits that it was not easy for him at first because each toy

was rather heftily priced. He says, "When you're starting out, *gusto mo laging kumpleto mo agad*. I used to visit eBay to look for action figures in perfect condition that I could buy for a really cheaper price. But bidding wasn't easy *kasi siyempre marami kang kaagaw* and you're hoping that nobody will bid anymore at the last few seconds. But eventually everything got better *naman*, especially when I started my hosting job. *Kasi kapag may lumabas na bagong toy line*, afford *ko nang bilhin*. There was nothing to stress about anymore."

The Sibulo residence sits in the busy area of Timog and Tomas Morato, where they have been living since 1987. And while he lives with his family, Sib still has his privacy because his parents had built a separate

three-storey unit for him and his brother in the same compound.

From the outside, a flight of stairs leads to the second floor of the unit that was formerly occupied by his brother who has already migrated to the US.

"It is my sister who is staying there right now, *para 'di raw ako malungkot*," Sib says with a chuckle.

Now a trip to Sib's bedroom on the third floor can be quite tricky, especially to a newcomer. Trying to climb the winding staircase planted on the second floor requires serious concentration, but what awaits when you reach the top of the stairs is an amazing view of his toys carefully lined up on the floor, on the work table and along the shelves.

"I mostly collect comic book characters,

especially those that come in animated series," he says. "*Basta may cartoon siya, I'll probably pick it up.* But I also collect Batman memorabilia, like shoes, wallets and money clips. I even have a Batman USB *tapos* Transformers mp3 player. I go for memorabilia that is functional. I go online for stuff *na hindi ko mahanap* locally."

Because his bedroom cannot accommodate all of his prized collections, some of them remain unopened and are stowed away in three big plastic storage boxes stacked over each other on the second floor for safekeeping. Meanwhile, the other opened toys which are largely composed of characters from the DC Universe—Superman, Wonder Woman, Green Lantern and Batman—are displayed in the family den.

Sib admits that while one's collections are supposed to bring feelings of happiness and relaxation, there was a point in time when his brought him not just comfort but also fright.

"When they renovated the rooms that our parents built for us, we chose to sleep in the den," he tells us. "And I would always complain to my sister *na hindi ako makakatulog kasi* I keep staring at my toys for two reasons. The first one is, I keep getting distracted because they're so nice to look at. But sometimes, it could get creepy *kasi* feeling *ko nakatingin din sila sa akin*. And then the maids would always say *na may multo sa den*."

Nevertheless, Sib still maintains that parting with his collection will never be an option. In fact, he confesses, "I have this crazy idea of getting a condo and just to put all my toys there on display for people to see." 🏠



Top to bottom: His love for Batman pushed him to buy the bat cave set—complete with a watch tower and bat mobiles—that are inspired from the 1995 movie, *Batman Forever* • The Justice League Unlimited action figures was his first ever toy purchase **Left:** The toys that Sib and his brother had given each other for Christmas **Below:** Sib cleans his toys from time to time but when they get too dusty, the maid steps in, especially when he is not around. He also sees to it that sunlight does not penetrate the rooms where he keeps his toys to avoid discoloration from too much heat



Checked red polo (P2095) by **Topman**
Pants, model's own
Shoes (P1900) by **Flying Dutchman**
Accessories, stylist's own