

Tensions explode in MasterChef's kitchen

A CONTESTANT has lifted the lid on MasterChef after being eliminated from the Channel 10 cooking show last night. **Geni Papacostas** said there was a lot of behind-the-scenes

rivalry between contestants which viewers were not seeing in the heavily-edited TV show.

The 54-year-old was eliminated after losing a “pressure test” with Poh Ling Yeow

and Andre Ursini. The trio had to prepare a salmon mousse.

“People don’t see that - people being secretive and becoming more competitive,” Papacostas said.

“They (MasterChef producers) are trying to show only what will show the nice personalities for everyone.”

The Brisbane-based teacher said it was back at the MasterChef house, rather than on the kitchen set, that contestants’ true personalities emerge - and it wasn’t always pretty.

“I would cook dinner most nights for everyone back home but people (other contestants) would not cook or get in the kitchen because they would not want to show skills or give ideas to the others,” he said.

“That’s what made me start wondering (about the other contestants’ motives). Andre and Poh say I was used in a way



Host Sarah Wilson with judges (L-R) Gary Mehigan, George Calombaris and Matt Preston of Channel Ten reality TV series ‘MasterChef Australia’, at studio in Sydney. Pic. Richard Dobson

because I would give people recipes and ideas.”

Papacostas said she underperformed last night because she had already decided to let Yeow and Ursini move through to the next round.

“I said before the judging ‘I hope you two go ahead and do really well because I’m giving this (to) you. I’m not trying so don’t let me down’.

“I didn’t really want to cook against Andre and Poh - people I love. I wrote to Poh before the cook-off and said ‘I feel like

walking out now’.

Papacostas said she never stood a chance of taking out the competition.

The winner gets \$100,000, a publishing deal for a cook book and the chance to follow their dream career.

“I’m in my fifties and they would never give the title to someone like me,” she said.

“It was mainly geared to the younger people there. It would show them a lot more.”

From Adelaide Now



WOULD-BE STARS ... Brisbane contestants who made MasterChef top 20, from left, Sandra Morena, Geni Papacostas, Tom Mosby and Melissa Lutton.



Dr Vrasidas Karalis



Dr Panayiotis Diamantis



Dr Elizabeth Keffalinos



Mr Costas Vertzayias



Dr Maria Zarimis

Public meeting for Modern Greek



Last Tuesday, a public meeting was held at the Cyprus Community Club to discuss the Modern Greek language. Another meeting will be held at the end of June in order to discuss further the points that were suggested. A lot of well-known personalities attended the meeting and discussed points such as: number of students attending modern Greek, financial difficulties and the absence of interest from the Greek Community itself for the future of the Greek Language. There were times when voices were raised but at the end everyone agreed to one thing: good co-operation is needed for a positive outcome.