

Hermitage

Breathing life into ancient artifacts



WOODEN WONDER: A wood carving made out of teak from India



CAPTIVATING: A unique item from India

(Pvt) Ltd' is like taking a journey through a time travelling machine. First you are faced with antiques from India, taking you back to the grandeur of the Maharajas. Next you come across walls adorned with masks, a journey to the tribal society of Indonesia. The magnificent stone carvings in the garden set off the rural weathered look.

A display of jewellery: necklaces, bracelets, ear rings and rings set with precious stones - white, Prenite, Yellow Tiger Eye, Cheorite, Amethyst, Garnet, Smoky Topaz, Turquoise, Corals etc beckons to you. Some



EXCEPTIONAL: The 'Wedding couples' (either side) and the 'Lora Blonya' (centre) displayed on the marriage bed

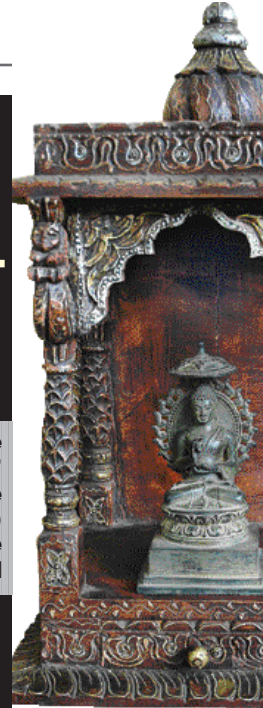
ewhat expect- es". Reprodu- tions and nually old ems make up close to 0,000 pieces.

Indeed a person wandering among the exhibits cannot

items from Vietnam also stand by. Believe it or not that is just a part of what the gallery has to offer its customers. Incepted in May 2001 by Safiya Husain and Yasmin Akbarally 'Hermitage' is well known for its collection of "art, antiques, collectables and

they encounter artifacts, each with a story to relate behind its ancient, mystic beauty.

"In the Indonesian islands geckos, goldfish and frogs are signs of good luck. There are also the statues called the 'Wedding couples', seated or stand-



MYSTIC ESSENCE: A metal Buddha statue from India



WEATHERED EFFECT: The Tara statue made from volcanic rock. Tara was an ancient Indonesian princess

dressed in wedding attire. They come in different sizes and differ from the 'Lora Blonya', another kind of statue which comes in two, similar to the 'wedding couples'," Yasmin explained.

"We have some of the earliest maps of Sri Lanka. There are several items including a swing and a bookcase made out of parts of a camel carts. We get a lot of demand for furniture, doors and windows."

"Yasmin and I started this as a hobby. We launched it at Commons, a coffee shop in 1999. It became a massive success and as demands poured in we were

An Indonesian tribal mask adorn with a carving of a gecko, an auspicious sign

left with no choice but to start a gallery added Safiya.

"We hope to launch an exhibition in November with a Sri Lankan artist named Amal. His work is similar to our merchandise as he bases his creations on antique temple techniques drawn on old wood."

Pictures by Saman Sri Wedage

Culture & Arts

Compiled by Ruwini Jayawardana

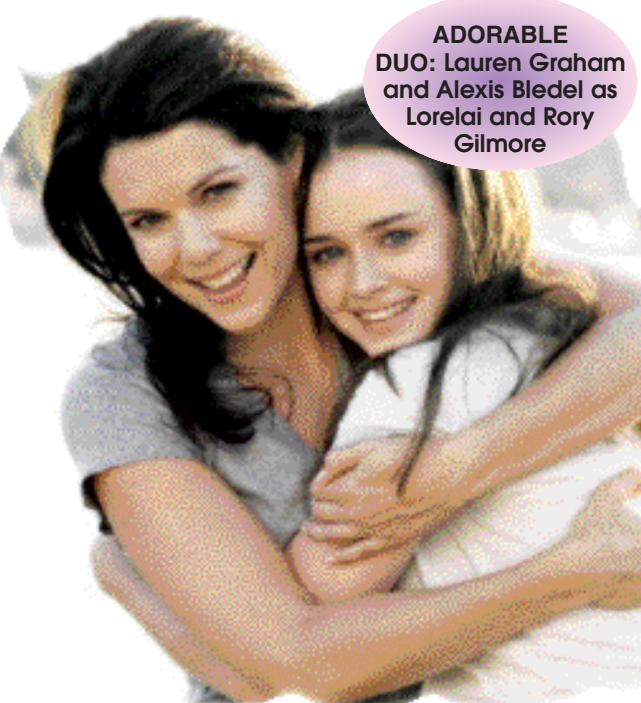
If you have an event worth following, we will publish it on this page. Write to the Features Editor, Daily News, Lake House, Colombo 10. You can even drop an e-mail at features@dailynews.lk or fax us at 011-2343694.

Sharing and caring

Mother-daughter relationship back on screen

ENGLISH Produced by Warner Bros, Amy Sher Palladino, Leslie L. Glatter, creators of 'Veronica Closet', 'A and 'We Gilmore' the first make it to ported by ily Friend Script De Fund'. E the dram ardent 1 Wednesday

As Seas Lorelai formed by and Rory Alexis Bladel will turn to one another to get through the complications in their respective romances. Thirty something Lorelai Gilmore has made her share of mistakes in life, but she has been doing her best to see that her college-bound daughter and best friend in the world, Rory, doesn't follow in her footsteps. That may be easier said than done, considering that the two share the same inter-



ADORABLE DUO: Lauren Graham and Alexis Bladel as Lorelai and Rory Gilmore

same intellect, the same coffee addiction and the same blue eyes. Gilmore Girls is a humorous multigenerational series about friendship, family and the ties that bind. The strong and loving mother-daughter relationship portrayed in "Gilmore Girls" reflects the growing reality of this new type of American family.

Another year of Munchee Samaga Punchi Tharaka



CONCERT: Munchee Panchi Tharaka, the successful festival will step into its successful year soon. The difficulty of this year's event lies in the fact that the programme include children not only in the Colombo but all over the island (North and North Eastern provinces not included).

Munchee Samaga Panchi Tharaka, organised by the National Film Corporation and led by the Ceylon Biscuit Corporation, aims at enhancing education and aesthetic taste among the younger generation. Further it would be a way for students to take interest in engaging in studies connected to the cinema industry thereby making way for young talent. A students art fund will also be established.

This year's programme, Munchee Samaga Panchi Tharaka 2007, will include a line-up of local dance and song items. The Film Corporation is looking forward to the support of the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Educational sectors in holding the concerts in each area.

The DVDs of Munchee Samaga Panchi Tharaka 2006 is available at The National Film Corporation now.



YOUNG TALENT: Scenes from Munchee Samaga Panchi Tharaka 2006

Diary

Cantando: Cellists at Lionel Wendt

MUSIC: The Cantando Cello ensemble, which gave its debut concert in 2005, will be taking the stage again with its third annual recital on July 5 at the Lionel Wendt Theatre at 7.30 p.m. The group of cellists is directed by Dushy Perera



Naribena at Elphinstone

STAGE DRAMA: Dayananda Gunawardena's drama Naribena and Jasaya Saha Lenchina will be staged on July 5 at the Elphinstone Theatre Colombo 10 at 8.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m.



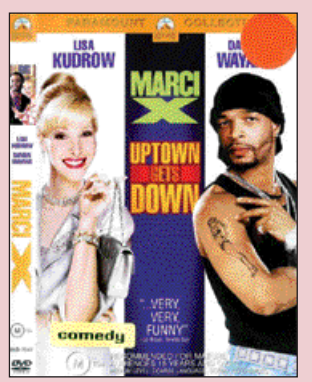
Theli Thuda at Alliance française de Kandy

PAINTINGS: An exhibition of water-colour paintings titled Theli Thuda by Prasanna Bandara Weerasundara will be held from July 7 to 13 at the Alliance française de Kandy. The opening ceremony will be held on July 6 at 6.30 pm.



'Marci X' on Channel One MTV

CINEMA: Paul Rudnick provides the script for the Scott Rudin-produced comedy "Marci X", directed by Richard Benjamin. The new song "Shoot Ya' Teacha" by controversial hardcore rapper Dr. S. (short for Dr. Snatchcatcher, played by Damon Wayans) causes a public outcry. The stress causes a heart attack for the owner of the hardcore rap record label Felony Assault (played by director Benjamin). It's up to his stylishly sunny daughter Marci (Lisa Kudrow) to take over his business. "Marci X" will be shown on Channel One MTV on July 6.



Maname and Sinhabahu at Lionel Wendt

STAGE DRAMA: A festival of greatest Sinhala theatrical plays by Professor Ediriweera Sarachchandra — Maname and Sinhabahu — will be staged at the Lionel Wendt on July 6 and 7 at 3.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.



'Sastralian Night 2007' at Ananda Sastralaya

MUSIC: 'Sastralian Night 2007' organised by the past pupils of Ananda Sastralaya, Kotte, will be held at Sastralaya Grounds on July 7 at 8.00 p.m. Bhatiya and Santush, Nirosha, Veraliyedda, Teesha, Uresha, Dharshana, Shihan, Chamara, Chamika, Corriene, Ronnie and Ranil will take part. Music will be provided by Flashback and a dance performance by Sensation will highlight the event.



Kapuwa Kapothi at Lionel Wendt

STAGE DRAMA: Kapuwa Kapothi by Dr. Ediriweera Sarachchandra and A. P. Gunarathna's translation Comedy Marriage by the famous Russian author Nikolai Gogol will stage its new production at the Lionel Wendt on July 8 at 3.30 p.m. and 7.00 p.m.



BEST ACTOR AND ACTRESS: Damitha Abeyratne (Keli Madala) and Janaka Premalal (Katu Imbula)



MOST PROMISING ACTRESS AND MOST POPULAR ACTRESS: Manjula Kumari (Olu) and Oshadie Hewamaduma. Kanchana Kodituwakku (Sayaweni Patumaga) was chosen as most promising actor



MOST POPULAR ACTOR: Suraj Mapa



AWARDS CEREMONY: The 12th Sumathi Tele Awards ceremony was held at the Water's Edge on June 29. Sudath Rohana's Katu Imbula clinched the award for best teledrama and best director was Janaka Suranjith for Wasantha Kusaalanaya. The best teledrama (single) was won by Ananda Abeynayaka's Punchi Upasikava. Here are some of the highlights from the ceremony.



SPECIAL JURY AWARD: Jayani Sarala Kariyawasam as best child actress for 2006