

'The otherside' of dazzling creativity



ART FESTIVAL: 'The otherside', Phoenix Ogilvy's creative festival held annually will be held at the Barefoot Gallery on August 25 and 26. Viewers can expect art in many exotic forms: paintings, sculptures, installations, dance, mimes, instrumental music, photography and unmasked faces at the event. The otherside provides an opportunity for the agency people to unmask

EXCEPTIONAL CREATION: Surenka Perera, Graphic designer (left) presents 'The never ending game - 'The soldier'



HIDDEN TALENT: Dancers Hiruni, Chanithi and Subani strike a pose!



MUSICAL RHYTHMS: The Ogilvy band featuring Alifhaf on drums, Chanith on Base, Malika on lead guitar and Ranil on vocals, keep the Agency spirits high

Culture & Arts

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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 011-2345694.

Dedunne Pata Soya

a guiding light for children

BOOK LAUNCH: Upcoming young writer, Sithumini Vidarshana Abeywardana's debut creation, a children's book named *Dedunne Pata Soya* (Finding the colours of the rainbow) will be launched at the National Library on August 19 at 3.00 p.m. Veteran vocalist Devananda Widesekera will be the chief guest.

Sub editor of the weekly film magazine *Saraswathy* and a lecturer at the Department of Fine Arts at the University of Kelaniya, Nuwan Nayanaajith, and television personality and journalist Sirmath Indrajithi live on will speak during the launch.

Dedunne Pata Soya will provide a new experience of reading for children. It reveals the true nature of children, their innocence and their ability to work together in a realistic manner. The protagonist of the book, Sithu, will provide an ideal role model for any child. This book will inspire its young users to become trustworthy and generous and mould them into obeying their adults in other words, this book will act as a guiding light for the younger generation.



Hindu Oli: Release of Hindu religious book

Arul Sathya

BOOK LAUNCH: The powerful Hindu organ of Sri Lankan Hindu community, the All Ceylon Hindu Congress, released its golden jubilee commemorative book recently. This special number with two volumes has over 1000 pages and contains 123 well-written and well-accounted Hindu articles as well as research articles. There are 28 English research articles in this book.

This book also classifies important Hindu Associations and their activities, which will be much helpful to those who wish to know Hindu religious activities in this country.

This book will also be helpful to students and researchers who wish to gather authentic information and historical facts with photographs for their research works. These two volumes have documented plenty of valuable information and historical facts under several categories for easy finding. This special number, *Hindu Oli*, is the first ever well-documented Hindu religious book.

The All Ceylon Hindu Congress came into being on February 6, 1955 at a meeting held at the Hindu College Hall, Wellawatta with 146 people who felt the strong need for a National Hindu Association. These Hindus who represented *Kovils* and religious associations countrywide selected late C. Kumarasamy, former senator, who also functioned as High



HISTORIC MOMENT: President of ACHC, Kailasapillai honours Aruthirunuragan, a well-known Hindu dignitary at the event.



Commissioner to India. From there onward the Association began a gradual and strong growth to reach its golden jubilee.

Today the All Ceylon Hindu Congress, functions in its own six storeyed building standing on a 38-perch land at Sir Chittampalam Gardiner Mawatha, Colombo 2. Now all Hindu organisations and associations in this country look at the ACHC as their parent organisation. Anyone who wants to know more on Hinduism and its functions in Sri Lanka both in Tamil and English, has only one choice: Go for *Hindu Oli* special commemorative volumes.

Shyam Benegal driven by joy of film-making

"You don't make movies only to win awards"

Dadasheh Phalke award winner Shyam Benegal says he has made films for the joy of the experience, than being guided by what would sell.

Benegal, who broke new ground in cinematic trends in the Seventies through his debut film *Ankur*, told PTI that he did not believe in the idea of a "unique selling point" but made films he enjoyed himself.

"I don't know what it [USP] is. But I like to make films that I can largely enjoy myself. Because you know ultimately what I experience are works of art, great works of art... that kind of work may not always succeed," the 73-year-old film-maker said.

Several films he had made such as *Ankur*, *Nishant*, *Manthan*, *Bhumika*, *Kondura*, *Junoon*, *Kalyug*, *Mandi* and *The Making of the Mahatma*, as well as the documentary series, *The Discovery of India*, had earned him national and global acclaim and enriched cinema. On receiving the Phalke award, Mr. Benegal said though it was a lifetime achievement award, for him the "show must go on".

"Winning an award is one aspect of film-making. But you don't make films only to win awards. Rather, you want it to be seen and enjoyed by the people. And the sense and insight in terms of life you can provide them through your films" he said.

On the controversy surrounding National Film Awards, he said: "That is a bit unfortunate. I find that it tends to mar its prestige. I don't think that is particularly nice to do that. You have chosen the jury so let the jury do whatever it decides".

Benegal, who has over the years made his mark through meaningful movies, said: "Film-making is something that you have to learn and work on and study. I don't know if anybody has it in their genes... As far as film-making is concerned, it is better you learn the tricks of the trade."

PTI

Ash to star in The Pink Panther sequel

CINEMA: Aishwarya Rai is set to star with actor Steve Martin in *The Pink Panther* sequel.

Actors Andy Garcia, John Cleese and Alfred Molina have also joined the crew of Columbia Pictures/MGM's *The Pink Panther 2*.

The actress will star as a detective and expert along with Spideeman 2 villain Molina and Garcia, who join forces with bumbling French police detective Jacques Clouseau, to be played by Martin, to catch the thief who has been stealing artefacts around the world.

Cleese will play Clouseau's superior chief inspector Charles Dreyfus in the pic.

Agent Cody Banks director Harald Zwart will be directing the film, which was penned by Scott Neustadter, Mike Weber, Lovell Ganz, Babaloo Mandel and Steve Martin.

The film will be produced by Robert Simmonds and Ira Shuman will be the executive producer.

The sequel, which was announced in March 2006, is scheduled for a release on February 13, 2009.

Courtesy - Times of India

BOLLYWOOD BEAUTY: Aishwarya Rai