



Rookantha, Chandralekha, Windy and Raini

CHAMIKARA WEERASINGHE

US-based Ru and Cru will come alive on Sri Lankan performing stage with the band's legendary singer-composer and pop icon Rookantha Gnanthilaka and his wife Chandralekha Perera having arrived in the island from New York, to break the ice of their dignified silence after four years with a concert in Colombo on August 14.

The concert, titled Rookantha Chandralekha @ Stadium will be held at Sugathadasa Indoor Stadium, Colombo from 7 pm onwards with modern sound equipment to be brought from the US by Rookantha's crew, due to arrive in the country shortly.

Rookantha Chandralekha at Stadium is organised by entertainment and event management company, S-Three, whose partners are former model and award-winning actress Sangeetha Weeraratne, fashion creator Sudharma Nethumara and actress-cum-film-co-producer Shereen Kumararunga.

Thanking S-Three for inviting them to hold a

**"My sincere respects to war heroes who fought in the battlefield to liberate the motherland sacrificing their arms, limbs and lives."**

Rookantha Gnanthilaka

# Ru and Cru back from USA to perform in Colombo

Comeback concert of Rookantha and Chandralekha after four years

concert in Sri Lanka Rookantha said at a press conference held at Hotel Galadari, Colombo by the S-Three to announce their plans to hold the concert, that he had observed that the country has changed for better during their absence in it for the last four years.

"If not for the country's leadership that has estab-

lished freedom for the public, we would not be able to hold musical events in Sri Lanka. I take this opportunity to thank the country's leadership for making that possible.

And my sincere respects to the war heroes who fought in the battlefield to liberate the motherland sacrificing their arms, limbs and lives," Rookantha said.

S-Three director Sangeetha Weeraratne said here, they have arranged to

give away free tickets to several war-heroes to watch the concert.

Rookantha said, they will sing a set of 25 songs which will include two songs recently composed by him. The show is going to be a novel experience for the audience for we plan to present each song with choreography. There will be several local artists who will be playing with us at

the concert alongside with the Cru.

"There will be songs using African and Latin American rhythms," he said. Rookantha will also introduce his daughter Raini Charuka as a singer to the local audiences at the show. Raini was also present at the press conference with her sister Windy. Raini demonstrated her singing before the press viewing one of her father's tunes in Sinhala and another song in English as Windy sang harmony to the song, upon being called upon to do so by her father and Choreographer Channa Wijewardena, who was also at the head table.

Asked if he wanted her daughter to follow his footsteps, the artiste said, "I do not approve of im-



S-Three: Shereen Kumararunga, Sangeetha Weeraratne and Sudharma Nethumara

itating another artiste. One may learn from another. Raini may learn from me, but it should not interfere with what she might want to do with her music or her style of singing and variations for that matter."

On being asked to describe her father's style of singing Raini said, "I do not know how to describe his genre of music among other music styles. But I think his style is unique and I like it."

Rookantha said, "I am not the kind of father who would ask my children to sing just because I am a singer - I will not have promoted Raini to sing if she did not have the talent and the necessary skills."

"She used to be my co-singer at St. Mary's cathedral where I worked as an organist in New York after leaving from America. Her voice has become refined as a result of her with her prolonged singing and training with a good voice teachers in the US.

She recently performed a title role on Broadway. 'She has got experience," explained Rookantha. "I am confident that she will do a good job," he added.

Rookantha said about his visit to Sri Lanka was also to see his parents. "My mother has not seen my daughters. They have to see them."

"I plan to relax a little bit in the country during this visit. But I think we are going to hold concerts in Sri Lanka at least once a year now that the country's situation is good," he said.

"Looking back at my life, I think I have become lovable son to many folks in Sri Lanka. A youth to young generation. Musician to those love music," Rookantha said.

verse 1:  
G  
Anytime I need to see your face, I just close my eyes,  
and I am taken to a place where your crystal mind  
C  
and magenta fellys take up shelter in the  
base of my spine, shade like a chick of cherry cola.  
G  
I don't need to try to explain. I just hold on tight,  
and if it happens again, I might move so slightly  
C  
to the arms and the lips and the face of the human  
cannon-ball that I need to. I want you.  
Kind of bridge:  
D C  
Come stand a little bit closer. Breathe in  
and get a bit higher  
D C  
You'll never know what hit you when I get to you.....  
Chorus:  
Bb C G  
Ooh, I want you. I don't know if I need you, but  
Bb C G  
ooh, I'd die to find out.  
Bb C G  
Ooh, I want you. I don't know if I need you, but  
Bb C G5  
ooh, I'd die to find out.

verse 2:  
I'm the kind of person who endorses  
a deep commitment.  
Getting tough and getting perfect is what I live  
for. But a look and then the smell of perfume,  
it's like I'm  
down on the floor and I don't know what I'm in for.  
Conversation, there's a time and place in the interaction  
of a lover, and I make it the time I'm talking  
using the words, using words can be likened to a  
deep sea diver who is swimming with a raincoat.  
Bridge (kind of):  
D C  
Come stand a little bit closer. Breathe in  
and get a bit higher  
D C  
You'll never know what hit you when I get to you.....  
Chorus:  
Bb C G  
Ooh, I want you. I don't know if I need you, but  
Bb C G  
ooh, I'd die to find out.  
Bb C G  
Ooh, I want you. I don't know if I need you, but  
Bb C G5  
ooh, I'd die to find out.  
C Bb C Bb  
Ooh ah..... ooh ah.  
Verse 1 (You know it)  
Chorus

## "I want you" by "Savage garden"

1997  
#4 Singles artist of the Year  
Rois O'Donnell started playing snippets from the track on her talk show. Savage Garden appeared on the show and sang an acoustic version of "I Want You". The appearance introduced the band to larger American audiences and showed that the duo was not just another one-hit wonder, but actually displayed some talent and personality.  
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## MICHAEL repeatedly pleaded to obtain 'Diprivan'

Federal agents and detectives swooped on the offices of Michael Jackson's doctor Wednesday, as lawyers for the physician revealed police are treating the star's death as possible manslaughter.

A spokeswoman for the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) confirmed that a search with the Los Angeles police took place at the offices of the Armstrong medical clinic in Houston, Texas, where doctor Conrad Murray practices.

Murray has emerged as the central figure in the mystery surrounding Jackson's death in Los Angeles on June 25 and was the last person to have seen the pop star alive at his mansion.

The official coroner's report into the 50-year-old singer's demise has deferred the cause of death amid speculation that



Houston Police officers walk outside at Armstrong Medical Clinic, where Dr. Conrad Murray, a doctor for Michael Jackson, has an office July 22, 2009 in Houston, Texas. According to reports, about a dozen (DEA) agents and police officers including Los Angeles Police Department detectives raided Murray's office and seized medical records. Houston, United States AFP

powerful prescription drugs he was believed to be taking may have been to blame.

Suspicion has also focused on a dangerous sedative - propofol, known by the trade name Diprivan - used to induce unconsciousness in hospital patients ahead of major surgery. Reports say it was also found at Jackson's home.

Television reports showed several law enforcement agents entering Murray's Houston offices in a dramatic new twist to the four-week-old investigation.

Murray's lawyer Ed Chernoff confirmed in a statement that the search warrant served by investigators had been seeking evidence of manslaughter.

"We can confirm that a search warrant was executed today on Dr. Murray's offices in Houston, Texas," Chernoff said. In the immediate aftermath of Jackson's death, friends of the singer's family said the clan was unhappy with "unanswered questions" surrounding Murray.

"They (the family) are suspicious of this doctor and they have real reason to be because any other doctor would say 'Here's what happened in the last hour of his life and I was there.'"

I gave him some medicine," family friend and civil rights activist Jesse Jackson said.

"(Murray) owes it to the family and to the public to say, 'These were the last hours of Michael's life and here's what happened.' That's a reasonable expectation."

Later Wednesday, an official from the Los Angeles Coroner's office visited the Los Angeles office of Jackson's former nurse Cheryl Lynn Lee to obtain some of the singer's medical records.

Lee said in interviews after Jackson's death that the singer had repeatedly pleaded with her to obtain Diprivan for him but she had refused. LOS ANGELES, July 23 AFP

## Amy faces assault charges



British singer Amy Winehouse arrives at Westminster Magistrates Court in central London on July 23, 2009. Winehouse, 25, faces trial for an alleged assault on a woman at a charity ball last September. The trial is expected to last two days. London, UNITED KINGDOM AFP