

Sajjad aims high with vocal skills

RUWINI JAYAWARDANA

Dedication, spirit and talent are three qualities that upcoming young vocalist Sajjad Hassan boasts of as he ascended the musical track to showcase his latest numbers to the local music enthusiasts. *Kadalye* his latest song which denoted the meaning 'sweetheart' has become quite a hit among his fans. The song is constantly heard on radio and played on television and had topped a number of charts, mainly the *Sirasa Rasa Risi* and *Devara Top Ten*. It was even nominated for the Sumathi Tede Award last year in the category of best music video.

The lyrics were penned by renowned lyricist Nilar N. Cassim who had composed verses for many top tracks in the past few years. It features vocalists Hemanthi and Yashan and is directed by Bandara, Prasanga Gunasinghe, Thusitha Wimalasiri and Sanjaya for Wide Angle Productions.

Though it was the Sinhala version of *Kadalye* that broke into the scene, the song was among the top 10 list of Vasantham FM's most popular tracks in 2009. This inspired Sajjad to come up with a Tamil version of the hit. "I am working on that these days aside from coming up with a few more tracks to add to my album. Hopefully it will see the light of day this year," Sajjad revealed his expectations for 2010 adding that the musical video too will be reshot and launched along with the audio track. Revealing more facts about his new



Sajjad Hassan

album the gifted youth said that a variety of music genres will be included to cater to audiences from all walks of life. "A specialty about this album is that all

the songs will also be voiced again in Tamil for the Tamil version of the album," he added. "The lad who hails from Kandy had come a long way since he

He wants to give the best of himself to each of his creations. Manuranga Wijesekara penned the lyrics for *Gayala Wayala* while Sajjad set the music score. The music video is directed by Prasanga Gunasinghe and Thusitha Wimalasiri on behalf of Wide Angle Productions and produced by Lahiru Perera and Georgy

past pupil of Trinity College, Kandy, set aside his first love to dedicate himself to studies. He promises that his new track *Gayala Wayala* will be something to look forward to because it is aimed at teaching individuals to enjoy life and that nothing is impossible to achieve if you are armed with willpower. It appeals to all age groups as it embodies a universal theme and flows along with a catchy rhythm. "Versatility is the key element I try to bring out in my creations.

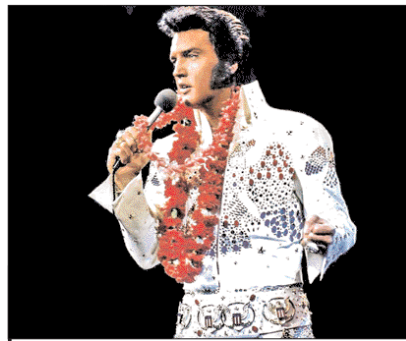
Those who have listened to my songs will note that everyone is very different from the other. *Mata Kiyanna Nam Epa*, my first single after a break of nearly eight years embodies entirely different beats from *Kadalye*.

Similarly listeners can expect something unique from *Gayala Wayala*," he explained adding that this is the reason why he takes a considerably long period to release a single into the market.

He wants to give the best of himself to each of his creations. Manuranga Wijesekara penned the lyrics for *Gayala Wayala* while Sajjad set the music score. The music video is directed by Prasanga Gunasinghe and Thusitha Wimalasiri on behalf of Wide Angle Productions and produced by Lahiru Perera and Georgy. Recently Sajjad relaunched his website to keep the look up-to-date with the country's fast paced music trends. You can visit www.sajjadhassan.com for more details.



Scenes from *Kadalye*



King of Rock and Roll, Elvis Presley

Presley's 75th birthday celebrated in Putnam County

MARIBETH WARD

Yesterday the "King of Rock and Roll," Elvis Presley, if he were alive would have celebrated his 75th birthday. His legend will continue to live on with many celebrations all over the country, including one in Putnam County.

The "King" began his singing career in 1954 with the legendary Sun Records label in Memphis. By 1956, he was an international sensation. With a sound and style that uniquely combined his diverse musical influences and blurred and challenged the social and racial barriers of the time, he ushered in a whole new era of American music and popular culture.

Presley starred in 33 films and made history with his television appearances. Around the world he sold over one billion records and earned gold, platinum or multi-platinum awards for 150 different albums and singles.

Among his many accolades are 14 Grammy nominations (three wins) from the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, which he received at age 36, and being named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Nation for 1970 by the United States Jaycees. He also served in the US Army.

Among his many, many hits are songs such as *Heartbreak Hotel*, *Hound Dog*, *Jailhouse Rock* and *Burning Love*. Presley died at Graceland on Aug. 16, 1977.

Plenty of celebrations are taking place everywhere. Graceland, the Memphis, Tenn. estate where Elvis lived at the time of his death, will host a four-day celebration. These performers will include the Elvis Imperi-

eried in a whole new era of American music and popular culture. Presley starred in 33 films and made history with his television appearances. Around the world he sold over one billion records and earned gold, platinum or multi-platinum awards for 150 different albums and singles. Among his many accolades are 14 Grammy nominations (three wins) from the National Academy of Recording Arts & Sciences, the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, which he received at age 36, and being named one of the Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Nation for 1970 by the United States Jaycees. He also served in the US Army. Among his many, many hits are songs such as *Heartbreak Hotel*, *Hound Dog*, *Jailhouse Rock* and *Burning Love*. Presley died at Graceland on Aug. 16, 1977.

bannergaph.com

White Party mayhem

The newest, sexiest monthly event to hit the city. Wear something white and party all night.

The White Party has become one of the world's best known events and a date not to be missed in everyone's diary. Ten years ago the first White Party was held in Amsterdam, has also become the biggest dance event in Europe.

Over the past ten years, the official White Party was held in Amsterdam and has toured France (Paris), United Kingdom (London), Germany (Cologne and Berlin), Italy (Rome), Spain (Gran Canarias, Ibiza, Barcelona) and more.

The Dress Code MUST Be Respected and it must be pure white. Pull out the flyest grab from your closet (or have your stylist pull something for you).

Come ready for THE white party of the year with music spinning off from



Ranga



Van Luup



Shiyam



Dishan

Colourful Ino

This young model is multi-talented girl and she is seen in many commercials as well as telegrams. Each outfit she is wearing brings out a different colour and spirit in her. Hair and make up by Dilruk from Dilruk Salon and Academy. Pictures by Ruwan de Silva.



←