

December 20 >> **Ranliya Dahasak**

Vihangi Rajapakse will stage a live performance launching her maiden CD titled *Ranliya Dahasak* today at the Kularatna Hall, Ananda College at 6.30 pm. The CD holds twelve children's songs in Sinhalese sung by her.

The songs are composed by Samanmalee Padmakumara while music is directed by Visharada Manoj Pieris. This live performance will be animated by choreographer Chandana Wickramasingha along with his dancing troupe. Vihangi will sing three duets with Harris Wijesinghe, Dayan Vitharana and Dr. Ravi Rajapakse her own father.

Vihangi also launched her maiden story book *Tales from an angel* in 2009 and handed over the first copy of the book to President Mahinda Rajapaksa. She is the daughter of Dr. Ravi Rajapakse and Sri Lankan swimmer Upesha Silva.



December 20 >> **Junior and Juvenile rising stars**

Children from the age of 3 and half years to 18 years will be taking centre stage at the third BDF International Dance Festival at Ceylon Continental Hotel to be held on December 20.

The Juveniles and Juniors will showcase talent by performing solo and duo acts for the Ritzbury trophy.

They will also vie for the Junior Line Dance, Hip Hop and Belly individual segments as well as in the Junior Crew competition.



Cultural Diary
With the spirit of Christmas hovering in the air, this week there is an array of Christmas events happening around the city. Cultural Diary brings you details about several fascinating events happening in the country. Take your pick of exhibitions, fashion shows or dance performance and add colour to your routine life. Make a little space to kick into high gear amid the busy work schedules to enjoy the exciting events happening at venues around the city. If there is an event you would like others to know, drop an email to eventcalendar@gmail.com or call us on 011 2429652. Have a pleasant week.

RUVANTHI ABEYAKOON

December 22 >> **Joy to the world**

Joy to the world, a spectacular Christmas music program with performances by leading Catholic School Choirs, Revelations, Soul Sounds and Paradentia Singers will be held on December 22 at the BMICH at 6.45 pm. A special guest performance by The Alpine Harmony from Austria.

Tickets are priced at Rs 2,000, Rs 1,000 and Rs 500. Box plan is available at Aquinas University College. Tickets are also available at selected parish churches. The event is jointly organized by the Archdiocese of Colombo and the Blessed Joseph Vaz Trust and the proceeds will be in aid of charity.

December 24 >> **Christmas at cch**

Looking for a place to have delicious Christmas meal? A fabulous and a delicious spread will be dished out on December 24 for lunch at the Colombo City Hotel - panorama roof top restaurant.

December 25 >> **Celebrate the most joyous day at Galadari**



Galadari hotel will wrap you and your loved ones with the Christmas spirit offering a delectable Christmas Day Lunch.

The lavish buffet will commence with fresh winter salads, salmon, seafood and breads to be followed by a variety of delicious main dishes, additional lunch items including carving stations, interactive omelet and pasta stations, a kids' buffet and desserts that are Christmas favorites, including bread pudding, Yule logs, petit fours and holiday cookies.

Christmas day dinner will also be served with a wide spread of seasonal specialties.

>> **Lunch with Santa**

Galadari Hotel will offer a Christmas lunch filled with lots of entertainment for kids as well as adults including a kiddies corner with magic show, gifts from 'Santa's mail box' by Santa himself and live music by Kismet.

Rejoice in the Christmas Spirit! Spend a little joy by singing best loved Christmas Carols this Christmas with members of Choro Calibre from 1 pm to 1.30 pm. For more details call Galadari on 2544544.

>> **Letter to Santa**

Drop in a letter to Santa with your wish list in the special 'Santa's Mail Box' at the Lobby of the Galadari Hotel and receive a gift on Christmas day. (December 14 to 22) For more details call Galadari on 2544544.



December 26 >> **White Winter Beach Party**



White Winter Beach Party organized by Young's Club is scheduled to be held at Sea Garden Hotel Negombo (Private Beach), on December 26 from 7.30 pm to sunrise.

The night is to be kept alive with performances by DJs: Sri J, Janaka, Sammy, Sanjeeva, Rukie (Dam Jan Negombo) with fashion shows and plenty of fireworks. For more details contact Muzni on 0773-629424.

December 31 >> **Glamour Night**

Misty will misty-fy you with their delightful tunes. The band which was ranked as a professional musical outfit since they started playing in Colombo in 1999 will play for you at the Empire Ballroom, Mount Lavinia Hotel on New Year's Eve. The band which has

performed around the world including Maldives, India, Pakistan, Singapore, China, Thailand, Sydney, Germany, UK, France and Canada will enchant you with their musical talents.

Together with *Misty*, *DJ Kapila* will also be on stage as all say goodbye to the year 2010 and welcome the new year - 2011.

Doubling the joy of the dawn of the New Year, Mount Lavinia Hotel will lay the table with traditional breakfast. You can take home mini glamour statuette, personalized photograph and many more prizes. Feast on the grand shellfish buffet with imported Australian seafood, Live Sushi and Sashimi bar, Asian steam bar with Dim Sum and Shumai, Tandori bar with chicken, European style salad bar, international cheese buffet and Lavinia style dessert buffet and many more. For reservations call 2711 430.



>> **The Mount Mardi Gras**

Greet the New Year with loads of merriment at Mount Lavinia Hotel. The *Mount Mardi Gras* - the new year party will be held at the Governor's Terrace. Enjoy jazz, blues, punk, pop and Sri Lankan Baila amidst New Orleans style atmosphere.

A sumptuous buffet will be served with delicacies from around the world. For reservations call 2711430.



>> **Feel Sri Lanka**

Attracting crowds of Free Independent Travellers' (FTIs) in addition to the diplomats, expatriates and conference delegates *Feel Sri Lanka* will take stage this Friday. Feel the warmth, experience the hospitality and embrace the breathtaking beauty of the pearl of the Indian Ocean. Sri Lanka Tourism invites visiting delegates/tourists and expatriates to experience the rich culture of the island nation. 'Feel Sri Lanka' Sri Lankan traditional dances will be staged at Hotel School Auditorium 78, Galle Road, Colombo 3 (opposite Chinatown Grand) from 5.30 pm onwards on every Friday. The recital includes a superb recital of Wes, Theme, Sabaragamuwa, and Salupalya with one or two creative dances. For the Corporates who are hosting special delegations, Sri Lanka Tourism will undertake staging this on any other day for special groups including Meetings/Conference, Incentive delegates.

For further details and complimentary tickets for special guests contact Kumudu 0714880570, Achini 071 4880571, Hasanji 077 3627733, Nemanthi 071 9872028 or Gayan 077 2544 117.

>> **Never Ending**

'Never Ending', an art exhibition by S H Sarath will be held at the Artist Gallery at 18A Sarasavi Gardens, Nawala Road, Nugegoda every **Saturday and Sunday** from 10.30 am to 7 pm. On weekdays the paintings will be shown on prior appointment for anyone interested by calling 2854737.

Big Screen

>> **Joyeux Noel**

Joyeux Noel by Christian Carion (2005) (116mins) will be screened at Alliance Française de Colombo - Cine Club No 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 07 on December 21 at 3 pm and December 22 at 6.30 pm. The film is inspired by a true story which occurred in the trenches of the World War I battlefield on Christmas Eve 1914.

That night, a momentous event changed the lives of four characters.

A brief but meaningful ceasefire was called and soldiers emerged from their trenches to exchange gifts, play football and celebrate Christmas together, as well as being allowed to bury their respective dead who had fallen between opposing lines in No Man's Land. Suitable for persons of 10 years and over.



>> **2012**

2012 (2009) will be screened on December 21 at 6 pm at the American Center No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 03. (Running Time: 158 min) John Cusack (Actor), Chiwetel Ejiofor (Actor) Roland Emmerich (Director). From Roland Emmerich, director of *The Day after tomorrow* and

Independence Day, comes the ultimate action-adventure film, exploding with groundbreaking special effects.

As the world faces a catastrophe of apocalyptic proportions, cities collapse and continents crumble. 2012 brings an end to the world and tells of the heroic struggle of the survivors.

