

February

>> Evening of Jazz

@ Lionel Wendt

Another Jazz evening will be held with Yolande Bavan and Dimuk Wijerana (Piano) at 7.30 pm on February 22 at the Lionel Wendt. Christopher Frins (drums) and Patrick Bleakley (Bass) will also join to make it a highly entertaining evening. The event is presented by J's Entertainment in aid of the Sunshine charity day care centre, Sambathivu, Trincomalee for children affected by the tsunami, conflict and poverty and the Multiple Sclerosis Association of Lanka (MSAL) that provide support to MS patients and create awareness of the illness. Tickets are available at Lionel Wendt, 18, Guildford Crescent, Colombo 7 or contact Jehan 077 775159 / Ruksan 077 9131163.

February

>> Exhibition by Dumith

@ Harold Peiris Gallery

An art exhibition by Dumith Kulasekara will be held at Harold Peiris Gallery, 18, Guildford Crescent, Colombo 7 from February 23 to 28. Kulasekara was born in 1979 in Colombo and has been painting since 1998. In 2002 he enrolled in the University of the Visual and Performing Arts and graduated with a BFA in painting in May 2008. His work has been exhibited in Colombo at the National Gallery (2005, 2008) and the George Key Foundation (2006, 2007) and in Paris at the Mona Bismarck Foundation (2008). In 2006 he was awarded the 2nd prize for Young Contemporaries, organized by The George Key Foundation.

February

>> Colombo Colombo

@ Elphinstone theatre

Indika Ferdinanda's Colombo Colombo will be staged on February 24 at 3.30pm and 6.45pm at the Elphinstone theatre, Maradana. The tragic-comic musical play is fast-paced, theatrical and bursting with energy while constantly attempting to tap into the imagination of the audience to create an exciting theatre experience. Colombo Colombo was the representative of Sri Lanka at the South Asian Women's Theatre Festival 2010 and the Kathmandu International Theatre Festival 2010. The play has won seven awards including Best Play of the Year Award at National Theatre Festival 2010. Tickets are available at Sarasavi Bookshop Nugegoda, Sadeepa Bookshop Borella, and Elphinstone theatre.

February

>> Exhibition by Mahindasagara

@ Lionel Wendt Gallery

to 28

An exhibition of paintings by Mahindasagara will be held at the Lionel Wendt Gallery, 18, Guildford Crescent, Colombo 7 from February 23 to 28. The exhibition will be open for public from 9 am to 5 pm on weekdays and from 10 am to 5 pm on weekends.



Today's 'Cultural Diary' brings you details about several fascinating stage plays and events happening in the island nation. Take your pick of stage plays, exhibitions, or dance performance and add colour to your routine life. You can make merry and enjoy the adventures or sit back, relax and enjoy a movie of your choice. Make a little space to kick into high gear amidst 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.

February

>> Once Upon a Time

@ Barefoot Gallery



The illustrations of unwritten tales of an unwritten history. 'Once upon a time' by Alex Stewart will take place at Barefoot Gallery, 704, Galle road, Colombo 3, until February 27. This exhibition follows on from the paintings Alex showed at Barefoot in 2009. When presented with the written word, our minds create images for the words. But in reverse that is when there is an image and no words, we struggle. What does it mean and what is being said are two of the most often asked questions. In this show Alex wants the many viewers to free their thoughts, invent connections, and discover present day myths. None

is wrong as none are correct. They are all part of a memory to be shared. Imagine finding in an old suitcase, a collection of drawings and paintings, there are angels, three wheelers, forms that are based on betel cutters, jungle and ruins. All familiar, but no words beyond enigmatic titles, you are left to decipher the image for yourselves. These new paintings also reflect something of Alex's deepening recollections of travelling in Sri Lanka over the last 15 years - watching the street life, reading the papers, listening to the stories and experiences of those around him. Alex will surely take these memories home to the UK, and over time images built until they appear on the paper. They grow and feed each other into a body of work ready to be shown, triggering new stories and histories waiting to be discovered by the viewer. For more information call 25055159.

February

>> 'Feel Sri Lanka'

@ Lionel Wendt

'Feel Sri Lanka' - the weekly cultural extravaganza initiated by Sri Lanka Tourism to enable foreign visitors to witness authentic traditional Sri Lankan dance forms in Colombo has synergized with the Colombo City Tour, a unique venture by Sri Lanka Tourism and Ebert Silva Holidays this month onwards. Every Friday evening a sightseeing tour in the Colombo City will commence from Galle Face Hotel at 4 pm picking up guests from city hotels en-route. The Tour on the striking red open-deck double decker will take the tourists to most of Colombo with a live commentary on board by a professional guide and a brief stop at the Independence Square.

The Colombo City Tour will then arrive at the Hotel Sankara Auditorium 78, Galle Road, Colombo 3 (opposite Cinnamon Grand), in time for the 'Feel Sri Lanka' show at 5.30 pm. It is a one hour, back to back show consisting of traditional dances of Sri Lanka with a few fusion acts based on traditional steps. Tickets and more information on Colombo City Tour will be available at all city hotels and on hotlines 077 599 963 and 077 772 595. Information on 'Feel Sri Lanka' can be obtained from Sri Lanka Tourism Cinema 071 4880570, Nimanthi 071 987 2028 and Gayan 077 2544 117.

February

>> 'Never Ending'

@ Artist Gallery

'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 a.m. to 7 p.m. On weekdays the paintings will be shown on prior appointment for anyone interested by calling 2354737.

The American Center will bring best loved romantic comedies for all movie lovers this month.

When Harry Met Sally



When Harry Met Sally (1989) will be screened on February 22 at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 03 at 6pm (Running Time: 96 min) Nora Ephron wrote the brisk screenplay for this 1989 romantic comedy, director Rob Reiner made a nicely glossy New York story (very much in a Woody Allen vein) out of it, and Billy Crystal's unstoppable charm made it something really special. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

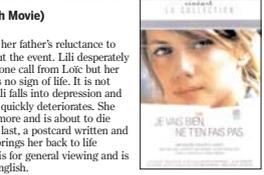
Je vais bien, ne t'en fais pas (French Movie)

Je vais bien, ne t'en fais pas by Philippe Lioret (2006) will be screened on Tuesday, February 22 at 3pm and Wednesday, February 23 at 6.30 pm at Alliance Francaise de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7. (Duration-105min) Back from a holiday in Spain, Lili, 19, finds that Loté, her twin brother, has left the house following a row with their father. She discovers of her parents' apparently light attitude and is particularly

Big screen

Composition for Victory Day

'Composition for Victory Day' is a comedy produced in 1998. (Running time 107 minutes) This movie will be screened on February 23 at Russian Cultural Center Cinema Hall, No10, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07 at 6 pm. On the eve of the Victory Day celebrations, three old wartime friends reunite in Moscow. But they don't get a chance to sit and recall their long-forgotten exploits. Chairman of the Veterans Foundation Kilovator is accused of dealings with the criminal world and put behind the bars. Former dissident Morgulis, now residing abroad, and participant of protest rallies Dyakov organize the release of their friend from prison. Confronted with the cruelty of their enemies who masterminded the arrest of their wartime buddy, our heroes involve mafia and security service in the release operation, and then decide to hijack a plane. Entrance to watch this movie is free and all films are subtitled in English.



Indian Film Festival

An Indian Film Festival organized by the High Commission of India in association with the National Film Corporation of Sri Lanka will be held at the NFC Auditorium 303, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7, from February 18 to 24. The following films will be screened at the Festival.

Sangam

Monday, February 21 - 5.30 pm Directed by Raj Kapoor starring Raj Kapoor, Rajendra Kumar and Vijayanthimala is the story of Sunder Khama (Raj Kapoor), a poor orphan who is the best friend of rich Gopal Verma (Rajendra Kumar) and a wealthy girl Radha (Vijayanthimala). The trio grows up together and Sunder falls in love with Radha, to be rejected by her as well as her parents. Sunder decides to prove himself to be worthy of them and enrolls in the Indian Air Force. Will Radha give her consent to this man?

Hum Saath Saath Hain

Thursday, February 24 - 5.30 pm Directed by Sooraj R Barjatya and starring Saif Ali Khan, Salman Khan, Karishma Kapoor, Sonali Bendre, Mohinsh Behl and Tabu is a family drama that extols the virtues of the joint family system and offers the joys of togetherness. Seth Ramkishenje (Alok Nath) and Mamta (Reema Lagoo) dream of keeping their joint family, consisting of their sons and daughters-in-law, together always. Their daughter Sungeeta (Neelam) is married into another large family, but when problems arise, she has to move out with her husband.

Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behti Hai

Tuesday, February 22 - 5.30 pm Jis Desh Mein Ganga Behti Hai is directed by Radhu Karmakar starring Raj Kapoor, Padmini and Pran. This is the story of Raju (Raj Kapoor), a poor orphan who makes a living by singing songs in Central India. One day as he tries to assist an injured man, he is abducted and held by a band of bandits, who believe that he is an undercover policeman. The man he assisted is none other than Sardar (Pran), the bandit's leader, who treats him like a guest, and eventually his daughter, Kammo (Padmini) and Raju fall in love with each other.

Parineeta

Wednesday, February 23 - 5.30 pm Directed by Pradeep Sarkar and starring Vidya Balan, Saif Ali Khan and Sanjay Dutt, this is a film in which Sant Chandra Chaturpadhyay's poetic prose comes to life. Circa 1962: The city of Calcutta, a young girl Lolita (Vidya Balan), orphaned at an early age is sent to live with her Uncle's family, where destiny introduces her to a young boy Shekhar (Saif Ali Khan). Shekhar a budding musician is the son of an affluent businessman. Together through childhood and adolescence, Shekhar and Lolita share joys and sorrows, fond memories and bitter-sweet experiences and unknown to them a relationship of deep friendship and trust takes place.

