

Daily News Cultural Diary

March 28 >> **Ruwanthi Abeyskoon**

Today's Cultural Diary brings you details about several fascinating 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.

March 28 >> **Non-Aligned - an exhibition with a difference**

@ Barefoot Gallery

Artists Mariah Lookman and Shanaathanan envision Non Aligned as a group show of works by Vaidehi Raja, Thamotharampillai Shanaathanan, Muhammed Cader, Mariah Lookman, Lala Rukh and Jean Weimann. The exhibition will be held at Barefoot Gallery Colombo, 704, Galle Road Colombo 3 from March 24 to April 17.



Non-Aligned brings together a variety of work from artists of different backgrounds and experiences who share the unique landscape of Sri Lanka, whether by nationality, residence or spirit.

Anchored to this site are aspects of their identity, relationships, memories, hopes and dreams.

The works on display highlight different issues, ranging from the personal, collective, political and environmental and presented in tones varying from the reverential to humorous.

This dialogue gives space for the discussion and critique of what it means to be attached to a place and the communal responsibilities for ensuring its positive future.

March 31 >> **Gabbara Minisa**

@ Lumini Theatre

Gabbara Minisa (Pregnant Man), the latest comic stage drama of well versed film, television and stage drama actor Sriyantha Mendis will have its premiere show on Thursday, March 31 at 6.45 pm at Lumini Theatre and subsequently two shows will be staged on Wednesday April 6 at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm at Maradana Elphinstone hall with a host of popular actors such as Sriyantha Mendis, Kusum Renu, Sarath Kohalawala, Wasantha Vit-

tachchi, Malkanthi Jayasinghe and many others. Music will be provided by famous music director Anthony Surenra while popular Derana Dream Star Upeka Nirmani will brighten up the drama with her singing. The drama is choreographed by senior lecturer Aryanthana Kallanarachchi. *Gabbara Minisa* is an adaption by Ajith Mendis from W. S. Wijesinghe's book. The drama is presented and organized by Jude Srinial.

April 01 >> **Nutracker**

@ Lionel Wendt



Nutracker is a magical fantasy that combines the enchanting music of Russian composer, Tchaikovsky's ballet *The Nutcracker* with a plot that is largely based on the original ballet story. The theme of *Nutracker* is celebrating the human body in its diverse forms.

Designed and Choreographed by Jehan Aloysius, the narrative of this production is a modern fairy tale that is loosely inspired by the original ballet's storyline. This is a production of CentreStage, an ama-

teur theatre troupe formed by Jehan Aloysius in 2001, with the aim of using various theatre techniques to produce and promote original theatre in Sri Lanka. The cast also consists of hearing-impaired participants from Sunera Foundation workshops, together with soldiers from Ranaviru Sevana which makes the production a special one.

Nutracker will take stage at the Lionel Wendt on April 1, 3 and 4 and will surely be a memorable event to watch.

Cast (in order of appearance):

- Christopher/Nutracker - Thushila Wimalasooriya (Soldier)
- Golden Fairy - Anabella Brochard
- Fibry - Chitra Dayanandis (Sunera)
- Henry - Indika Bandara (Sunera)
- Clara - Chaya Manawamma
- Name - Upeka Daniel
- Toy Robot - Madushanka Seneviratne (Soldier)
- Toy Yoking - Harsh Padmasiri (Soldier)
- Toy Soldier - Lalini Nankas (Sunera)
- Rat King - Indika Bandara (Sunera)
- Blonde - Wiyoni Aloysiadema
- Ben - Chatura Dayananda (Sunera)
- Baby Doll & Rag Doll - Upeka Daniel & Anabella Brochard
- Cloves - Sajad Shaabden & Dineth Bhagya
- Rats - Wiyoni, Sajad, Chatura, Upeka & Dineth

Production Team

- Devised Choreographed by - Jehan Aloysius
- Costumes, Set & Lighting Designed by - Jehan Aloysius
- Costumes Stitched by - Himla Saliathudon
- Publicity Material Designed by - Dino Coovers

March 30 >> **Bonjour Cinema**

@ Namel Malini Puncti Theatre

The Alliance Francaise de Kotte, with the support of the Consulate of Belgium, Embassy of France and Switzerland in Colombo, will be presenting the sixth edition of "Bonjour Cinema" in Colombo.

A selection of nine films will be offered by these three countries that use French as a common language. *Bonjour Cinema 2011* will be held from the March 30 to April 3 at the Namel Malini Puncti Theatre (No 37, Dr N M Perera Mawatha, Borella, Colombo 8) with daily screenings at 2.30 pm for children, 4.30 pm (except on March 30) and 7 pm for adults. All the films are subtitled in English and the entrance is free.



All the films represent the social and moral concerns of contemporary directors as well as the diversity and the creativity of the French speaking countries in the field of movie-making. In addition to the film festival, the celebration of "Francophonie" includes a French Language contest for students and French teachers.

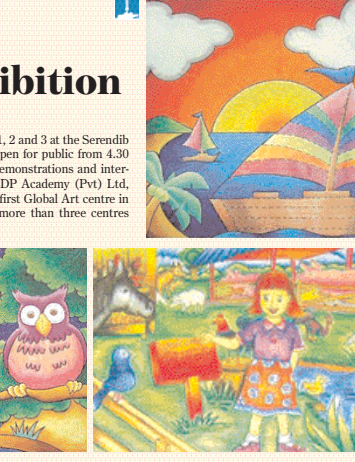


Films for adults (at 4.30 pm (except on March 30) and 7 pm)		
<i>Joueuse/Queen to play</i>	- Caroline Bottaro	- 2009 (France)
<i>L'heure zero/Towards Zero</i>	- Pascal Thomas	- 2007 (France)
<i>Dechainees</i>	- Raymond Vulliamoz	- 2009 (Switzerland)
<i>Les Petites Couleurs/ A Little Colour</i>	- Patricia Plummer	- 2002 (Switzerland)
<i>Operation Casablanca/ Operation Casablanca</i>	- Laurent Negre	- 2010 (Switzerland)
<i>La promesse / The promise</i>	- Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne	- 1996 (Belgium)
<i>Le fantôme / The child</i>	- Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne	- 2005 - (Belgium)
Children films (at 2.30 pm)		
<i>Les enfants de Timpelbach/ The Children of Timpelbach</i>	- Nicolas Bary	- 2008 (France)
<i>Microcosmos</i>	- Claude Nuridsany, Marie Perrenoud	- 1996 (Switzerland)

April 01 >> **Serendib Artworks Exhibition**

@ Lionel Wendt Art Gallery

Global Art Students will exhibit their creative artworks on April 1, 2 and 3 at the Serendib Artworks exhibition held at Lionel Wendt Art Gallery. It will be open for public from 4.30 pm on April 1 and from 10 am from April 2 with lots of unique demonstrations and interacting art activities. Global Art Sri Lanka is a collaboration of ILDP Academy (Pvt) Ltd, with Global Art and Creative Malaysia. ILDP Academy started its first Global Art Centre in Colombo in July 2007 and has since expanded islandwide with more than three centres through its franchising model.



April 26 >> **Dutch food and music festival**

@ Mount Lavinia Hotel



Dutch food and music festival will be held on April 26 to 30 at Mount Lavinia Hotel. To mark the Dutch Queen mother's birthday known as Queen's Day or Koningsdag, a slow food night by Chef Fleur will be scheduled for April 30.

And his menu will consist of Dutch herring served with a coviar of red beetroot on a marmalade apple, Grilled North Sea Sole file with accompaniments, Roasted Geudal lamb bedded on accompaniments synonymous to Holland, Crispy bissetmeer eel accompanied by mussels in a

soup amuse, are just a few to mention. A huge selection of cheeses including Dutch Goat Cheese, Limburg Grotto cave cheese "Heuveland", Beemster and known products like Edam and Gouda will also be available. The Netherlands are known for their fish and shell-fish. The Oysterman Maatje Dam will be walking around and blending into the crowd oysters which will be opened on the spot. With their enthusiastic stage presence the band La Grange will bring the audience all in a flame.



Big screen

The American Centre will screen the final movie under the theme 'Women's History Month'.

Screen Actors' Guild Award and BAFTA for Best Actress it has a cameo appearance as a waitress named Julia. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

>> **Erin Brockovich**

Erin Brockovich (2000) will be screened on March 29 at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 03 at 6pm (Running Time: 132 min). *Erin Brockovich* is a 2000 drama film which dramatizes the story of Erin Brockovich's legal fight against the US West Coast energy corporation Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E). The film was directed by Steven Soderbergh and starred Julia Roberts, who won the Academy Award, Golden Globe, and the real Erin Brockovich has a cameo appearance as a waitress named Julia. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

>> **L'Appat (French Movie)**

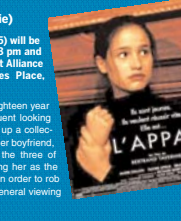
L'Appat by Bertrand Tavernier (1995) will be screened on Tuesday, March 29 at 3 pm and Wednesday, March 30 at 6.30 pm at Alliance Francaise de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7 (Duration-115mn)

Nathalie is a startlingly attractive eighteen year old girl. Her hobby is to chat up affluent looking men in bars and she gradually builds up a collection of their business cards. She and her boyfriend, Eric, hang around with Bruno, and the three of them conceive a modest dream. Using her as the bait, they set up a date with the man in order to rob him. This thriller drama movie is for general viewing and is subtitled in English.

>> **Heart of the Dog**

Heart of the Dog produced in 1988 will be screened on March 30 at the Russian Cultural Center Cinema Hall, No.10, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07 at 6 pm. (Running time 131 minutes)

Heart of a Dog is a 1925 story by Mikhail Bulgakov. It features a professor Philip Philippovich Prokhorzhensky who implants human testicles and pituitary gland into a stray dog named Shark, as the time passes proceeds to become more and more "human looking".



He picks himself the name, Polygraph Polygraphovich Sharkov, makes himself a career with the department of the clearing of the city from cats and other vile animals. However, the life in the professor's house turns into a nightmare and professor makes a decision to reverse the procedure. Entrance to watch this movie is free and all films are subtitled in English.