

This week's 'Cultural Diary' brings you details about several other fascinating events happening in the country. 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.



June 18

>> The Wizard of Oz

'Yellow brick, yellow brick, follow the yellow brick road...' all the way to Emerald City on Saturday, June 18 at 6.30 pm, when the students of the Russian Centre-drama school bring on stage an adaptation of The Wizard of Oz.

Kansas farm girl Dorothy lives with her Aunt Em, Uncle Henry, and three farm hands, Hickory, Hunk, and Zeke. When irascible townsman Miss Almira Gulch is bitten by Dorothy's dog Toto, she gets a sheriff's order and takes Toto away to be destroyed. He escapes and returns to Dorothy, who, fearing for his life, runs away with him. Dorothy soon encounters a travelling fortune teller named Professor Marvel who guesses she has run away and invites her into his wagon so that he can tell her fortune.

Snedding a look at a photo of Dorothy and Aunt Em, Professor Marvel convinces her to return home by telling her that her aunt has fallen ill from grief. With a twister fast approaching, she rushes back to the farmhouse, but is unable to join her family in the locked storm cellar. Taking shelter inside the house, she is knocked unconscious by a window frame blown in by the twister.

Dorothy awakens to find the house being carried away by the twister, with her and Toto inside. After the house eventually falls back to earth, she opens the door and finds herself alone in a strange village. How will Dorothy get back home from this land of magic?

This much loved classic lasting



approximately forty minutes is mainly targeted at a 'child' audience who love to be transported to magical lands where scarecrows can talk, and a tin man is searching for a heart.

Tickets are available at the Russian Centre in Colombo, No.10, Independence Avenue, Colombo-07 at 6 pm.



June 22

>> Fête de la Musique 2011

The Fête de la Musique was born out of the idea to dedicate an event to both music lovers and professionals who live to share their passion for music with the public. Alliance Française de Kotte will organize the Fête de la Musique at the BMICH on Wednesday, June 22, 4 pm onwards with the support of the Ministry of Cultural Affairs in Sri Lanka, the BMICH and the Embassy of France. The afternoon will be dedicated to various Sri Lankan musicians presenting



their work to the audience. The French school will inaugurate the afternoon, followed by the dance and music group from Art Department of the

University of Kelaniya. Then, several artists will appear on stage, in several groups including Natasha, Hania, Fabula, Daisy and Wade.

The Ravibandu Vidyapathi Drum Ensemble will then show their great talent in an original performance with pianist Sundarie David. This afternoon will be followed by an explosive live performance of the Sri Lankan and the French rock group Stigmatas and Merzhin from 8 pm onwards. Renowned for their wild live shows, the

six musicians of Merzhin will be on tour in several Asian countries and will present their last album "Plus loin vers l'Ouest" (Further westward), to the public of Colombo. Their music offers intricate rock melodies full of energy and emotion to move the public. After ten years of being on tour, more than 500 concerts and 200,000 albums sold, Merzhin continues on its path to international fame and their new opus marks a real turning point in the group's career.



This month the American Centre will screen Sidney Lumet Directed Movies

Serpico

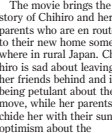
Serpico (1973) will be screened on June 14 at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 03 at 6pm. (Running Time: 130 minutes)

Tony Manero (John Travolta) in Saturday Night Fever and Dirk Diggle (Mark Wahlberg) in Boogie Nights have one major thing in common: They both have posters of Al Pacino as Serpico on their bedroom walls. As the real-life NYPD detective whose integrity cost him virtually everything (and almost cost him his life), Pacino became one of the icons of gritty, realistic 1970s filmmaking. Released in 1973, between the first two Godfather movies, this is the true story of Frank Serpico, a long-haired, idealistic, iconoclastic cop who reluctantly goes undercover to investigate dirty colleagues who are on the take.

Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

Spirited Away

The youth movie 'Spirited Away' (2003) will be screened on June 18 at 3.30 pm (Running time 125 minutes) at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 03.



The movie brings the story of Chihiro and her parents who are en route to their new home somewhere in rural Japan. Chihiro is sad about leaving her friends behind and is being petulant about the move, while her parents chide her with their sunny optimism about the change. A wrong turn brings the family to a seemingly abandoned theme park, which in actuality is the home of the bathhouse of the Japanese spirit world.

The parents' gluttony and the approaching night trap Chihiro in the spirit world, which obliges her to take a job in the bathhouse.

Seul au Monde

Seul au Monde by Robert Zemeckis will be screened on Tuesday, June 14 at 3pm at Alliance Française de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 07.

After FedEx engineer Chuck Noland is ripped out of his hasty life by the clock in a plane crash, he finds himself alone on the shores of a tropical island.

First, frustration gets to him and then he realizes how little his chances are to ever get back to civilization.

Later, Chuck has learned very well how to survive on his own: mending his dental health, catching fish with a spear, predicting the weather with a self-made calendar. A photograph of his girlfriend Kelly has kept his hopes alive all these years.

This adventurous drama with English subtitles is for general viewing.

Zim and co

Zim and co (2005) a comedy by Pierre Jolivet will be screened on June 17 at 6pm at AF de Kotte, 139, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05. (Duration-90 minutes)

Twenty year-old Zim, lives in the suburbs of Paris and ekes out a living doing odd jobs. When he crashes his scooter into a car, he receives a court summons. The judge tells him that unless he finds a proper job he will go to prison.

Zim is offered a job, but this requires him to have qualifications, a driving licence and a car, none of which he possesses. Fortunately, his friends are there to give him a helping hand... Entrance: Free and movies are subtitled in English.



June 26

>> Exhibition of paintings by Laki Senanayake

Sri Lanka's best known artist, Laki Senanayake will have an exhibition of his new works at the Barefoot Gallery, 704, Galle Road.

Colombo 03 (Behind Barefoot entrance via 8th lane). The exhibition will be open to the public until the June 26.