

Cultural Dairy

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

By RUVANTHI ABEYAKOON

August 02

>> Ahasin Polovata felicitated

Ahasin Polovata produced by U W Sumathipala directed by Dr Lester James Peries will be shown at Sri Sambuddhaya Jayanthi Mandira Auditorium in Sri Sambuddhaya Jayanthi Mawatha, Colombo 5, on August 2 at 5 pm. The screening will coincide with felicitating the artists who worked on the 35-year old film. Ahasin Polovata: Kalakami Arthapathaya - U W Sumathipala authored by Ranjith Kumara and the DVD will also be launched. The event is organised by U W Sumathipala Memorial Foundation.

August 04

>> Rajitha returns to stage with Owl on the Street

Three years after his acclaimed play Apulu Herenna Be (No Return) award-winning playwright Rajitha Dissanayake, returns to stage with Bakamuna Weedi Baya (Owl on the Street) on August 4, 5 and 6 at 7pm at Lionel Wendt.

As in his previous plays such as Weeraya Merla, and Apulu Herenna Be, Dissanayake deals with contemporary socio-political realities. Unreserved in his experimental theatricality and witty black comedy, Owl on the Street is an inventive modern-day fable, sure to charm and challenge its audience. Written and directed by Rajitha Dissanayake, the play includes a group of versatile actors such as Shyam Fernando, Jayani Senanayake, Priyankara Rathnayake, Dharamapriya Dias, Prasad Suriyaranchi, Sampath Jayaweera, Nalin Lasena, Samitha Sudheshwara and others. Kapila Pugalaraachi composes music. Ranga Samarakola and Priyankara Rathnayake design lights to illuminate a set designed by Dharamapriya Dias; makeup by Priyantha Dissanayake, and costumes by Gihan Fernando. Award-winning Malith Periris manages the stage. Owl is a production of Freedom Theatre Group.

August 05

>> Young Sri Lankan Artists' exhibition

An art exhibition by Young Sri Lankan Artists organized by the embassy of Italy will be held from August 05 to 10 at the Harold Piers Gallery, Guildford Crescent (Dr. Khemasiri Premadasa Mawatha), Colombo 7.

August 05

>> An art exhibition

An art exhibition by Dileepa Gunathilaka will be held at the Lionel Wendt Gallery, Guildford Crescent, Colombo 7 from August 5 to 7.

August 07

>> Musical Concert

Concert to mark the 150th anniversary for the unity of Italy presented by Chamber Music Society of Colombo will take place at the Lionel Wendt on Sunday, August 7.

August 08

>> Summer camp at Russian Centre

The Russian Centre in Colombo comes out again with a Children's Holiday Camp for this summer holiday season. The idea of this camp is to develop the skills of the children and enable to spend their holiday usefully and happily.

This programme is mainly designed for the working parents. It will consist of an art workshop, story telling, hand work, computer studies, games, internet,



All these will take place during the weekdays from August 8 to 19 from 8.30 am to 1.00 pm. For further information call the Cultural Officer at the Russian Centre, No.10, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07.

August 03

Frozen in time



Goethe-Institut Sri Lanka presents a breathtaking insight into the diverse modern dance scene in Germany through the medium of artistic photography. The exhibition at Harold Piers Gallery includes 50 photographic works - partly in color, partly in black and white - by German artists and dance photographers, as well as a video installation. The exhibition will be open until August 3 from 9 am to 7 pm (week days and weekends). Motion and photography are total opposites, not just in art. Motion, the motor of any change, is the embodiment of the living and the present. Its highest aesthetic expression is artistic dance. Dance is motion guided by music, melody and rhythm. Dance symbolizes dynamism and constant changes. It is impossible to photograph dance without loving it. Capturing the elements of movement in the photographic moment and as such capturing life in its moving power of expression - this is the photographic and artistic achievement of dance photographers, this is their magic.

Since motion photography first became popular in the 20th century, collaborations between photographers and dancers or choreographers have led to the creation of images that link the creativity of contemporary dance with modern photographic techniques in exciting ways. The combined effect of individual, fascinating instants of artistic motion - seemingly weightless jumps, dancers suspended in mid-air, twists that will never end - and varied photographic perspectives turns dance in photographs into a unique new medium: the dance image.

A complete exhibition of all photographic views of dance in Germany would fill a museum, one which would focus not on the assertion 'This is how it was!' but rather 'This is how I saw it!' For that reason, it would be difficult to formulate an apt and generally-valid statement on dance in Germany from the totality of the photographic views collected there; however it might be possible to formulate one on how dance in Germany, its variety and willingness to experiment has provoked photographers to examine it, and how this has mixed up different photographic visual worlds. The featured photographers are: Andrea Eswein, Dominik Mentz, Agnès Noltenius, Vanessa Ossa, Joerg Reichardt, Bettina Stöb, Bernd Ullrich, Gert Weigel and Peter Welz.

August 10

>> Creativity, running in the family?

Five creative works written by five members of the same family will be the discourse scheduled to take place at Mahaweli Kendraya, Ananda Coomaraswamy Mawatha, Colombo, on August 10 from 4 to 6 pm. The creative works are Professor Sumanda Mahendra's Dangara Tharappu (Novel - Dayawansa Jayakodi Publishers), Seetha Mahendra's Samagath Suddhainiya (Short Story collection - Godage Publishers), Dr Vidura Mahendra's 'The Rise of the Withered Flower' (English Poetry collection), Dr Ravinda Mahendra's Divi Im Nimaya (Short Story Collection - Dayawansa Jayakodi Publishers) and Sachitra Mahendra's Didulana Duluwilla (Novel - Sarasavi Publishers). The session 'Creativity, running in the family' is hosted by Dr Praneeth Abhayasundara and Dr Chandima Wijegonwardana.

August 28

>> Memories, Maps and Dreams

Josephine Balakrishnan will hold 'Memories, Maps and Dreams' an exhibition of paintings at the Barefoot Gallery, No 704, Galle Road, Colombo 03 from August 13 to August 28.

In eastern culture a dream can be a map; the dreamer a vehicle of the Divine. In western culture dreams relate to the expression of the self. In 'Memories, Maps and Dreams', Josephine Balakrishnan deciphers the mystery of dreams. "We see the western symbols that unlock the psyche and the messages," Balakrishnan ponders, "Do we live to dream, or dream to live? The prints and paintings in this body of work address the question: 'What are the maps we make when we always have a thread of memories and a myriad of dreams to lead us through each passage?'"

With colors and birds flying, this show provides not only maps of moons, images of lovers walking, and references to the past and future, but seeks to reveal our own internal maps. Balakrishnan uses symbols, societal themes, and color sense collected from backgrounds and travels in India, Sri Lanka and Europe. Often Balakrishnan's work encompasses a story, a narration that needs a sense of more than one culture to decipher. Each painting is a narration that tells a story.

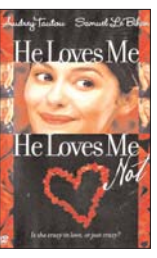


Big screen

He loves me he loves me not

He loves me he loves me not by Lactitia Colombani will be screened on Tuesday, August 2 at 3pm and Wednesday, August 3 at 6.30pm at Alliance Francaise de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 07.

Angélique, a young student, is in love with a married doctor. We see her attempts to make him leave his pregnant wife, but he does not appear for meetings or finally the booked journey to Florence. Then the movie is turned back to the beginning, and the view changes. We are now following the view of the doctor instead of Angélique's. And things look quite different now...



Katherine II (part 2)

Katherine II (part 2) will be screened on August 03 at the Russian Cultural Centre Cinema Hall, No.10, Independence Avenue, Colombo 07 at 6 pm.

Movie highlights

- Sledging hill - the ancestor of a museum parks
- Katherine II as the designer of the first coversalls and the first version of Walter
- Polyomiki villages - facts and tales
- Alaska - the Russian America
- Annexation of Poland
- Rise of the Jewish issue
- A Journey from Petersburg to Moscow
- The free town of Odessa
- Platoshka Zubov - the last romance



Entrance to watch this movie is free and all films are subtitled in English.



Taxi 2
Taxi 2 by Luc Besson (2000) will be screened on August 5 at 6pm at AF de Kotte, 139, Jawatta Road, Colombo 05. (Duration- 88 minutes)

The Japanese ambassador is visiting Maresilles and view the city police's anti-gang tactics. During the visit, however, he is kidnapped by a group working for the Japanese Yakuza. Young officer Emilien is determined to rescue the ambassador and officer Petra (his girlfriend), who was also kidnapped, and restore the honor of his department. Once again, speed demon taxi-driver Daniel (from the first Taxi movie) is called upon to save the day with his high-speed driving skills.

Entrance free and movies are subtitled in English.

Doctor in Distress

Name Malini Panchi Theatre film club presents Doctor in Distress on August 1 at 6.30 pm at Nimal Malini Panchi Theatre/Arts Circle, 37, Dr. N. M. Perera Mawatha, Borella, Colombo 08.

The film is a British classic comedy of 1963 directed by Ralph Thomas starring Dirk Bogarde, James Robertson Justice, Samantha Eggar and a host of other great actors of yester years with twists of subtle comedy on which you will really be kept entertained.

