

Cultural Diary

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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 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 eventcalendar25@gmail.com (Please be mindful to send only the essential details). Have a pleasant week.

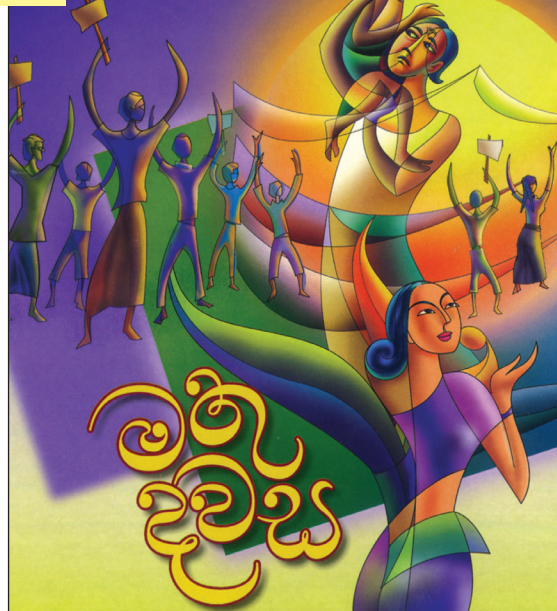
Mathu Davasa to be launched

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The latest edition of Somawera Senanayake's Sinhala novel *Mathu Davasa* will be launched at Dayawansa Jayakody bookshop, Colombo 10 on May 29 at 10 am.

Award winning author Senanayake has written many other books including *Raja Kale Punci Lamai*, *Mavakage Geethaya*, *Yashoravaya*, *Menik Nadiya Gala Basi*, *Paramitha*, *Andurata Pahanak*, *Api Thavamatt Sansare* and *Sathun Athara Bosathvaru*.

Mathu Davasa is a Dayawansa Jayakody publication.



Dangaya and Punchi Andare and Balloth Ekka Ba at the Lumbini theatre

JUNE 02

Yashodhara Sarachandra's and Kusumsiri Liyanaarachchi's latest theatrical experience *Dangaya* and *Punchi Andare* and *Balloth Ekka Ba*, the most popular stage drama written and directed by Ravindra Ariyaratne which is loved by many audiences will be staged on June 2 and 3 at 3.30 and 6.30 pm at the Lumbini theatre, Havlock town.

Dangaya and *Punchi Andare* will be a theatre experience that can be enjoyed both by children



and adults equally. The objective of the play is to cultivate a healthy appreciation for drama among young audiences.

The actors include Sunil Tilakaratne, Jayantha Bandara, Pradeep Ramavikrama, Pramila Samarakoon, Kalum Kalhari Gamlath, Madhuranga Sri Lal, Nadeesha Sandamali, Ruchira Sooriarachchi, Himashi Vithanage, Nadeeka Kumudu Kumari, Vishva Thilakaratne, Randika Chathurani, Sachithri Athukora-



la, Devinda Wickramasinghe, Akalanka Prabhawara, Dulanjan Dissanayake, Sachitra Karunaratne, Lakshmi Dissanayake, Chaminda Mirihalla, Manisha Dugannarala, Dinushi Vithanage and Darshana Ubeysekera.

Stage management is by Himashi Vithanage and Dharshana Ubeysekera and make up is by Vishwa Thilakaratne.

Dangaya and *Punchi Andare* scripts are by Kusumsiri Liyanaarachchi, music compositions by Yashodhara Sarachandra and music direction by Shantha Peiris. The production is co directed by Kusumsiri and Yashodhara. The drama is produced by chairperson, Nordic Design, Nirmala Maginaarachchi.

Balloth Ekka Ba will be starred with renowned artistes such as Wijaya Nandasiri, Roshan Pilapitiya, Gihan Fernando, Kumara Thirimadura, Saman Hemarathna (Leelasena) and Anusha Dissanayake.

Music will be by Shantha Peiris, background creations by Luvoline Vandawall and stage management will be by Asoka De



Soyza and Shantha Udayakumara. The costumes will be designed by Gihan Fernando and Demal Fernando. The lighting effects will be by Upali Weerasinghe and make up will be by Saman Hemarathna.

Balloth Ekka Ba is produced by Asle J.Lanka computer training institute.

The main organizer of the two dramas will be Jude Srimal. Tickets are available at Sarasavi book shops, Nugegoda and Maharagama, Sadeepa book shop, Borella and at the Lumbini theatre.

AFKO presents Nostalgie02

JUNE 30

The Alliance Francaise de Kotte (AFKO) presents *Nostalgie02*, an exhibition of black and white photographs by Kumar de Silva, at the Harold Peries Gallery

of the Lionel Wendt Arts Centre, Colombo on Saturday (June 30) and Sunday (July 1). This expo is a sequel to last year's successful *Nostalgie* which showcased France in her multi-dimensional splendour sponsored by Metropolitan Canon.

Taking visitors through random scenes of Paris and across different parts of France, *Nostalgie02* is open to the public from 10 am to 7 pm on both days. The AFKO is affiliated to the Foundation Alliance Francaise in Paris and enjoys the full patronage of the Government of France and the Embassy of France in Sri Lanka.



Big screen

Mean Streets

Mean Streets (1973) will be screened on May 29 at 6 pm at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 3. (Running Time: 112 minutes) Martin Scorsese's breakthrough film is the story of a young Italian-American man torn between the life of spirituality that he craves and the realities of the streets of New York. This small but astonishing film is anchored by career-making performances from Harvey Keitel and Robert DeNiro. Keitel struggles to find a balance between his life in organized crime—a life that he cannot escape from—and his devout religious upbringing; DeNiro's Johnny Boy is a small-time gangster who seems to not understand the difference between his real life of crime and a romanticized notion of the mob that he's learned from movies.



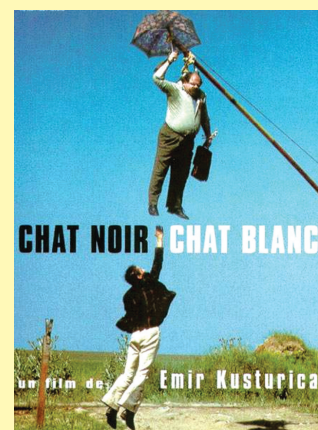
But the real star is Scorsese, who demonstrates for the first time the sheer talent that he would later elevate to his legendary virtuosity. Great soundtrack, too.

Chat noir, Chat blanc

The movie, *Chat noir, Chat blanc* (1998) by Emir Kusturica will be screened on Tuesday, May 29 at 3pm and Wednesday, May 30 at 6.30pm at Alliance Francaise de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7.

Matko is a small time hustler, living by the Danube with his 17 year old son Zare. After a failed business deal he owes money to the much more successful gangster Dadan. Dadan has a sister, Afrodit, that he desperately wants to see get married so they strike a deal: Zare is to marry her. But none of the two care much for an arranged marriage: Zare is in love with Ida, Afrodit is waiting for the man of her dreams.

The movie is for general viewing and is subtitled in English.



The Lady

The Lady (2011) by Luc Besson will be screened on May 29 at 3 pm and 5.30 pm at the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) auditorium, 02, Kynsey Terrace, Colombo 8. (Running Time: 122 minutes)

The timing is perfect for a film biography of Aung San Suu Kyi, the Burmese activist and recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991 and her British husband Michael Aris. It is an epic tale of the peaceful quest of The Lady, a name bestowed upon her by the Burmese people who see the heroine as a beacon of grace and courage. Directed by renowned filmmaker Luc Besson.

The Lady is a story of devotion and human understanding set against a backdrop of political turmoil that continues today. The film was written over a period of three years by Rebecca Frayn. The Lady features an unforgettable and powerful performance by Michelle Yeoh (Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon; Memoirs of a Geisha) in the title role.



Loot from the Loft at the barefoot gallery



May 30

Loot from the Loft an exhibition of paintings by various artists such as Anup Vega, Kushan Manjusri, Vajira Gunawardena, Mike Harridge, Alex Stewart, Nelun Harasgama, Laki Senanayake and Sujith Ratnayake will be displayed at the barefoot gallery no.704, Galle road, Colombo 3 until May 30 on week days and Saturdays from 10 am to 7 pm and on Sundays and holidays from 11 am to 5 pm.

The gallery collection will be for view and for sale.



Tagore seminar and publication

JUNE 12

Continuing with the celebrations of the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel laureate poet Rabindranath Tagore, the Indian Cultural Centre is organising a seminar on Tagore and his visits to Sri Lanka in collaboration with Contemporary Centre for Indian Studies, University of Colombo. In the seminar, to be held on June 12 in Colombo, three Indian scholars and seven Sri Lankan scholars are expected to participate.

Prof. Radha Chakravarty, Prof. Bharati Ray, Prof. Sushoban Adhikari are expected to participate from India and Prof. Wimal Dissanayake, Prof. K N O Dharmadasa, Dr. Sandagomi Coperahewa, Prof. Vini Vitharana, Prof. Tissa Kariyawasam, Ravibandhu Vidyapathi and Chandragupta Thenuwera are the Sri Lankan scholars participating in the seminar.

Those who are interested in attending this one-day seminar are requested to register themselves along with contact details at the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo, 16/2 Gregory's Road, Colombo 7, Telephone-2684698, E-mail: icccolombo@gmail.com

This seminar, a full day event, will begin with an inaugural session, followed by three academic sessions and end with a valedictory function in the evening. The participating scholars would be presenting papers illuminating the different shades of Tagore as a person, writer, poet, philosopher and artist. The seminar will have a special focus on Tagore's visits to Sri Lanka and his contribution to its cultural renaissance.

Papers presented during the seminar would be followed by a discussion in which those present could participate. All the papers presented at the seminar will be compiled and edited by Prof. Radha Chakravarty and would be published as a volume.

For further details please contact the Indian Cultural Centre on telephone no: 2684698 and Email: icccolombo@gmail.com



Nari Burathi at Tower hall

JUNE 02

Nari Burathi, the latest hilarious drama written and directed by Sarath Kothalawala, will stage two special shows on Saturday (June 2) at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm at the Tower hall theatre, Colombo 10.

With a host of popular artists such as Sarath Kothalawala, Kumara Thirimadura, Pubudu Chathuranga, Mihira Sirithilaka, Hemantha Iriyagama, Chinthaka Peiris, Janaka Ranasinghe and

Wajira Kodithuwakku along with Premalal Liyanages' stage settings.

Music composition and stage management will be by Wimalaith Dombagahawatte

while Upul Sampath, Harsha Malinda and Indika Niroshana will assist in the stage management. Costume designing will be by Pushpa Samanthi Kothalawala and make up by Janaka Ranasinghe.

With Chandana Nishantha Peiris' sounds and Upul Weerasinghes' stage lighting this thrilling drama will be organized by Jude Srimal. Tickets are available at Sarasavi book shop Nugegoda, Sadeepa book shop Borella, Senkada - Townhall and Tower hall.



Blossoms of Hope at SLITHM

JUNE 09

The members of the Ikebana International Sri Lanka Chapter will hold their second flower arrangement exhibition 'Blossoms of Hope 2012' on June 9 and 10 from 11am to 7pm at the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM), No. 78, Galle Road, Colombo 3. The chief guest will be the Ambassador for Japan in Sri Lanka, who is the Patron.

Ikebana International is an organization headquartered in Japan drawing members worldwide from different schools of Japanese flower arranging, with the objectives of promoting mutual understanding and friendship through flowerers. Ikebana International, which has roots in Japan, has grown into a large tree spreading its many branches internationally with over 10,000 members. 'Friendship

through Flowers' is the motto of Ikebana International, which has fostered and established chains of friendship among its members across the world.

Ikebana International Sri Lanka Chapter counts among its primary objectives, the promotion of the art of Ikebana in

plished by using flowers, roots, driftwood and rocks found in nature with other unusual accessories found in and around the home or office.

Members will be using material collected from their gardens and fascinating bits and pieces, which have been picked up while traveling around the island. Professional working women and housewives have joined together to make this exhibition a success, by designing arrangements using their creative talents.

There will also be a demonstration by a Master demonstrator of Sogetsu Ikebana, Christopher Lim from Singapore at 5pm on June 9. Visitors to this exhibition will be able to pick up many new and different ideas; to try out in their homes or offices, when arranging flowers. So a visit to 'Blossoms of Hope 2012' is a must for everyone who appreciates the beauty of nature.

