

Cultural Diary

SARASHI SAMARASINGHE

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.

Holiday Drama with Sashi Mendis

AUG 28



A workshop by Sashi Mendis for kids, 'Holiday Drama' will take place on August 28 and 29 at the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) in Rotunda Gardens, for children between the ages of 7 and 10 years.

During the workshop which is an introduction to drama, the youngsters will learn how to make their own costumes, create characters, learn to handle individual and group work etc... Sashi Mendis, a well known figure in the theatre field says that her past workshops have helped

boost the confidence of normally shy children and stimulated the creativity levels of all the participants. For further details call 0717363939 during work hours or 0777 038449 after 6 pm.



Launching of Globalization and its Challenges

AUG 28



A book written by Senior journalist and former Editor of the Daily News and the Sunday Observer Jayatileke de Silva titled *Globalization and its Challenges* will be launched at the Sri Lanka Library Services Board auditorium, Nidahas Mawatha, Colombo 7 on Tuesday August 28 at 4 pm. Human Resources

Senior Minister D E W Gunasekera will be the Chief Guest. Dr. Lloyd Fernando, Programme Director - Public Policy, Postgraduate Institute of Management (PIM), University of Sri Jayawardenepura will deliver a lecture on 'Globalization and Development.'

The 43rd lecture in the Monthly Lecture series of the National Trust - Sri Lanka will be held at the HNB Auditorium, 22nd Floor, HNB Towers, 479 T.B. Jayah Mawatha, Colombo 10 at 6.30 pm on Thursday (August 30) by

Sarath Wimalasiri on Shraddhanjalee

AUG 31

The Sinhala National Service of the Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation will present a well known lyric composer poet and a freelance journalist, W K Sarath Wimalasiri (Bank of Ceylon - Head Office) through *Shraddhanjalee* Programme from 12 pm to 12.45 pm on August 31 (Adhi Binara Full Moon Poya day).

cal presentation of the songs composed based on various themes that come in Buddhist Literature. He will also present his views on lyrics, singing and music on topics under discussion. This programme is produced by Rohana Dharmakeerthi and Presented by Dilka Handuwala.

Debiddo at New Town hall

SEP 02



The Colombo Chapter of the Alumni Association of the University of Peradeniya will stage *Debiddo* a hilarious comedy directed by Prasanna Vithanage on September 2 at New Town hall Green Path, Colombo 7 at 6.30 pm. Jayalath Manaratne, Jayani Senanayake and Jayasri Chandrajith will play the lead roles of this comedy originally written by Noble Laureate Dario Fo. Tickets are available at Sadeepa book shop Borella, Sarasavi bookshop Nugegoda and at the gate on the day of the play.

Balloth Ekka Ba at Punci Theatre

SEP 02



Balloth Ekka Ba, one of the most popular stage dramas written and directed by Ravindra Ariyaratne which is loved by many audiences for its hilarious touch will stage its first show after the Australian tour on Sunday (September 2) at the Namel Malini punci theatre, Borella at 3.30 and 6.45 pm.

With a host of popular artist such as Wijaya Nandasiri, Roshan Pilapitiya, Gihan Fernando, Kumara Thirimaladura, Saman Hemarathne (Leelasena) and Anusha Dissanayake. Music will be by Shantha Peiris, back ground 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 which will create an unforgettable visual experience. *Balloth Ekka Ba* is produced by Asle J.Lanka Computer Training Institute and Jude Srimal is the main organizer of the drama. Tickets are available at *Namel Malini Punci theatre*, Borella. All seats have been boxplaned.

Photo Friends photographic exhibitions

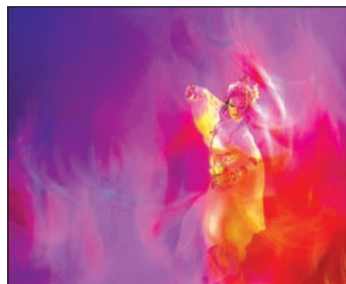
AUG 27

Photo Friends, a series of photographic exhibitions will be held from August to September to celebrate World Photographic Day. The exhibitions will be held at the Photo Friends Gallery, second floor, Udeshi City, Makola Road, Kiribathgoda.

Karsh on August 27: A collection of photographs by globally acclaimed photographer Yousuf Karsh will be on exhibit. He had captured people like Winston Churchill, Albert Einstein, Pablo Picasso, Jim Carter and many more on lens.

Sihina Seya from August 28 to September 3: A range of photographs of some of the most prominent figures on the silver and mini screen will be on show at this solo exhibition presented by *Sarasaviya* photographer Tennyson Edirisinghe.

Dumbara Asiriya from September 4 to 10: The Kelani Photographic Art Society presents



some captivating images of the *Dumbara meadow*.

Transcend from September 11 to 17: Seasoned photographer K G Keerthirathne will present his second solo exhibition of digital images.

Dance in a Trance from Sep-



tember 18 to 24: Henry Rajakaruna, the Sri Lankan photographer who had won the most number of international accolades, will present a collection of photos that he had captured at dance performances.

Steve Mc Curry from September 25 to 30: One of the leading travel photographers in the world, Steve Mc Curry's photographs will be on exhibit.

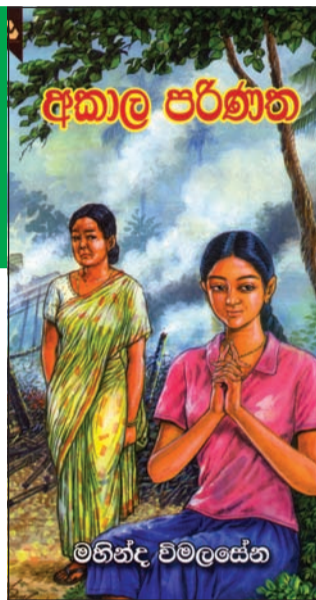


Akala Parinatha to be launched

AUG 28

Mahinda Wimalasena's latest Sinhala novel *Akala Parinatha* will be launched at Dayawansa Jayakody bookshop, Colombo 10 on August 28 at 10 am.

Akala Parinatha is a Dayawansa Jayakody publication.



Mudu Hadawathaka Thathu to be launched

AUG 28

NIPUNI WIMALAPALA

In commemoration of Narada Dissasekara's second death anniversary, his life story is outlined into a book named *Mudu Hadawathaka Thathu* which gives a clear review of his individuality and career. The book will be launched on August 28 at Janakala Kendraya (Folk Art Centre) at 5.30pm.

The book is an outcome

of the hard work of his wife, Neelangani Dissasekara and the known journalist, Inoka Perera Bandara who is attached to the *Silumina* news paper.

The commemoration will be headed by the Minister of Water Supply and Drainage and the Chief Government Whip of Parliament.

The main speech will

be delivered by Prof. Carlo Fonseka while the evening will be dazzled with the classic singing of Nanda Malini, Rohana Weerasinghe, Dayaratna Ranathunga, Amara Ranathunga, T.M. Jayaratne, Bandula Wijeweera, Janaka Wikramasinghe, Rony Leech, Deepashika Ranathunga and Ranjan Saliya.

A lecture by Frederick Medis

AUG 30

Frederick Medis on *An Anecdotal Survey of Street and Place Names in the District of Colombo*.

The fascinating study of place names involves research in nomenclature that derives from numerous sources including the natural features of the locality as well as fauna, flora and personalities.

But it is the enchantment of its historical connections - often burdened with legendary episodes and the scattered remnants of folk memory which ensures its permanent appeal.

In many instances even

documentary evidence, however respected and time-honoured they may be, is fanciful and questionable, and has to be diligently sifted out from the hard core of reality.

Very often, fact and fiction is not a matter at issue. But what is of greater importance and concern is that it blends with its relevance to the natural features and the style of living inherent in the inhabitants of the locality in a by-gone era.

A mere litany of place names is, however, a monotonous and futile

exercise. Frederick Medis is a Fellow of the Commonwealth Society of Antiquarians. He is the President of the Royal Commonwealth Society and Vice President of the Ceylon Society of Arts at the National Art Gallery.

He is also a Past President of the Sri Lanka-Japan Friendship Society and the Ceylon Numismatic Society and the Philatelic Society.

He was former Vice-President of the Royal Asiatic Society where he was Chairman of the Toponymy Committee where research into place names was done.

He has researched into around 900 place names in Sri Lanka tracing them back to their Portuguese, Dutch, Tamil, Pali and Sanskrit origins.

He is a writer, lecturer and broadcaster in History, Numismatics, Philately, Art and Religion. Many of these have been published and broadcast in English, Sinhala, Tamil, French and German. Medis also holds a British Diploma in Fashion Design and holds a Cambridge award as International Man of the year 2004. He is a visiting lecturer at the University of

Peradeniya and Moratuwa.

The National Trust - Sri Lanka conducts monthly lectures on the last Thursday of each month. The lectures are open to the members and the public.

Further information could be obtained from the Trust Office at the Post Graduate Institute of Archaeology, 407, Baudhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7. Tel: 2682730.

The events of the National Trust - Sri Lanka are principally sponsored by the HNB Sustainability Foundation.





Suddek Oba Amathai at New Town Hall

SEP 01


Sankha Lakdev handles lights. The play is written by well-known author and columnist, Udayasiri Wickramaratne while the production is managed by Susil Wickramasinghe. The 100th performance of *Suddek Oba Amathai* is organized by Priyanka De Silva Of Sadjana Sahurda Sansadaya.

Dissasekara was born in 1933 and is an old boy of St. Thomas, Kotte and Kalutara Vidyalaya. His parents were known academics who contributed their maximum service to the country. Dissasekara worked as a Sound Engineer at Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC) for more than three decades. He was a producer there who produced programmes like, *Nawum Mihira* and *Dhawa Sanka*.

He has sung more than 800 songs through which the Sri Lankan music scenario was enriched.

He was the superb playback singer of a lot of Sinhala movies including *Ranmuthu Doowa*, *Sikuru Tharuwa*, *Gatawarayo*, *Rena Giraw*, *Manamaya*, *Hatara Kendare* etc. in 1964; he won the Best Playback Singer Award in the first *Sarasavi Awards Festival*.

He has also won an Award from the Colombo University, another award from the Moratuwa University and a Felicitation Award from Kalutara District. In 1999 he had won the *Kala Booshana Award*. The specialty of this commemoration ceremony is that it is entirely organized by his wife, Neelangani.

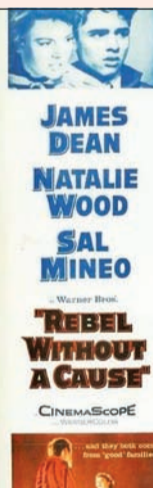



Rebel Without a Cause

SEP 01

Rebel Without a Cause (1955) will be screened on August 28 at 6pm at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 3. (Running Time: 111 minutes)

The original teen movie. In this landmark drama, James Dean plays a rebellious teenager lost in a family, and society that is a drift. Generations clash, personalities explode and Dean and his equally lost friends are torn apart by violence, distrust and their own insecurities. With Natalie Wood, Sal Mineo and Dennis Hopper. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

Beats of Heart graduation ceremony

SEP 06

Beats of Heart, the Music Academy which is headed by seasoned vocalist Nirosha Virajini will hold its six months graduation ceremony at the Bishops College auditorium on September 6 at 6 pm.

The course has been designed to cover all angles in vocal training and personality development. It also focuses on how to grab the limelight and develop a fan following. Around 40 students of the academy will add colour to the evening with their performances in a variety of styles ranging from Nurthi, Hindustani Ragadhari and Western music. For more information visit www.beats-of-heart.com.

Le Samourai

SEP 06

The movie, *Le Samourai* (1967) by Jean-Pierre Melville will be screened on Tuesday, August 28 at 3pm and Wednesday, August 29 at 6.30pm at Alliance Francaise de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7.

Jeff Costello, said the *Samurai* is a hitman. As he leaves the office where lies the corpse of Marley, his latest target, he meets the club's pianist, Valerie. Despite a good alibi, he is suspected of murder by the Commissioner for investigation. When queried by the latter, the pianist pretends not to recognize it. Released, Jeff tries to understand why the young woman has done so.

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




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