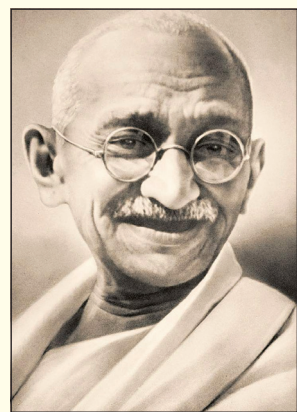


# Cultural Diary

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



## A symposium and workshop to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary

**Oct 02** A symposium and workshop on Swaraj and Non-violence will be held to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary also observed as SAARC Non-violence Day and International Non-violence Day will be followed by an award ceremony for art competition for children on October 2 at *Nawarangahala*, Royal College, Rajakeeya Mawatha, Colombo 7 at 2 pm.

## Tharavo Igilethi at Punched theatre

**Oct 05** Lucian Bulathsinhala's popular drama *Tharavo Igilethi*, will be staged on Friday (October 5) at the Borella Nani Malini Punched theatre at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm. Those taking part in the play are Rodni Warnakula, Gamini Samarakoon, Harsha Bulathsinhala, Niroshan Wijesinghe, Piumi Shanika, Ferni Roshini and Anura Bandara Rajaguru. Music is by Gunadasa Kapuge. All seats have been boxed planned. Tickets are only available at Nani Malini Punched theatre. The drama is organized by Jude Srimal.



## Janakaraliya and Interact Art drama groups go to Ampara together

**Oct 02** Janakaraliya has arrived in Ampara after successful tours in Galle and Puttalam districts. A drama festival will be held from October 2 to 16 at the 'Mobile Theatre' assembled at the Ampara Town Council Grounds. Parallel to the drama performances in the mobile theatre, there will be drama performances in the schools and villages coming under the Maha Oya, Navindanveli and Irakkamun divisional secretariats.

The exceptional feature of this drama festival is that it will be held as a joint drama festival of *Janakaraliya* and the *Interact Art* drama group directed



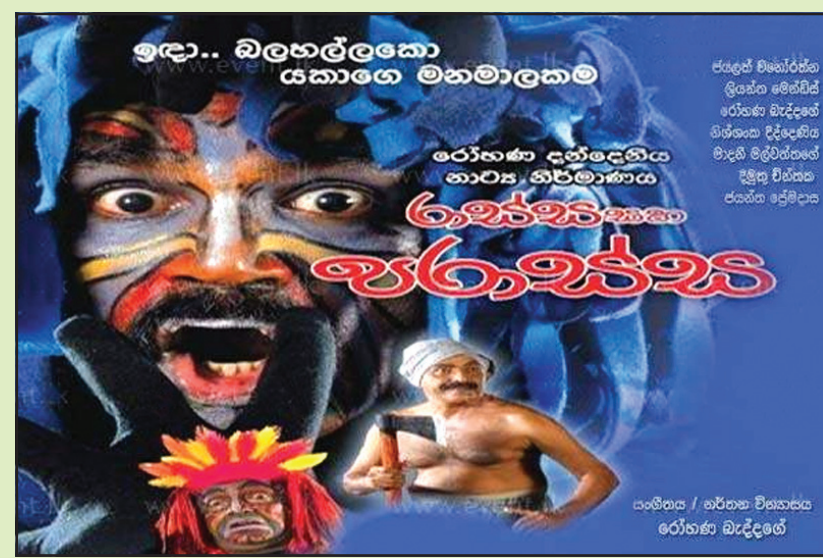
by A M Safer. From October 2 to 12 Janakaraliya dramas will be performed while *Interact Art* dramas will be performed from October 13 to 16 as a single drama festival. In addition children's dramas, long and short dramas of external

drama producers are also scheduled to be performed in this drama festival.

Dramas to be performed in this joint drama festival are Parakrama Niriella's *Charandas*, *Andaramal*, *Seethambarapata* (written by Mangala Senanayake) and *Devlova Gamana*, Ajanthan Shantha Kumar's *Parasthava* (translated by Professor Tissa Kariyawasam), Suneth Shanthapriya's *Andura Saha Eliya*, Selvaraj Leelawathie and Ronika Chamalee production *Payanihal*, Dharmasiri Bandaranayaka's *Dhavalva Bheeshana*, M D Ranjith Silva's *Galu Nade Nirmana*, Nandana Alagewatta's *Polgediyata Jara Mare* and *Sade Nade Karadare* (Children's Drama), Chalaka Ranasooriya's *Hello*, S I Samarakodi's *Konkreet Adare*, S M Safer's *Cage and Creeps*, Nadeeka Tharangane's *Pompeeniya* and *Stand Up*, Samantha P Liyanage's *Man Vitharai*, Aruna Priyantha's *Me Obada?*, Thivanka Ranasinghe's *Dennek*, S Dayalan's *Beniku Vendum* and *The Run* and Shamika Dilshan's *Yathura*.



## Rassa and Parassa in Australia



**Oct 07** The cultural maestro Rohana Dandeniya's drama *Rassa and Parassa* will be staged in Adelaide and in Melbourne in Australia on October 7 and 13. This famous drama is a national experiment depicting Sinhala ritual cultural dance forms, vocals and acting which includes local bali and thovil patterns. This exposure will not only attract the Sri Lankan population in Australia but will be a novel experience for foreigners to enhance their taste in Universal



drama. The Sirimithuru Organization in Melbourne and Sinhala Art Organization in Sydney are volunteering to extend a helping hand to promote *Rassa and Parassa* to aid Sri Lankan schools and places of religious worship located in Australia.

Veteran drama personalities like Jayalath Manoratna,

Nishshanka Dideniya, Sriyantha Mendis, Rohana Baddage, Madani Malwattage together with other Sri Lankan shining artists living in Australia are also participating.

The choreography and music are by Rohana Baddage. Costumes and background designing are by Heenatigala Premadasa.

## Balloth Ekka Ba at YMBA



**Oct 06** *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 and showed around many countries, will be staged once again on Saturday (October 6) at the Young Men's Buddhist Association (YMBA), Borella at 3.30 and 6.30 pm. The drama will be staged with a host of popular artist such as Wijaya Nandasiri, Roshan Pilapitiya, Gihan Fernando, Kumara Thirimadura and Anusha Dissanayake.

Music will be by Shantha Peiris, back ground creations by Luvoline Vandawall and stage management will be by Asoka De Soya and Shantha Udayakumara. The cos-

tumes 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 Sarasavi book shop - Nugegoda, Sadeepa book shop - Borella, Salaka Senkada - Town hall and at theatre gate.



## Char Adhyaya to be held in several venues in town



**Oct 15** Celebrating the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore, a group of ex-Shantiniketan Sri Lankan students have gotten together to host *Char Adhyaya*, a festival of cultural fusion. The event will take place from October 15 to 18 in several venues in town. An art exhibition will be held at the National Art Gallery from October 15 to 17. The inauguration is on October 15 at 5 pm. Around 40 or more paint-

ings by artists from Sri Lanka, India, Bangladesh and Milan will be on exhibit. *Char Adhyaya*, the dance and musical show, will be held at the John de Silva theatre on October 16, 7 pm to 9 pm. This event is presented by the India - Sri Lanka Foundation and Indian High Commission. It will comprise Rabindra Sangeet, Sri Lankan fusion songs, Manipuri dance recitals, Sri Lankan fusion dance recitals, instrumentals in the Indian classical genre and fusion on the sarod and esraj. Two dance and music

shows titled *Salamba* and *Kanya* will be held at Museum College Auditorium on October 17 and 18 at 7 pm. "We hope to make Sri Lanka the cultural hub of South Asia and have been organizing events to achieve this purpose. *Char Adhyaya* is one such event which will put Sri Lanka on the map and mandate cultural corporation," South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Cultural Centre Deputy Director/ Programme Soundarie David Rodrigo said.

### Char Adhyaya participants

- ◆ Sri Yaikhom Hemant Kumar (Senior Associate Professor of Manipur dance, department of Rabindra Sangeet, dance and Drama, Sangit Bhavan, Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan)
- ◆ Chandana Wickramasinghe (dancer and choreographer)
- ◆ Sri Buddhadev Das (Esraj player)
- ◆ Sujeeva Ranasinghe (Esraj player)
- ◆ Sugata Roy Chowdhury (Sarod player)
- ◆ Subhajit Brahmachari (classical vocalist)
- ◆ Manoj Murali Nayar (Kathakali dancer, music composer, dance drama director and actor)
- ◆ Thilini Rodrigo Yadev (vocalist)
- ◆ Smt Swastike Mukhopadhyay (Bengali music vocalist)
- ◆ Charith Rumayanga Perera (vocalist)
- ◆ Samarasinghe Arachchige Maduranga (vocalist)
- ◆ Prasanna Kolambage (artist and sculptor)
- ◆ Madhava Gunawardena (artist and designer)

The festival is aimed at staging the fresh talents of upcoming artists to the Sri Lankan audience and providing art enthusiasts with a whole new experience. This will enable the artists to share their knowledge and expertise which they have gleaned from their training abroad with a large crowd. They would no longer be forgotten by the society but will find their own footing and set their own mark in the field through recognition. Gone are the days that they have to struggle to make ends meet by

training students in small classes hidden in rural villages and giving private lessons to make a living.

A brainchild of Santini-

ketan Friends, *Char Adhyaya* will also bring renowned names to the limelight along with debutants.

Speaking at the event Santiniketan Friends President Chandana Wickramasinghe said that the event will bring all sectors of art under one roof.

"This is where future experts are born. We are also hoping to attract international artists of repute in different genres of Fine Arts and even take the event to other countries in the future," he said.

They hope to make *Char Adhyaya* an annual event which brings recognition to local talent as well as allow them to exchange experiences with artists from other countries. *Char Adhyaya* is open to the public on invitation basis.

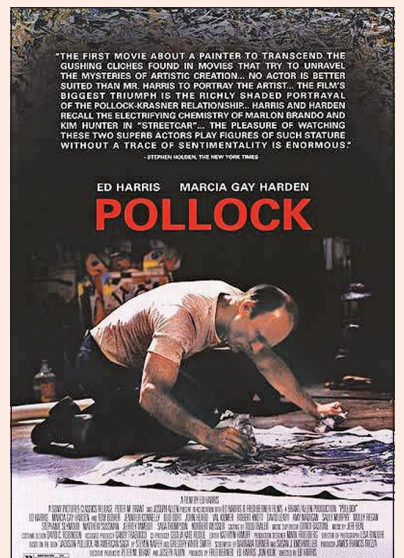


## Big screen

### Pollock

*Pollock* (2001) will be screened on October 2 at 6pm at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 3. (Running Time: 122 minutes)

The long road to Pollock began when actor Ed Harris received a biography of Jackson Pollock from his father, who noticed that his son bore an uncanny resemblance to the artist.



Harris's fascination with Pollock matched his physical similarity; the actor chose to direct and star in this impressive film biography.

And his devotion assured a work of singular integrity, honoring the artist's achievement in abstract expressionism while acknowledging that Pollock was a tormented, manic-depressive alcoholic whose death at 44 (in a possibly suicidal car crash) also claimed the life of an innocent woman.

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

### Au revoir les enfants

The movie, *Au revoir les enfants* (1987) by Louis Malle will be screened on Tuesday, October 2 at 3pm and Wednesday, October 3 at 6.30pm at Alliance Française de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7.



A French boarding school run by priests seems to be a haven from World War II until a new student arrives. He becomes the room-mate of a top student in his class. Rivals at first, the room-mates form a bond and share a secret. The movie is for general viewing and is subtitled in English.