

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.

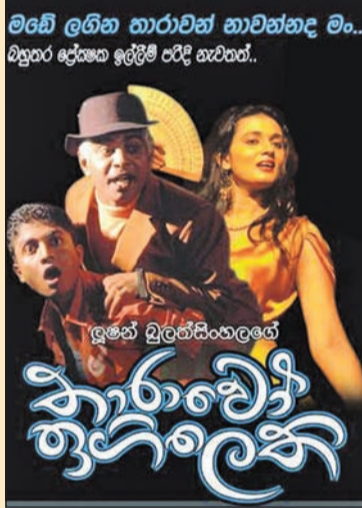
CITF to be held this month



March 28 Colombo International Theatre Festival (CITF) will be held in Colombo-Sri Lanka from March 28 to April 4.

The main performance will be held at the British School in Colombo at 3.30 pm and 6.30 pm. Workshops and discussions will be held at the Goethe Institut Colombo.

'Tharawo Igilethi' at Urubokka Maha Vidyalaya



March 29 'Tharawo Igilethi,' directed by Lushan Bulathsinghala will be staged on March 29 at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm at the Urubokka Maha Vidyalaya.

'Tharawo Igilethi' will be starred with renowned artistes such as Harsha Bulathsinghala, Niroshan Wijesinghe, Sumith Rathnayake, Ferni Roshani, Gamini Samarakoon, Randima Thilini including many others.

Music will be by Gunadasa Kapuge, lighting will be by Gamini Hemachandra and choreography done by Nimal Rajapakse.

'Tharawo Igilethi' will be organized by Priyantha Ranjan. For inquiries please contact Priyantha Ranjan on 071 4822890 or 077 6240033.



'Sikura Hathe' at Badulla and in Maradana

March 29 The latest comedian stage drama directed by Sajeewa Malmalaarachchi and produced by Priyantha Ranjan, 'Sikura Hathe' will be staged on March 29 and 30 at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm at Badulla and in Tower theatre in Maradana respectively.

This comedy includes many hilarious scenes performed by Sanoja Bibile, Ajith Lokuge, Damayanthi Perera, Dimuthu Chinthaka, Jagath Muthukumarana, Prem Jayantha Kapuge, Chinthaka Pathirana, Nilangani Perera and Sajeewa Malmalaarachchi. Prompting done by Chinthaka Pathirana, music creations by Pradeep Jayathilaka, stage management by Sanath Janaka Herath, make up by Prem Jayantha Kapuge, costume designing by Sajeewa Malmalaarachchi.

Stage lighting by Wasantha Kumara - Wasantha Lighting Line, Sujeewa Wijesinghe, Sathyapriya Wijesinghe, coordinating done by Keerthi Wijerathne, stage background, stage decorations, stage decorating and costume equipments created by Rohana Hewawitharana and the team.

Costume jewellery designed by Chamara Anudath Rajapakse, still photography by Dayawansa Vijayalath and advertising done by Fast Ads.

'Sikura Hathe' is presented by House of Drama, Borella while Production management and chief organising done by Priyantha Ranjan.

For any inquiries please contact Priyantha Ranjan on 071 4822890 or 077 6240033.



'Balloth Ekka Be' at Punchi Theatre

March 30 'Balloth Ekka Be,' one of the most popular stage dramas written and directed by Ravindra Ariyaratne which is loved by many audiences for its hilarious touch will be staged on Saturday (March 30) at the Namel Malini Punchi theatre, Borella at 3.30 and 6.45 pm.

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 Ashoka De Soya and Shantha Udayakumara.

'Balloth Ekka Be' is produced by Asle J.Lanka Computer Training Institute and Jude Simal is the main organizer of the drama.

Tickets are available only at Namel Malini Punchi theatre, Borella. All seats have been box planned.

'Nari Bana' and 'Jasaya Saha Lenchina' at Lumbini Theatre



March 30 'Nari Bana' and 'Jasaya Saha Lenchina' two popular dramas of Dayananda Gunawardena's will stage its special shows on March 30 at 3.30 and 6.45 pm at the Lumbini theatre in Havelock Town.

The cast includes popular artists such as Bandula Wijeweera, Rodny Warnakula, Sarath Kulanga, Tharanda Kumari, Rathnasheela Perera, Sunil Thilakarathne, Nilmini Kotegoda, Jayanath Bandara and Indika Jayasinghe.

Music will be by Pubudu Walpita. The drama will be organized by Jude Simal and tickets will be available at Sarasavi book shop, Nugegoda, Sadeepa book shop, Borella, Surasa Poth Madura, Maradana, Salaka Senkada - Town hall and at theatre gate.

A lecture on 'Sri Lanka: Ancient & Early Maps'

March 28

The 49th lecture in the Monthly Lecture series of the National Trust - Sri Lanka, 'Sri Lanka: Ancient & Early Maps (some visual notes)' by Prof. Senake Bandaranayake will be held at the HNB Auditorium, 22nd Floor, HNB Towers, No.479 T B Yahya Mawatha, Colombo 10 at 6.30 pm on Thursday (March 28) immediately after the Annual General Meeting which will commence at 6 pm. The lecture will be simultaneously transmitted to the E.L. Senanayake Children's Library Hall at Kotugodella Veediya, Kandy.

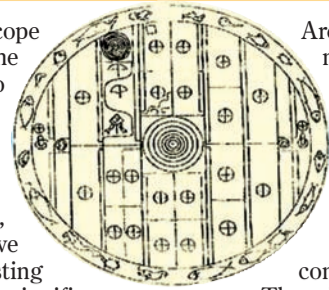
In the trajectory of human history, map-making, in the widest sense of the term, is about 10,000 years old.

A map is (usually) a cognitive, visual, 2-dimensional statement, or summary, relating to one or more features present in a given territorial (or celestial) space. Its scope could extend from 'maps' of the universe, or maps of the world, to a map of the neighborhood you live in. However, it is only in the last 2000 years or so that the serious mapping of the world, or of particular territories began, and less than 200 years before we could 'get it right.' It is interesting that Sri Lanka features not insignificantly in this story.

This lecture presentation is a sequence of selected images from Prof. Bandaranayake's notebooks, illustrating some aspects of Sri Lanka's presence in the history of cartography.

Prof. Senake Bandaranayake, D.Phil. Oxon. is Emeritus Professor of Archaeology, University of Kelaniya and the Postgraduate Institute of

Archaeology. He is the author of a number of books and articles. His most recent book is 'Continuities and Transformations: Studies in Sri Lankan Archaeology and History,' published by the Social Scientists' Association in December 2012. The National Trust - Sri Lanka conducts monthly lectures on the last Thursday of each month. The lectures are open to the members and to the public at a nominal fee. Further information could be obtained from the Trust Office at the Postgraduate Institute of Archaeology, 407, Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7. Tel: 2682730. The events of the National Trust - Sri Lanka are principally sponsored by the HNB Sustainability Foundation.



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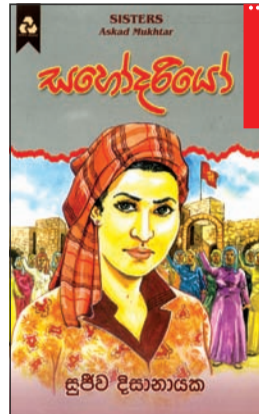
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'Sahodariyo' to be launched



March 27

Sujeewa Dissanayake's latest book, 'Sahodariyo' will be launched at the National Library Services and Documentation Board auditorium, Colombo 7 on March 27 at 3.30 pm. 'Sahodariyo' is the authentic Sinhala translation of Askad Mukhtar's 'Sisters.'

Piyadasa Udawatte who won the Best Novel Award in a competition organised by the Dayawansa Jayakody Publishers will receive the cash award of Rs.50,000 on this occasion.

Ven Prof.Kamburugamuwe Vajira Thera will preside over the ceremony. Prof.Rohana Lakshman Piyadasa and Dr Tudor Weerasinghe will address the gathering.

'Sahodariyo' is a Dayawansa Jayakody publication.



Noce Blanche

The movie, *Noce Blanche* (1990) by Jean-Claude Brisseau will be screened on Wednesday, March 27 at 6.30pm at Alliance Française de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7.

A teacher of philosophy discovers a complicated pupil, a seventeen years old girl with a quite cynic and lucid view of the world. He gets involved in helping her to follow the routine of the study, but soon he is fascinated by her and they fall in a passionate love. When the teacher confronts their affair with reality he decides staying with her wife. But the girl will not accept it. The movie is for general viewing and is subtitled in English.

Barbara (Germany)

Barbara (2012) by Christian Petzold will be screened on March 28 at 3 pm and 5.30 pm at the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) auditorium, 02, Kynsey Terrace, Colombo 8. (Running Time: 105minutes)

Christian Petzold's 'Barbara,' set in 1980 Germany, is a film about watching and being watched. In 1980s East Germany, Barbara a Berlin doctor banished to a county medical clinic for applying for an exit visa.

Deeply unhappy with her assignment and fearful of her co-workers as Stasi informant, Barbara stays aloof especially from the good natured clinic head, Andre. Instead, Barbara snatches moments with her lover as she secretly prepares to defect one day.

Despite her plans Barbara learns more about her life that puts her desires and the people around her in a new light. Barbara finds herself facing a painful moral dilemma that forces her to choose what she values.

The film competed at the 62nd Berlin International Film Festival in February 2012 where Petzold won Silver Bear for Best Director.



House of Fools

House of Fools (2002) directed by Andrei Konchalovsky will be screened on March 29 at the Russian Centre auditorium, No10, Independence Avenue, Colombo 7 at 6 pm. The film tells the story of a psychiatric hospital in the Russian republic of Ingushetia on the border with war-torn republic of Chechnya in 1996.

With the medical staff vanishing to apparently find help, the patients are left to their own endeavors. Zhanna (Yuliya Vysotskaya), a young woman, lives in the belief that the pop star Bryan Adams is her fiancé, that he is off on tour and will, at some point in the future, come to take her away with him.

Zhanna is sort of the ad hoc keeper of peace, happiness and control of the others; she attempts to help curb some of the other patients exuberant impulses. Blissfully unaware of the terror of the war, the patients stick it out in the hospital. Their guests vary between a group of Chechen rebels, one of whom, Sultan Islamov, gives Zhanna the idea that he will marry her. At this point Zhanna, falls in love with Islamov. She goes back to the "House" where, with the help of her fellow residents, she prepares for her marriage to Islamov. From this point on Zhanna prepares for and expects to be swept away by Islamov. Her hopes do not come to fruition and Islamov and Zhanna part ways. Zhanna returns to the "House" in order to resume her life there.

The story was partially inspired by the real-life tragedy of the psychiatric hospital in Shali, Chechnya, which was abandoned by the personnel during the Russian bombing campaign and in which many patients subsequently died from attacks and neglect.

For further details please contact the Cultural Officer on 0112 685440 / 0112 685429. Limited number of seats available.



The Help

The Help (2011) directed by Tate Taylor will be screened on March 29 at the Russian Centre auditorium, No10, Independence Avenue, Colombo 7 at 4 pm.

The Help is a 2011 American drama film adaptation of the novel of the same name (2009) by Kathryn Stockett, adapted for the screen and directed by Tate Taylor.

Featuring an ensemble cast, the film is about a young white woman, Eugenia "Skeeter" Phelan, and her relationship with two black maids, Aibileen Clark and Minny Jackson during Civil Rights era America (the early 1960s). Skeeter is a journalist who decides to write a book from the point of view of the maids (referred to as "the help"), exposing the racism they are faced with as they work for white families.

Set in Jackson, Mississippi, it stars Emma Stone, Viola Davis, Octavia Spencer, Bryce Dallas Howard, Jessica Chastain, Sissy Spacek, Mike Vogel, Cicely Tyson and Allison Janney. Produced by DreamWorks Studios and distributed by Disney's Touchstone Pictures label, the film opened to positive reviews and became a box-office success.

For further details please contact the Cultural Officer on 0112 685440 / 0112 685429. Limited number of seats available.

