

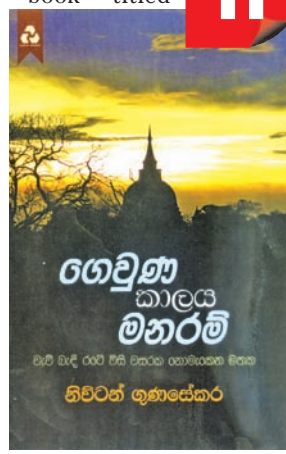
Cultural Diary

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.

Gevunu Kalaya Manaram to be launched

June 11
 Newton Gunasekara's latest book titled 'Gevunu Kalaya Manaram' will be launched at 10 am on June 11 at the Dayawansa Jayakody bookshop, Colombo 10. It is a Dayawansa Jayakody publication.



Rathnavali to be staged

June 13
 'Rathnavali,' a Sanskrit drama of Sri Harshadeva directed by Lalitha Sarachchandra will be staged on June 13 at 8 am and 11 am at the Town hall in Galle. The drama is included in the G C E (A/L) Sinhala, Aesthetic and also in the external degree syllabus. Performing and singing is done by Sanath Wimalasiri, Janaka Munasinghe, Rajitha Hewathanthrige, Nihari Wickramarachchi, Shirani de Costa, Tharanga Kumari, Lakshani Amarathunga, Ganga Paranavithana, Surangi Kosala, Vindya Wimalachandra, Upamali Ranathunge, Anushika Madhumali, Jagath Kumara Jayasinghearachchi, Lakmal Chaminda Fernando, Upul Mahanama including many other prominent figures. Choreography is by Upul Mahanama, lighting by Upali Weerasinghe and stage management by Dhanapala Bogoda. 'Rathnavali,' is presented by House of Drama while its organised by Priyantha Ranjan. For inquiries please contact 071 4822890 or 077 6240033.



June 14 Nanda to perform in Canada and in UK



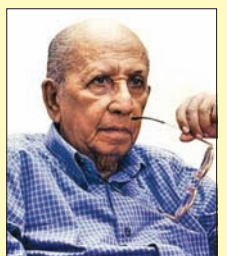
June 14
 Renowned songstress Nanda Malini will perform in Canada at Calgary on June 14, Manitoba on June 15, Vancouver on June 16, Toronto on June 22 and Montreal on June 23. The team consists of Rohana Weerasinghe as the music director along with Suresh Maliyadda, Mahendra Pasquale and Dhananjaya Somasiri to provide music for her songs. Voice of Lanka FM's Ranjith

Wickramasinghe in Toronto had organised the concerts. Malini will be performing her 'Gee Ama' concert in UK's Logan hall on June 30. Victor Ratnayake too will be joining her in staging this concert. This will be a treat for music enthusiasts as the duo will be holding this concert together after a considerable span. Suresh Maliyadda will be directing the music at 'Gee Ama.' Three more musicians:

violinist Rukshan Gunewardena, flutist Priyantha Dasanayake and tabla player Nihal Kalubovila will be joining their team. Art Lanka organisation has put the concert together. Prasad Orlando is the chief organiser of the event together with Art Lanka founder members Priyavijaya Fonseka and Prema Ganegoda. Seven more musicians living in UK will be joining the group to provide music for the show.



'Lester James Peries Oration' at BMICH



June 15
 Prime Minister D M Jayaratne will be Chief Guest at the third annual 'Lester James Peries Oration' which will be held at 5 pm on Saturday (June 15) at the Committee Room 'B' of the BMICH. Guest of Honour on the occasion will be the Ambassador for France in Sri Lanka and the Maldives, Christine Robichon. This event is open to the public. Prof. Sunil Ariyaratne will speak on 'Songs of Lester Sumitra Cinema' while Lakshman Joseph de Saram will speak on 'Music and the Moving Image.' Revered as one of the Asian greats, Lester James Peries has won continuous international acclaim in several parts of the world. With 50 productive years, 20 full length feature films, tele-serials, countless retrospectives around the world, bouquets and brickbats, national and international honours.....Lester James Peries takes it all in his stride they all rest on his slight frame with ease.

Sinhabahu at Punchi theatre



June 15
 'Sinhabahu' stage play of Prof. Ediriwira Sarachchandra will be staged on Saturday (June 15) at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm at Namel Malini Punchi theatre, Colombo 8. Tickets are only available at Namel Malini Punchi theatre. All seats have been box-planned.



Rookada Rajje to be staged

June 16
 'Rookada Rajje' scripted by D Kumarage and produced by Priyantha Ranjan will be staged on June 16 at 3.30 pm and 6.30 pm at the Town hall in Negombo. The cast includes Vijaya Nandasiri, Rodney Warnakula, Priyantha Senevirathne, Sarath Chandrasiri, Gamini Ambalangoda, Ferni Roshani, Kumara Liyanage, Indika Jayasinghe and Tharanga Bandara. Music will be by Sarath Kulanga. Make up by Kumara Galahitiyawa, costume designing by Kamal Kanthi Bogoda and Dhanapala Bogoda, costume jewellery designed by Chamara Anudath Rajapakse, stage lighting by Wasantha Kumara (Wasantha lights), Sujeewa Wijesinghe and Sathyapriya Wijesinghe. Choreography by Lal Thilakarathne and stage decoration by Rohana Hewavitharana. Stage management by Priyantha Ranjan. 'Rookada Rajje' will be presented by House of Drama while chief organiser and production management is done by Priyantha Ranjan. For inquiries please contact Priyantha Ranjan on 071 4822890 or 077 6240033.



Baliphonics at Goethe-Institut

June 15
 Baliphonics presents the music of the low-country bali ritual tradition of Sri Lanka in a sublime collaboration with contemporary jazz and improvisation on Saturday (June 15) at 7.30 pm at the Goethe-Institut, Courtyard. Founded by jazz drummer Sumudi Suraweera, the ensemble consists of two experienced traditional musicians from the lineage of Raigam korela (Susantha and Prasantha Rupathilaka) on voice, concert pianist and composer (Eshantha Peiris) on violin and bassist and sonic artist (Isaac Smith) on double bass. The ensemble, initiated in 2008, was inspired by Suraweera's long standing research on the tradition of low-country ritual drumming and music. His adaptation of the low-country drumming language on to a hybrid Western-Sri Lankan drum set in this group, opens up the possibility of transforming this age old drumming tradition onto a global contemporary stage. The raw, original chanting, singing and gestures made by the Rupathilaka siblings communicate the immense intensity and power of ritual music. The experimental sounds and sonic textures provided by Smith and Peiris illustrate the high level of musical dialogue and interaction between the two musical cultures. Experience the Baliphonics, witness the traditional boundaries being pushed, and transcend yourself into the spirit of the ritual!

French Spring 2013 in Colombo



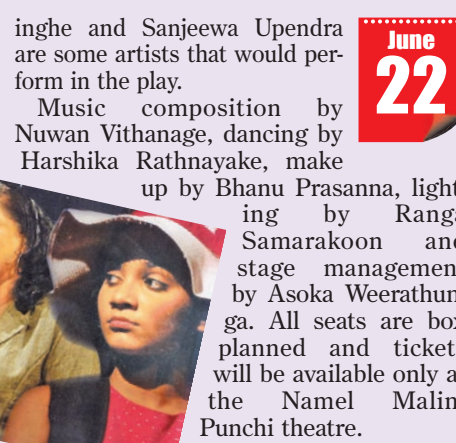
June 18
 2012 saw the launching of the first French Spring in Sri Lanka, a multidisciplinary festival bringing Sri Lankan and French artists together on a single stage. The success of this first festival, which attracted more than 6,500 spectators and participants in workshops, demonstrated the Sri Lankan and international public's enthusiasm for the wide range of cultural events presented by the Alliance Française de Kotte in Colombo, the French Embassy and a large number of partners. This year, the second French Spring Festival will take place from June 18 till July 14 in Colombo and in several other cities with the special collaboration of BMICH, Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel and the support of many other prestigious sponsors. Starting with a sensational singing competition, the festival will go on with more music on the Music Day's (June 21) open stage concert hosting Sri Lankan bands such as Julius beat boxing, Music Matters, Paranoid Earthing, Stigmata, Peshala Peshkar - Academy of Performing Arts and the renowned French gypsy jazz ensemble Caravan Quartet. Two exhibitions are also scheduled; one, artistic, at the Cinnamon Lakeside by Seneka Abeyratne exhibiting photos to create a parallel between Southern France and Sri Lanka, the other at BMICH, with a scientific purpose, about water in our planet. French street art graffiti artist Da Cruz will also brighten this year's edition by working hand in hand with a Sri Lankan fashion designer on an exceptional performance. Not forgetting film-lovers, a French Film Festival is also due for three days at BMICH. Last but not least, to add more spice to this year's Festival, the French Executive Chef of the Cinnamon Lakeside, Martin Becquart, will do wonders to tickle your taste buds during two special French Gastronomy weeks in July. From music, dance, street art, fashion shows, film screenings, visual arts exhibitions, gastronomy and conferences on sustainable development ... French Spring will indeed be compelling. Do not forget. Admission is free for all events! More information and the programme will be available on www.alliancefrkotte.lk & www.ambafrance-lk.org

Dangamalla saha Amuthu Iskole at Punchi theatre

June 22
 Nalaka Swarnathilake's state award winning play, 'Dangamalla saha Amuthu Iskole' will be staged on Saturday (June 22) at 3.30 pm and 6.30 pm at the Namel Malini Punchi theatre, Borella. This play which is adored by both children



and elders, is an adaptation from the book 'The naughtiest girl in the school,' written by the famous children's writer Enid Blyton. The book was very much popular among the globe and was translated in languages whilst the Sinhalese translation was done by Ganga Niroshani Suduwelikanda. The play consists of 20 child artists. The main character is performed by Nelissa Algama while Kusum Renu, Ramani Siriwardena, Nilmini Sigera, Malkanthi Jayasinghe and Sanjeewa Upendra are some artists that would perform in the play. Music composition by Nuwan Vithanage, dancing by Harshika Rathnayake, make up by Bhanu Prasanna, lighting by Ranga Samarakoon and stage management by Asoka Weerathunga. All seats are box planned and tickets will be available only at the Namel Malini Punchi theatre.



Food, Inc

June 11
 'Food, Inc (2008)' will be screened on June 11 at 6pm at the American Center, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 3. (Running Time: 91 minutes) For most Americans, the ideal meal is fast, cheap and tasty. Food, Inc. examines the costs of putting value and convenience over nutrition and environmental impact. Director Robert Kenner explores the subject from all angles, talking

to authors, advocates, farmers, and CEOs, like co-producer Eric Schlosser (Fast Food Nation), Michael Pollan (The Omnivore's Dilemma), Gary Hirschberg (Stonyfield Farms), and Barbara Kowalczyk, who's been lobbying for more rigorous standards since E. coli claimed the life of her two-year-old son. The filmmaker takes his camera into slaughterhouses



and factory farms where chickens grow too fast to walk properly, cows eat feed pumped with toxic chemicals, and illegal immigrants risk life and limb to bring these products to market at an afford-

able cost. If eco-docs tend to preach to the converted, Kenner presents his findings in such an engaging fashion that Food, Inc. may well reach the very viewers who could benefit from it the most: harried workers who do not have the time or income to read every book and eat non-genetically modified produce every day. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

France Boutique

The movie, 'France Boutique (2003)' by Tonie Marshall will be screened on Tuesday, June 11 at 3pm and Wednesday, June 12 at 6.30pm at Alliance Française de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7. France has been married to Olivier since ten years ago. Together, they created a telescoping company, 'France Boutique,' where they worked as star tele-representers. The movie is for general viewing and is subtitled in English.