

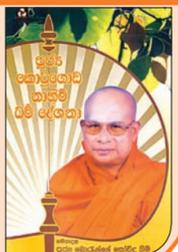
Cultural Diary

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.

'Puja Kotugoda Nahimi Dharma Deshana' to be launched

March 05 Ven Borelle Kovida Thera's latest book 'Puja Kotugoda Nahimi Dharma Deshana' will be launched at the Dayawansa Jayakody bookshop, Colombo 10 on March 5 at 10 am. It is a Dayawansa Jayakody publication.



'Digesiya Netha Randi Roo' to commemorate Women's Day

March 08 The Lanka Prabhalekhika Sanasdaya will conduct their sixth photography competition and exhibition, 'Digesiya Netha Randi Roo' from March 8 to 10 at the J.D.A Hall, Albert Crescent, Colombo 7.

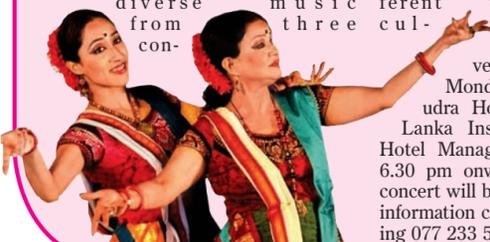


'Blend of Traditions' at Samudra Hotel

March 04

Music lovers in Sri Lanka are in for a night of musical indulgence as the Norwegian Embassy, Concerts Norway, Sewalanka Foundation together with Aru Sri Art Theater present 'Blend of Traditions,' a concert showcasing diverse music from three continents, 'Casa Murilo + Hat-Trick and Fiddle (Norway), Chirkutt + Nritya Nandan (Bangladesh), Harmonia Do Brasil (Brazil), Ila Arun Troupe (India) and Sabreen Association (Palestine).'

So, if you are in for a night of pleasant surprises and want to experience what it sounds and looks like when different traditions display their culture, music and dance altogether in one venue, you can join them on Monday (March 4) at the Samudra Hotel auditorium, the Sri Lanka Institute of Tourism and Hotel Management (SLITHM) from 6.30 pm onwards. Entrance for this concert will be free of charge. Further information can be obtained by calling 077 233 5193.



Big screen

Mammuth

The movie, *Mammuth* (2010) by Gustave de Kervern will be screened on Tuesday, March 5 at 3 pm and Wednesday, March 6 at 6.30pm at Alliance Française de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7.

Serge Pilardosse just turned 60 years old. He works from the age of 16, never unemployed, never sick. But the time retirement rang, and it is the disappointment: it lacks points, some employers have forgotten to declare! Driven by Catherine, his wife, he mounts his old motorcycle 70s, a "Mammuth" which earned him his nickname, and goes in search of his pay slips. During his journey, he finds his past and his quest to document administrative soon becomes accessory ... The movie is for general viewing and is subtitled in English.



A literary evening to celebrate IWD at ICES



March 07

A literary evening by the English Writers' Cooperative of Sri Lanka (EWCSL) and the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) will jointly celebrate the International Women's Day (IWD) to honour Sri Lankan Women's Writing in English on Thursday

(March 7) from 4 pm to 6 pm. The venue will be ICES Auditorium, 2, Kynsey Terrace, Colombo 7. Participating writers who will read extracts from their works will be Nanda P Wanasundera, Premini Amarasinghe, Rukshani Weerasuriya, Basil Fernando, Punyakante Wijenaike, Shireen Senadhira, Sakuntala Sachithanandan, Chitra Premaratne-Stuiver, Myrle Williams, Jayanthi Kaththirachchi, Faith Ratnayake, Jayani Senanayake, Mariam Riza, Shirani Rajapakse and Vijita Fernando. Prashani Anjali Rambukwella will speak on 'The Narrator in Creating English' and the programme will be monitored by Kamini de Soysa.

samhara

by The Nrityagram Dance Ensemble in collaboration with Sri Lanka's Chitrasena Dance Company



March 07

Samhara at South Bend

Nrityagram is on a performance tour with Samhara (a collaboration with Sri Lanka's Chitrasena Dance Company) and Samyoga (a Duet by Surupa Sen & Bijayini Satpathy) at South Bend, in R&R till March 7.

'Bharatha Natyam Arangethram' at Bishop's auditorium

March 09



The 'Bharatha Natyam Arangethram' dance recital of Luvini Yasara Vidanagamage, a Grade 8 student of Vishaka Vidyalaya, Colombo, will be held on March 9 at 6.30 pm at Bishop's College auditorium. She is a student of Bharatha Natyam Instructress Guru Aloka Kumbukage, herself a former student of Vishaka Vidyalaya, Colombo.

Bharatha Natyam is a very old dance form with a history of over three thousand years, widespread in South India. Mastering this dance form requires years of continuous, dedicated and disciplined study under an instructress. The student's performance to display her talents and dancing prowess

before her instructress, parents, relatives and other well-wishers at the end of years of hard and dedicated training is known as an 'Arangethram Dance Recital.' Student Luvini Yasara studied the art of 'Bharatha Natyam' under her instructress for seven years from Grade 1 at Vishaka Vidyalaya, Colombo. Vidanagamage, displaying an aptitude for education as well as extracurricular activities, is a member of the Primary Oriental Music band of Vishaka Vidyalaya and a member of the Little Friends Association of the school.



'Dangaya' and 'Punchi Andare' at Wendt

March 09

Yashodhara Sarachchandra's and Kusumsiri Liyanaarachchi's latest theatrical experience 'Dangaya' and 'Punchi Andare' will be staged on Saturday (March 9) at 3.30 and 6.30 pm at the Lionel Wendt theatre, Colombo 7 and it will be the 50th show.

'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 Chaturani, Sachithri Athukorala, Devinda Wickramasinghe, Akalanka Prabhahwara, Dulanjan Dissanayake, Sachitra Karunaratne, Lakshmi Dissanayake, Chaminda Mirihalla, Manisha Dugannarala, Dinushi Vithanage and Darshana Ubeysekara.



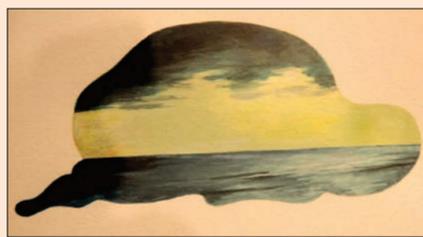
Stage management is by Himashi Vithanage and Dharshana Ubeysekara and make up is by Vishva Thilakaratne.

'Dangaya' and 'Punchi Andare' scripts are by Kusumsiri Liyanaarachchi, music compositions by Yashodhara Sarachchandra 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. The main organiser for the production is Jude

Srimal. Tickets are available at Lionel Wendt theatre. All seats have been box planned.



'Unhurried Groundswell' at Barefoot gallery

March 10

Here is a real challenge. Art and sculpture at 'Unhurried Groundswell' - an exhibition at Barefoot gallery, no. 704, Galle Road, Colombo 3 until March 10 is indeed art at its most thinking moments.

Totally suited to the multi-tasking, highly optimized thought processes of today, the four artists exhibiting together have found their common thread. Theirs is indeed 'thinking art.'

Muhanned Cader, Mariah Lookman, Elizabeth Porter and Alex Stewart are not unfamiliar to Sri Lanka. Each of them is an established artist in his or her own right.

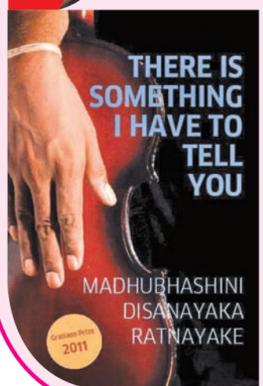
As the world of smartphones, laptops and ipads moves forward, 'Unhurried Groundswell' is a sampling of the future world of Art and Sculpture. A must see for the curious mind. The exhibition will be on display from 10 am to 7 pm on weekdays and from 11 am to 5 pm on Sundays and on poya days.



Four books to be launched at SLF

March 10

Madhubhashini Disanayaka Ratnayake's Gratiaen Award winning



novel 'There is Something I Have to Tell You' will be launched at the Sri Lanka Foundation (SLF), Independence Square, on March 10 at 4 pm. Also to be launched on that day are her 'A Strange Tale of Love' shortlisted for the Gratiaen Award 2005 and the revised second editions of her short story collections 'Tales of Shades and Shadow' (Gratiaen Shortlist 2001) and 'Driftwood' (State Literary Award for the Best Collection of Short Stories in English, 1990).

The evening will be one in which writing is celebrated in readings and music. Ashok Ferry, Ramya Jirasinghe and Neluka Silva will read from Ratnayake's work while Kaushalya Fernando and her friends will



bring in an element of drama to the written word. The Chief Guest will be Executive Director of the Sri Lanka - United States Fulbright Commission, Tissa Jayatilaka and the Guest of Honour will be Chairperson of the Gratiaen Trust, Professor Walter Perera. The event is open to the public.

A film festival to mark IWD at American Center auditorium

The American Center will host a film festival to mark 'International Women's Day' from March 4-8 at the American Center auditorium. The film festival will screen the five-part PBS television series 'Women, War & Peace' created by Abigail Disney. This is a comprehensive global media initiative which spotlights the stories of women in conflict zones and places women at the center of an urgent dialogue about conflict and security, and reframes our understanding of modern warfare. A panel discussion will follow each movie screening comprising of eminent local panelists and Abigail Disney in New York, who would connect via Skype. The movies to be screened are as follows,

- March 4: I Came to Testify
- March 5: Pray the Devil Back to Hell
- March 6: Peace Unveiled
- March 7: The War We Are Living
- March 8: War Redefined

Entrance free! For inquiries contact Sharmini on Tel: 2498180 or Nowzad on Tel: 2498128.

