

Indian Cultural Centre Colombo

Activities - May, 2014

7th May Garlanding of Tagore Bust

The Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized garlanding the Tagore bust at the Main Library of University of Colombo to commemorate the birth anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore on 7th May at the University of Colombo.

His Excellency Y.K. Sinha, High Commissioner of India garlanded the Tagore bust in the presence of the academic community and Tagore aficionados. Several eminent personalities were also offered flowers. The event was jointly organized by the Centre for Contemporary Indian Studies, University of Colombo and the Indian Cultural Centre. Around 35 guests attended the event.









**7th May Narthaki – an evening of Sri Lankan Indian and Bengali dances
by Chandana Wickremasinghe and the Dancer’s Guild of Sri
Lanka**

To commemorate the birth anniversary of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore the Centre organized an evening of dances and drumming performance titled Narthaki – an evening of Sri Lankan Indian and Bengali dances by the celebrated Sri Lankan dancer and choreographer Chandana Wickremasinghe and his Dancer’s Guild.

The performance included a variety of items and some of the items performed by the troupe were Panchathuraya, Ves, Bengali dance, Bheri Vrunda, Rupat Nari and it concluded with the famous song by Tagore Ek la chalore where the audience also joined in. Mr. Maduranga Samarasinghe sang two beautiful Bengali songs and Mr. Pesala Manoj presented a Tabla recital. Both these artistes are Shanti Niketan graduates. Mr. P. Kumaran, Deputy High Commissioner of India and Ms. Esha Srivastava, First Secretary (Press & Information) also graced the occasion. Several of Shanti Niketan graduates, Tagore lovers and students joined to pay homage to this great poet. Around 150 guests attended the event.

















**9 May Tabla Recital: Introduction to Lucknow and Farukkhabad
Gharanas by Visharad Ranjana Amaradeva**

The Centre organised a Tabla Recital by Ranjana Amaradeva to introduce the Lucknow and Farukkhabad Gharanas on Friday 9 May 2013 at its auditorium. The Tabla recital was divided into 2 parts in which Ranjana presented a solo in Teen Taal in the first part and the second part a solo in Keherwa. His performance concluded with a vocal item by his father well-known Sri Lankan singer Pt. W.D. Amaradeva. Around 100 guests attended the event.

Visharad Ranjana Amaradeva learnt Tabla under late Visharada D. R. Peiris and did his advance studies under Visharada S. W. Randoowa. Later he studied Tabla in Farukkhabad style under Pt. Shyamal Bose of Kolkata for nine months. He has travelled extensively around the world accompanying his father Pt. Amaradeva as a Tablist. He has given solo Tabla recitals at ICCR, SLBC and SLRC.





**13 May Lecture – Understanding Bollywood Cinema
by Prof. Wimal Dissanayake**

The Centre organized a lecture titled “Understanding Bollywood Cinema” by Prof. Wimal Dissanayake on 13 May. The lecture commenced with a 10 mins screening of the film *Bride and Prejudice* by Gurinder Chada. In his talk he spoke on several aspects of Indian cinema and the various films produced in various era according to the interest of the audience. The lecture was followed by a question and answer session. This lecture was dedicated by Prof. Wimal Dissanayake to the Director of the Indian Cultural Centre. Around 80 guests attended the event.

Prof. Wimal Dissanayake , Lecturer at the Academy for Creative Media at the University of Hawaii and is the former Director of the Cultural Studies Program at the East-West Center, Hawaii delivered a talk on Indian Cinema. He is one of the foremost scholars of Asian Cinema and a pioneer in Asian communication theory.





9 May Tabla Recital by the students of the Indian Cultural Centre

The students of the Indian Cultural centre under the guidance of their guru Visharad S. W. Randoowa presented a Tabla recital at the Centre on 19 May. The recital which lasted an hour had a performance by beginners, a group performance on Teen Taal including mukhuda and Tukuda, table solo on Teen Taal including Kayda, Rela, Mukudha and Tukuda etc. The presentations by students of different age group created a magical and overwhelming experience for those who were presented at the Centre to witness their performances. Around 120 guests attended the event.







SAARC Film Festival 2014

India bagged the Best Short Film Award for the film Makara at the SAARC Film Festival 2014 held in Colombo. On behalf of the Directorate of Film Festivals, India the Director of the Indian Cultural Centre, Mr. M. Ramachandran accepted the certificates and the trophy at the SAARC Film Festival 2014.

Premchand Fellowship 2014

On the request made by Sahitya Akademi, New Delhi the Centre forwarded bio data's of 10 leading literary figures of Sri Lanka for the Premchand Fellowship 2014.