

**Indian Cultural Centre
High Commission of India
Colombo**
Events of April 2018 with photographic impressions

6 April –Arterra – Terracotta jewellery making workshop

The Indian Cultural Centre Colombo organized a terracotta jewellery workshop by Deepika Shami at the auditorium and lawns . The workshop gave an introduction to Terracotta Jewellery making covering the basics in types of clay, curing clay, molding, bead making, designer beads etc and other aspects of jewellery making such as firing techniques , tools , exotic terracotta designs, painting, findings and assembling jewellery.

Following a slide presentation a practical session was held where the participants were given hands-on experience. Several artisans from the Sri Lankan Handi Crafts Council as well as general public interested in this art form took part in the session.

Deepika Shami, is an Electronics engineer by qualification with a natural disposition towards fine art. After 20 years in Telecom industry, she is now full time engaged in pursuing her passion of making fine jewellery in Terracotta and wire weaving under Arterra Jewels. She has developed her own techniques in terracotta jewellery which she loves to share with those who are interested in learning about this beautiful wearable art form.





11 April – Bollywood special - Dangal

Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo screened Hindi Feature Film "**Dangal**" (with English subtitles) at 3.00 pm on Wednesday 11 April 2018 .

Dangal is a 2016 Indian Biographical Hindi Film depicting Phogat family, telling the story of Mahavir Singh Phogat, an amateur wrestler, who trains his daughters Geeta Phogat and Babita Kumari to become India's first world-class female wrestlers. The film was directed by Nitesh Tiwari and produced by Aamir Khan, under his studio Aamir Khan Productions with UTV Motion Pictures and Walt Disney Pictures India.

20 April –Samarpana – An Odissi recital by Buddhi Edirisinghe, ICCR scholar

Buddhi Edirisinghe captivated the audience with his brilliant Odissi performance. His performance included classical Odissi items and also as an experimental item he performed Odissi dance for well known Sinhala songs as well.

The performance was very well attended by renowned dancers and musicians of Sri Lanka including the legendary Sri Lankan dancer Vajira Chitrasena and her dancer daughter Upeka Chitrasena.

Buddhi started her Kandyan dance training at the Chitrasena School of dance at a very tender age under the tutelage of gurus Vajira Chitrasena, Upeka Chitrasena and Anjalika Chitrasena and also learned low country dance under guru J D Gunathunga at the same dance school. She is also a well-trained kandyandrummer under the able guidance of Guru Jayawardana Amarasinghe and Guru K N S Atugoda.

Buddhi availed scholarship from Indian Council of Cultural Relations, Govt Of India to learn Odissi dance at Rabindra Bharati University, Kolkata and got a Bachelor's degree. She continued her rigorous training in Odissi under eminent gurus such as Guru Aloka Kanungo and Guru Sujata Mohapatra. She has been awarded "Kamarupa Award" for Odissi dance by the government of Assam, India and "Odissi Jyoti", by the Naveen Kalakar, Orissa.





24 April Avurudu - Sinhala & Tamil New Year celebrations

On 24th April the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo organized Avurudu- to celebrate the Sinhala and Tamil New Year. The event was organized by ICC teacher Moksha Samarasooriya and the Kathak class students of the Centre. The one day event included various activities such as traditional rituals, making traditional sweet items, playing rabaan, dances, songs, Avurudu Queen & King competitions and many games and competitions. Around 100 students, teachers and members of public took part in the event.





27 April Celebrating Maestro Illaiyarajah – An evening of instrumental music by Soundari David Rodrigo & ensemble

Renowned pianist of Sri Lanka Soundari David Rodrigo & her ensemble payed a musical tribute to legendry music composers Padmavibhusan Illaiyaraja. The performance comprised of songs composed by mestro Illayaraja in the 80's. They played around 21songs which was very well received by the audience.

Soundarie David Rodrigo, began her musical career under the guidance of the legendary piano teacher Mary Billimoriaand Ramya De LiveraPerera, subsequently pursued her musical education further at the Royal College of Music in London. As a soloist, Soundarie has performed both locally and internationally with the Symphony Orchestra of Sri Lanka, with the Bombay Chamber Orchestra and completed a series of solo performances in Washington DC for concerts commemorating Martin Luther King. Soundarie is the Founder and Music Director of Sri Lanka's premiere female ensemble 'Soul Sounds,' the first choir in Sri Lanka to perform and win awards internationally .She is also the Sri Lankan representative on the Council for Music Mundi—the International Organization that hosts several celebrated International Choral Festivals and Competitions. She was the Deputy Director at the SAARC Cultural Centre based in Sri Lanka for 6 years and is currently the Director, Programs for the Colombo Cultural Hub. Her awards include the SAARC Woman of Achievement Award, the Zonta Award, and the Bunka Award presented by the Japan/Sri Lanka Association.





