

in Cultural Centre Colombo

Activities in April 2011

April 5-12

Puducherry Blue - An Exhibition of South Asian Art

The Puducherry Blue, an exhibition of South Asian art was inaugurated by Hon. Mr. S. Alavi Mowlana (Jamal Allai), Governor, Western Province, Sri Lanka in the presence of H. E. Mr. Ashok K Kantha, High Commissioner of India , His Excellency Mr. Mahbub uz Zaman, High Commissioner of Bangladesh and His Excellency Ms. Kathy Klugman, High Commissioner of Australia on 5th April 2011 at the J. D. A. Perera Gallery, No.46, Horton Place, Colombo 07.



The exhibition was on view till 12th April 2011 between 11.00 a.m. and 7.00 p.m. The exhibition features some of the most prominent artists from South Asian countries including Sri Lanka.

Paintings evolved at the artist's camp held at Puducherry, India, was held under the auspices of ICCR in 2010. The camp was held with a view to bring together artists from the South Asian region. The camp gave creative artists from nine South Asian nations – Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka a platform to interact and mingle each other socially through the medium of art.

Since art knows no boundaries and hence no prejudices. Puducherry Blue was a step beyond diplomacy, to achieve solidarity and to share a bonhomie and friendship through the universal medium of art. The camp highlighted close bonds and common cultural heritage that we all share in this region. It also helped deeper understanding and inspiration within the South Asian region.

Thirty two artists from nine countries converged in Puducherry that set the stage for a unique interaction among the charged minds from varied backgrounds, style and schools of thought. The paintings exhibited in this exhibition are the paintings done in the camp. By exhibiting these works in Sri Lanka the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo expects further interaction among the art lovers based on the styles and sensibilities that benchmarked the creativity of the artists

There are 32 paintings from the artist of the South Asian region. Following are the participating artists:

Mehreen Zuberi (Pakistan), Amber Hammad (Pakistan), Latifa Meeran (Afghanistan), Enayatullah Niazi (Afghanistan), Chandragupta Thenuwara (Sri Lanka), Sanjeewa Kumara (Sri Lanka), Tshewang Tenzin (Bhutan), Karma Zangmo (Bhutan), Erina Tamrakar (Nepal), Birendra Pratap Singh (Nepal), Alokesh Gosh (Bangladesh), Md. Rafiqun Nabi (Bangladesh), Mariyam Omar (Maldives), Kyaw Shein (Myanmar), John Tun Sein (Myanmar), Ajay Rajgarhia (Delhi), Kota Neelima (Delhi), Mona Rai (Delhi), Masooma (Delhi), Sumedh Rajendran (Delhi), Amitava Das (Delhi), Niladri Paul (Delhi), Farhad Hussain (Delhi), Prabhakar Kolte (Mumbai), Vanita Gupta (Mumbai), Vilas Shinde (Mumbai), Jin Shook Shinde (Mumbai), Debnath Basu (Kolkata), R. Bala (Chennai), Parvathi Nayar (Chennai), Zakir Hussain (Kerala) and V. Ramesh (Hyderabad).





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April 8

Film: Mahabharat (Volume VII) – India's greatest epic

April 11

Film: Chalte Chalte – A Film directed by Aziz Mirza

April 19

Film: Koi Mil Gaya – A Film directed by Rakesh Roshan

April 25

Book Launch: "Tribute to Rabindranath Tagore"

The Tagore Society of Sri Lanka launched their journal "Tribute to Rabindranath Tagore" to commemorate the 150th Birth Anniversary of Tagore at the Centre on 25th April. The journal consists of multifaceted aspects of Tagore's contribution to culture, literature & philosophy. Editor of the journal is Dr. Leel Gunasekera. The first copy was presented to Mr. Edwin

sekara & Mr. Kamal Premasdasa, President of the Tagore Society also addressed the gathering. Around 75 members attended the event.

April 27

Carnatic Vocal Recital by Mrs. Dhaaranie Rajkumar



Mrs. Dhaaranie Rajkumar presented a Carnatic vocal Music Recital at the Indian Cultural Centre, Colombo. Mrs. Dhaaranie Rajkumar, was a pupil of music at Ramanathan Academy of Fine Arts and also served as Assistant Lecturer at the same institution. She has already established herself as a vocalist in the classical style and held numerous performances. Her recital lasted for an hour and half. Some of the songs and ragas he sang were ragam Karthikeya Kankeya , Thodi ragam set taalam Aathi, ragam Mohanakalyani, Keerthanams and concluded with Thillana. Around 50 guests attended the event.

April 29

Lecture – Sigiriya Revisited by Prof. T.K. Nimal P. de Silva

The well known author and Conservationist **Prof. T. K. Nimal P. de Silva** delivered a lecture entitled Sigiriya Revisited at the Centre. Prof. de Silva is presently Director General, Central Cultural Fund of Sri Lanka. He has authored 14 books and lectured on Art & Culture at important institutions and universities. He was a consultant to UNESCO for the selection of World Heritage sites. A known archeologist and conservationist, Prof. de Silva was the Director of the Post Graduate Institute of Archeology, Chairman Urban development Authority, Chairman National Design Centre and Deputy President of National Trust of Sri Lanka. Prof. de Silva is a product of Moratuwa University and specialized in conservation form ICCROM, Rome. He lecture



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presentation. The lecture was followed by an interactive session. Around 40 guests attended the event.

