

Indian Cultural Centre Colombo

Activities – August, 2014

8 August Hindustani Vocal Music Recital

On 8 August Sanjaya Wahalathanthri presented a Hindustani Vocal Music Recital at the Centre. His recital included Vilambith in Madhya and Druth in raag Shyam Kalyan, Tumri in raag Mishra Kamaj and concluded with a semi classical song. Sanjaya is presently doing his M.P.A. (Master of Performing Arts – final year) in Hindustani Classical Music at the Bhatkhande University, Lucknow, India. Around 150 guests attended the event.







15 August Cultural show by the students of the Indian Cultural Centre

The students of the Indian Cultural Centre presented Patriotic songs under the guidance of Ms. Manjula Seneviratne and two Kathak dance items choreographed by their guru Ms. Moksha Samarasooriya at the flag hoisting ceremony held on 15 August at the India House.



17 August India Independence Day Concert: Shaan

To commemorate the 68th Independence Day of India, the Indian CEO Forum, in collaboration with the High Commission of India in Sri Lanka, organized an Independence Day Concert by the famous Indian singer, Shaan (Shantanu Mukherjee) at Stein Studio in Colombo on 17 August 2014. The event was supported by the Indian Cultural Centre and the Ministry of Culture and Arts, Sri Lanka.

The President of Sri Lanka, His Excellency Mr. Mahinda Rajapaksa, and the First Lady, graced the occasion as the Chief Guests, and were welcomed by Mr Y. K. Sinha, the High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, Mrs Girija Sinha and Mr Sanjay Tiwari, President of the Indian CEO Forum. Other prominent guests included Leader of Opposition, Hon'ble Mr Ranil Wickremesinghe and Prof Maitree Wickremesinghe; Minister of External Affairs, Hon'ble Prof. G. L. Peiris and Mrs Savithri Peiris; Minister of Petroleum Industries, Hon'ble Anura Priyadharshana Yapa and his family; TNA leader Hon'ble R. Sampanthan and other Members of Parliament. Senior officials from the Government of Sri Lanka including Secretary to the President, Mr Lalith Weeratunga, and the Foreign Secretary, Mrs. Kshenuka Senewiratne, were also present on the occasion. Around two thousand invitees enjoyed the concert.

Shaan enthralled the audience with his vast repertoire of songs for more than three hours, including his recent hits as well as some evergreen numbers from an era gone by. Befitting the occasion Shaan sang a few patriotic songs, which were followed by a song each in Sinhala and Tamil. He also sang some popular English songs. His melodious rendition of Mahatma Gandhi's favourite hymn "Vaishnav jan to tene kahiye" enthralled the audience. Shaan sang a number of songs on popular demand, and the concert, which invoked an enthusiastic response, went on till well into the night.

















22 August Sargam – Hindi Musical Concert

On 22 August Dr. Ajith Jayarathne presented a Hindi musical concert titled "Sargam" at the Centre. He sang around 30 popular Hindi songs from the 70s and 80s Hindi films. Around 150 guests attended the event









25 August Bharatha Natyam Recital

A performance of the well known Bharata Natyam exponent, Ms. Lavanya Ananth, was organized at the South Lawns, Taj Samudra Hotel, Colombo on 25 August 2014 by the Indian Cultural Centre in collaboration with India Sri Lanka Society and the India Sri Lanka Foundation as part of the 68th Independence Day.

High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka, Mr. Y.K. Sinha and Mrs. Girija Sinha graced the occasion as Guests of Honour.

Almost 300 guests from a cross section of Sri Lankan society including eminent citizens, diplomatic corps, members from art, culture, media, films and theatre attended the event.

In his address, the High Commissioner, spoke of the age old bilateral cultural, civilizational, linguistic links between India and Sri Lanka, which have now grown to encompass all areas of contemporary relevance. He recalled that a number of events were organized by India in recent years to highlight the common bonds cherished by the two countries. These events have helped in further cementing the bilateral cultural ties.

Ms. Lavanya Ananth commenced her Bharatha Natyam performance, titled Deva Nruthya – The Celestial Art of Ancient, by explaining the basics of Bharata Natyam and its origins. Her performance, which lasted for more than 75 minutes, was very well received by the audience. The artistes were honoured with souvenirs by the President and office bearers of India Sri Lanka Society.











27 August Carnatic Vocal –Workshop / Carnatic Vocal Performance

The Indian Cultural Centre, in collaboration with the Hindu Educational Society, organized a workshop on Carnatic Vocal music by Shri T.V.Ramprasadh and his musicians on 27 August 2014, at Saraswathi Hall, Colombo.

Around 60 music students and teachers participated in the workshop, which lasted for two and a half hours. Shri. Ramprasadh and his musicians explained different raagas, demonstrated the differences in taala system and answered questions about Carnatic music asked by the participants during the interactive session. The workshop was well received.







Later in the evening, Shri. T.V.Ramprasadh and his musicians presented a Carnatic Vocal music recital at the Indian Cultural Centre. Around 100 guests including several connoisseurs of music, students, and music lovers attended the performance. The recital was very well received.





28 August Tribute to Yogacharya B.K.S.Iyengar

Ashtanga Yoga Mandhir in collaboration with the Indian Cultural Centre organized an event to pay tribute to late Yogarcharya B.K.S.Iyengar. Yoga instructors from leading yoga institutions in Sri Lanka participated in this event. Around 40 guests attended the event.

29 August Screening of Romantic Hindi Film “Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge”

Indian Cultural Centre screened one of the most popular romantic Hindi Film “Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge” directed by Aditya Chopra and music by Jatin Lalit at 3.00 pm on Friday 29 August 2014 at its auditorium. Around 50 guests attended the screening.