

FRENCH FESTIVAL IN **SPRING** SRI LANKA

18 JUNE ➤ 14 JULY 2013



MUSIC | VISUAL ARTS | FASHION
FRENCH CUISINE | PHOTOGRAPHY | BOOKS
SCIENCE | DANCE | CINEMA

*A special issue of Bienvenue Magazine
of the Alliance Française in Sri Lanka and the Maldives*

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Calendar

| COLOMBO | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------|-------|--------|---|---|-------------------|--------|--|---|--|
| JUNE | Tuesday | 18 | 16:00 | Music | French-German Singing Competition | BMICH | | | | |
| | Friday | 21 | 15:00 | Music | Music day - Fête de la musique - concert | BMICH | | | | |
| | Saturday | 22 | 21:00 | Music | Caravan Quartet concert | Cinnamon Lakeside | | | | |
| | Mon. - Sat. | 24-29 | | Visual Arts | Graffiti Mural by Da Cruz | BMICH | | | | |
| | Wednesday | 26 | 18:00 | Cinema | The Illusionist by Sylvain Chomet (Ciné-Club) | BMICH | | | | |
| | Saturday | 29 | 18:00 | Fashion | Walls = People - hip-hop fashion show by Deneth | BMICH | | | | |
| JULY | Mon. - Sun. | 1-14 | | French Cuisine | Bon Appétit! Gastronomic French Festival | Cinnamon Lakeside | | | | |
| | Tuesday | 2 | 18:30 | Books | Bonsoir Diaries by Kumar de Silva | BMICH | | | | |
| | Wednesday | 3 | 19 :30 | Music | Jean-Pierre Baraglioli saxophone concert | Cinnamon Lakeside | | | | |
| | Thursday | 4 | 9:00 | Socio-Eco | Urban development - symposium | BMICH | | | | |
| | Thursday | 4 | 18:00 | Science | A Thirsty World - documentary film by Yann Arthus-Bertrand | BMICH | | | | |
| | Thurs. - Sun. | 5-14 | | Science | Water at the Heart of Science - exhibition | BCIS | | | | |
| | Thurs. - Sun. | 5-14 | | Photography | De Mirissa à Bouzigues - exhibition by Seneka Abeyratne | Cinnamon Lakeside | | | | |
| | Friday | 5 | 19:00 | Dance | Hybride - dance show by Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai | BMICH | | | | |
| | Thurs. - Sat. | 11-13 | | Cinema | French Film Festival | BMICH | | | | |
| | Wednesday | 31 | 18:00 | Cinema | Pickpocket by Robert Bresson (Ciné-Club) | BMICH | | | | |
| AUGUST | Friday | 23 | 18:00 | Books | Ethnicity, Politics and Cinema in Sri Lanka by Vilasnee Tampoe-Hautin, book launch and conference | | | | | |
| | Wednesday | 28 | 18:00 | Cinema | My Favorite Season by André Téchiné | BMICH | | | | |
| GALLE | | | | MALE | | | | | | |
| JULY | Tuesday | 2 | Dance | Hybride - dance show by Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai | JUNE | Saturday | 29 | Music | Caravan Quartet concert | |
| | Saturday | 6 | Music | Jean-Pierre Baraglioli saxophone concert | | Sunday | 30 | Music | Caravan Quartet concert | |
| | Saturday | 20 | Books | Bonsoir Diaries by Kumar de Silva | | JULY | Monday | 8 | Music | Jean-Pierre Baraglioli saxophone concert |
| JAFFNA | | | | Tuesday | 9 | | Music | Jean-Pierre Baraglioli saxophone concert | | |
| JULY | Tuesday | 9 | Dance | Hybride - dance show by Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai | | | | | | |
| KANDY | | | | MATARA | | | | | | |
| JUNE | Friday | 21 | Music | Music day - Fête de la musique - concert | JULY | Wednesday | 3 | Dance | Hybride - dance show by Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai | |
| | Wednesday | 3 | Music | Caravan Quartet concert | | Sunday | 7 | Music | Jean-Pierre Baraglioli saxophone concert | |
| JULY | Friday | 5 | Music | Jean-Pierre Baraglioli saxophone concert | AUG | Thursday | 22 | Cinema | Ethnicity, Politics and Cinema in Sri Lanka by Vilasnee Tampoe-Hautin, book launch and conference | |
| | Sunday | 7 | Dance | Hybride - dance show by Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai | | | | | | |
| | Saturday | 13 | Books | Bonsoir Diaries by Kumar de Silva | | | | | | |



MESSAGE

Hon. Minister T.B. EKANAYAKE
Minister of Culture and the Arts

Culture and the Arts is a strong medium to bring diverse cultures together. Music, dance and drama have a common language to bind people of varied cultures. The underlying spirit of culture and arts has a strong appeal to promote understanding among people and, in turn, bring countries closer to each other.

France like Sri Lanka has very strong traditions in the Arts since many centuries. France has imbibed modern trends into its rich tradition of arts and has much to offer to the rest of the world. Many French Artists who matured in the French Art Institutions are world-renowned. Their creations occupy a central place in the global arena of Art. This cultural festival will provide local audiences with the opportunity of discovering a high quality contemporary artistic experience. Therefore I warmly welcome and appreciate the gesture of the Embassy of France to bring the French Spring to Sri Lanka for the second time.

The French Spring Festival, which will be held this year from June 18 to July 14 at the BMICH as the main venue in Colombo and at the Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel with other provincial activities, will be an open cultural event to all in Sri Lanka.

Artists from France as well as from Sri Lanka will present their work at the festival. In addition to performances and exhibitions, workshops will be conducted to promote continuing links among the artists of both countries, as the French Spring Festival has become an annual event in Sri Lanka like in many other countries.

I am proud to be associated once again with this event and take this opportunity to thank the Embassy of France and the organizers of the event.

Hon. Minister T.B. EKANAYAKE

MESSAGE

H.E. Mrs Christine ROBICHON

Ambassador of France to Sri Lanka and the Maldives



It is a great pleasure to introduce the programme of the second French Spring Festival, jointly organised by the Alliance Française network in Sri Lanka and the Embassy of France. This festival finds its origin in the wishes expressed by many Sri Lankan friends, in the Government and in civil society, to see France developing cultural activities in their country, particularly towards the youth.

Arts and culture, I believe, can create links and a sense of togetherness between components of a nation of all ages and all communities and, once again, the activities organized in the framework of this French Spring Festival will aim to bring closer Sri Lankan and French artists and give them a common stage and mutual experiences in different cities of Sri Lanka: Colombo, Jaffna, Galle, Kandy and Matara.

A dozen events will hence be presented in various artistic fields such as contemporary music, songs, dance, street art, fashion, photography, cinema, book launch, gastronomy, over a period of four weeks, from 18 June to 14 July 2013. A symposium about urban development organized with the Sri Lankan French Business Council and an exhibition about water and development will also be interesting parts of this festival and add a human as well as a scientific dimension.

I'm delighted to see that these activities of dissemination and exchange in which both French and Sri Lankan artists, authors, academics, managers and prominent socio-economic actors are involved, testify of the quality and the strong vitality of the relations between France and Sri Lanka.

The French Spring Festival in Sri Lanka would not have been possible without the support of the Ministry of Culture and the Arts. The Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall, as well as the Cinnamon Lakeside Hotel will play host to most of French Spring events taking place in Colombo. A group of dynamic Sri Lankan and French companies, by accompanying the project, demonstrate a keen interest in this vibrant cultural initiative and therefore strengthen the friendly relations between our two countries. To all our partners and sponsors, I express my sincere gratitude for having been with us during the preparation of this festival. Thanks to their support and generosity, all performances will be free of charge.

I wish that a large and diverse public would enjoy this festival around the country.

H.E. Mrs Christine ROBICHON



Message

Mr Bandhula Ekanayake

Director General, S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike
National Memorial Foundation

The Bandaranaike Centre for International Studies (BCIS), the academic wing of the S. W. R. D. Bandaranaike National Memorial Foundation, an education institute devoted to providing language training in the country is proud to be associated with the Alliance Française as a Collaborative Partner in organizing the French Spring Festival 2013.

The French Spring Festival has indeed stirred an interest among Sri Lankans for all things French since it was first introduced by Alliance Française de Kotte in June last year. It has also helped to reinforce existing cultural links between France and Sri Lanka. The festival, to be held in the premises of the BMICH, will provide a platform for music, photography, cinema, literature, dance and art to be showcased to the general public and learners of the French language free of charge.

The BCIS has been conducting joint French language courses with Alliance Française de Kotte with the objective of popularizing French language and culture in Sri Lanka. This collaboration has extended to the screening of a French feature film every last Wednesday of the month at the BCIS.

Apart from its reputation as a language-teaching institute, the BCIS started as a teacher of International Relations, which role it fulfills to this day with several study programmes in International Relations and Diplomacy.

I take this opportunity to invite all of you to experience the affluence of French culture with language typifying the essence of France's ethos at French Spring Festival 2013.

Bandhula Ekanayake

Message

Mr Denis Gruhier

General Manager, Cinnamon Lakeside Colombo

French cuisine and culture are close to my heart and I am delighted to partner with Alliance Française network and the French Embassy to bring this festival to Colombo.

With the proficient Alliance Française and French Embassy teams, the expertise of our French Executive Chef, Martin Becquart, and the Cinnamon Lakeside team, I am confident that it will be a resounding success.

With music, art exhibition, there is no doubt that the French Gastronomy weeks in Cinnamon Lakeside - ranked among Sri Lanka Tourism's Best Five Star City Hotels and Best Luxury Hotels - will be a great opportunity for the public to experience authentic French cuisine in Sri Lanka.

I wish all of you to enjoy a wonderful, cultural and delightful experience with the French Spring Festival in Sri Lanka 2013.

Denis Gruhier



The official network of the Alliance Française in Sri Lanka wishes to warmly thank its institutional and corporate partners for all their support

Institutional



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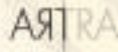
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MUSIC

Tuesday 18th June 2013, 4:30 pm

@ Sri Dharmaloka Convocation Hall, Kelaniya University, Colombo



French and German singing competition 50th Anniversary Elysee Treaty



Are you a student?
You are learning French or German?
Do you like singing? Then this is the
opportunity to show your talents!

Being the inaugural event of the French Spring Festival, the French and German educational institutes in Colombo have joined hands to organize a French German singing competition this year which marks the fiftieth anniversary of the Elysée Treaty, also known as the Treaty of Friendship, between France and Germany.

The Treaty became a foundation for intensive bilateral cooperation in politics, the economy, culture and society. Franco-German reconciliation and friendship also made an important contribution to European integration.

12 selected students of Alliance Française de Kotte, Goethe Institute Colombo, University of Kelaniya, University of Sri Jayewardenepura will perform French and German songs on the final round to be held on 18th June at Sri Dharmaloka Convocation Hall, University of Kelaniya. The jury will be composed by bilingual personalities involved in culture, education and diplomacy.

With many prizes to be won, the overall winners of the competition will also get an opportunity to perform at the Music Day concert, at the Mihilaka Medura Open Space, BMICH, on the 21st of June 2013.



ÉLYSÉE-VERTRAG
TRAITÉ DE L'ÉLYSÉE
50
ANNÉES



MUSIC

Friday 21st June 2013, 3 to 11 pm

@ Mihilaka Medura Open Space, BMICH



The French Ministry of Culture gave birth to the idea in 1982 and since then France implements a music day, when people come together and share music everywhere ... in public places and around the corner.

Music Day or “Fête de la Musique” falls 21st of June each year. This is a day of solstice, astronomically, the longest day of the year outside the tropics, and, traditionally, associated with the beginning of summer.

Given the immediate success of this popular and largely spontaneous event, this gathering of professionals and amateurs musicians was the incarnation of a policy striving to give an equal place to all kind of music, a way to celebrate the cultural diversity.

For 30 years, the music festival has grown and is relayed around the world. In 2012, 514 cities in 104 countries participated in the event.

Two of the recommendations being sanctioned by the official Fête de la Musique organization in Paris are that all concerts must be free to the public, and that all performers donate their time for free.



This year's new edition at the Mihilaka Medura Open Space, BMICH features: Peshala Peshkaraa Academy of performing Art, Elephant Foot, The Brahminy Kites, Diaphanous Veils featuring Toc Toc Baya, Isuru Kumarasinghe and Sum Suraweera, Julius Beat Boxing, Caravan Quartet, Paranoid earthling, Stigmata.



MUSIC

Friday 21st June 2013 | 8 pm @ Mihilaka Medura Open Space BMICH

Saturday 22nd June | 9 pm @ Cinnamon Lakeside

Saturday 29th June and Sunday 30th June | Maldives

Wednesday 3rd July | Kandy

Caravan Quartet Gypsy jazz

Caravan Quartet, a multi-stylistic terrain jazz band, is a story that began in the early nineties at a secondary school of Seine-Saint-Denis, France, by the meeting of two guitarists.

Caravan today it's four string musicians: Olivier Lorang, bass, Mathias Levy, violin, Daniel Bouillard and Samuel Strouk on gypsy guitars of course, but also electric, classical and flamenco.

Their musical connection and major influence is the great guitar player Django Reinhardt, inventor of the 'hot' jazz guitar style. The group has seen a multitude of influences like John Coltrane, Stéphane Grapelli, Charlie Mingus, Wayne Shorter.

It allows Caravan's musicians not only to be Django's "fans" reproducing his music in a pure gypsy jazz style, but also a jazz band cultivating its own music style and composing most of his tunes inspired from individual experiences especially from their encounter with Cuban jazz music.

Caravan has recorded four albums and is now preparing a fifth opus. The band has performed at more than 500 concerts around the world until now and this will be its first time in Sri Lanka and in the Maldives.



MUSIC

Concerts with **Bridget Halpe & Peshala Manoj** ■ Wednesday 3rd July 2013, 7.30 pm
@ Kings Court Cinnamon Lakeside (on invitation only) ■ Friday 5th July 2013 in Kandy
Concerts with **Peshala Manoj** ■ Saturday 6th July in Galle
■ Sunday 7th July in Matara ■ Monday 8th July & Tuesday 9th July in Maldives

Jean Pierre Baraglioli Classic Jazz Saxophonist

Bridget Halpé, piano & Peshala Manoj, tabla
4 concerts in Sri Lanka and 2 in the Maldives



In a tour of 6 exceptional concerts, Jean-Pierre Baraglioli soprano saxophone, Bridget Halpé, piano, Peshala Manoj, tabla, will perform works of Claude Debussy, Philippe Portejoie, Romain Tallet, Sylvain Kassap, Enzo Gieco, Astor Piazzolla and Tony Murena.

Jean Pierre Baraglioli, is a French musician born in 1957. He is a winner of the prestigious Paris Conservatory of Music where he obtained first prize in saxophone and in chamber music.

As a solo saxophone soprano player, he is a permanent member of the Paris Garde Républicaine Wind Orchestra and the prominent Orchestre Colonne.

He has travelled extensively to the five continents and frequently experiences fruitful encounters, recordings, first performances with musicians and composers hailing from different backgrounds.

Bridget Halpé is a well-known Sri Lankan pianist, a choral director as well as a music composer. She has been involved in music since the age of six and regularly updates her knowledge. She holds the Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music, UK, in pianoforte performance.



Peshala Manoj is a singer, tabla player and a lecturer in the University of Visual & Performing Arts in Colombo. Peshala has studied tabla under P.V. Nandasiri in Sri Lanka and has gone to Lucknow Gharana in India to study music under Ustad Ilmas Hussain Khan. He has played with many famous kathak dancers and musicians from all around the world. He is the founder of tabla academy 'Peshkara' in Sri Lanka. Along with 15 students of his Academy, Peshala will perform at this year's Fête de la musique concert as well.



Mount Lavinia Hotel

A British Governor's residence, forms the nucleus of the hotel which has expanded in size and style to the sprawling colonial palace it is today. It's unique products being the unusually extensive beach frontage, a generous terrace (overlooking the bay and offering a stunning panorama of

the Colombo skyline), a spectacular view of the ocean, an absolutely incredible atmosphere and indeed the famous romance rained over the hotel one of the reasons why, perhaps, it is a favourite choice for lovers, weddings and honeymoons.



Vakarufalhi

Vakarufalhi Island Resort – One of the best Four Star Maldives resorts, tucked away in the remote corner of South

Ani atoll, 90km away from the airport, Vakarufalhi is among the pearls that make up the amazing Maldives Islands.



Club Bentota

Discover the wonders of the beaches of Sri Lanka during your stay at Club Bentota. A hassle free vacation for you and a fun-packed adventure for

the kids. We provide exciting water sports, an extensive ayurvedic spa and so much more on a secluded, breathtaking beach front.



www.mountlaviniahotelgroup.com



As part of a lineage of 100-year-old companies whose names are associated with impressive achievements worldwide, **VINCI Construction Grands Projets** possesses end-to-end expertise in the creation of complex infrastructure.

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International Water Works department delivers turn-key projects (from design to implementation and follow-up).

Greater Trincomalee Integrated Water Supply Project, Trincomalee, Sri Lanka



VINCI Construction Grands Projets is currently designing, rehabilitating and extending Kantale Water Treatment Plant and Pumping Stations for the National Water Supply and Drainage Board.

The existing Water Treatment Plant will have its treatment capacity increased from 8 MGD to 12 MGD. A new treatment line will be erected and equipped and new storage tanks will be constructed. The existing structures and buildings will be fully refurbished.

The plant will be automated and integrated into a SCADA system which also controls 3 pumping stations and 7 treated water tanks.

VISUAL ARTS

From 24th to 29th June 2013 @ BMICH
Opening on Saturday 29th June @ 6 pm

DA CRUZ Graffiti Artist

COCA - COLLECTIVE OF
CONTEMPORARY ARTISTS - & DENETH



Since a decade, Da Cruz has imposed his very personal style on the walls of his native place, the Canal de l'Ourcq area in Paris. As roots and ground base for his art, he made there a monumental fresco, becoming a rallying point for many young artists of his generation.

Traveling at length in Africa, in South America – especially in Brazil - and recently in Palestine, through confrontations with ancient cultures (pre-Columbian masks for instance) he has transformed his primitive and colorful technique, superbly into graffiti art.

His approach and interpretation of the urban space find natural correspondence with actual social and political issues. Da Cruz lives his work as a committed citizen. Indeed, he is very much involved in kids' educational programmes.

Da Cruz has become a key representative of the current urban scene by bringing graffiti and street art to contemporary art level. In fact, he received a world-class recognition as he performed in 2010 at the mythic National Centre for Art and Culture Georges Pompidou in Paris.

In Colombo, Da Cruz will add his vibrant colors to walls of the BMICH, starting from the 24th June. Along with him, a local artist group: Collective of Contemporary Artists (CoCA), will design their mural too.



CoCA, the Collective of Contemporary Artists (www.cocaartists.org) is dedicated, as a real "way of life", to spreading art to the public in alternative spaces. Therefore, CoCA aims to challenge its audience whom they await more mind boggling. They just want to express difference and have adopted as motto this sentence of American painter Frank Stella: "After all, the aim of art is to create space - space that is not compromised by decoration or illustration, space within which the subjects of painting can live."

In collaboration with Da Cruz at the BMICH, they will paint a graffiti inspired by Sri Lankan traditional patterns, cultural figures appearing in the ancient carvings combined with nature. CoCA took part in the Colombo Art Biennale 2012.

Deneth, Sri Lankan painter and fashion designer, member of CoCA, will present on the opening evening a collection inspired by Da Cruz's work made with a mix of local hand woven textile and silk screen printed in Kurunegala.

Saturday 29th June 2013
6 pm @ BMICH

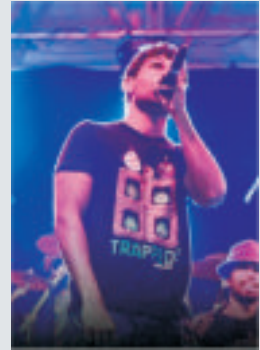
FASHION

Walls = People by DENETH PIUMAKSHI PAINTER/FASHION DESIGNER



"Graffiti should not only be on walls, it should live forever on the human body. I therefore turn them into fashion that we can live by walking and breathing; hence the equation: Walls = People."

Deneth will create, with artist Da Cruz, a new collection inspired by his graffiti. Dancers will present the collection during a live graffiti session by Da Cruz and a beat boxing music performance by Julius Mitchell.



Deneth, painter and fashion designer from Kurunegala, Sri Lanka, has been showcasing her fashion worldwide, in Milan, Madrid, San Francisco. She comes from a family of artists, and has lived as a painter and art curator in Nepal, Bhutan and India for six years before she began fashion design.

She is known to be the first painter and fashion designer to use 'Cheeththa', the traditional Sri Lankan

printed cotton as a canvas for contemporary fashion when she presented a collection made with it at the 2011 "Ethical Fashion Show Paris".

In 2012, she won the Gen Next award for best designer at the Colombo Fashion Week and the same year, the *Institut Français* selected her for a six-month residence at the *Cité Internationale des Arts* in Paris.

When she came back to Sri Lanka in 2013, she showcased at the Colombo Fashion Week her new collection called "Kurunegala Rive-Gauche" inspired by French fashion culture and famous French designer Yves Saint Laurent.

www.denethpiuma.com | www.denethpiuma.blogspot.com

Thursday 4th
to Sunday 14th July 2013
@ Cinnamon Lakeside

PHOTOGRAPHY

MIRISSA TO BOUZIGUES

24 PHOTOGRAPHS BY **SENEKA ABEYRATNE**



Mirissa and Bouzigues are two scenic coastal villages respectively situated in southern Sri Lanka and the Languedoc-Roussillon region of southern France, respectively. Both rely heavily on fisheries and tourism for income generation. The fishing community of Mirissa engages primarily in coastal and deep-sea fishing while that of Bouzigues specializes in the production of top-quality oysters (Brand name: “Huître de Bouzigues”).

I hope that through these images one will get an idea of the contrasts as well as the similarities between the two fishing villages described above: one bordered by the Indian Ocean, the other by the Etang de Thau. Mirissa and Bouzigues differ vastly in terms of living standards, yet both possess an intrinsic charm as well as a natural beauty, which, as a photographer, the artist finds immensely appealing.

Seneka Abeyratne

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Seneka Abeyratne is a freelance economist, playwright, literary/arts critic, photographer, digital artist, and contemporary dance choreographer. He is the winner of the Gratiaen Prize (2006) and State Literary Award for Drama (2008). He has published four books to date, including a black and white village photography book (*Facets of Wewala*). His most recent work (2013) is a novel set in Sri Lanka (unpublished). He has held four solo photography digital art exhibitions to date: three in Sri Lanka and one in the South of France (Languedoc). *From Mirissa to Bouzigues* is his fifth.



FRENCH CUISINE

*Bon
Appetit!*

FRENCH **SPRING**
FESTIVAL IN SRI LANKA

1st to 14th of July 2013
@ The Dining Room,
Cinnamon Lakeside
Colombo



SPECIAL MEDITERRANEAN | GASTRONOMIC FRENCH FESTIVAL

By French Executive Chef **Martin Becquart** and Special Guest Chef **Julien Martello**

In celebration of Bastille Day, Cinnamon Lakeside's talented Executive Chef Martin Becquart is planning "Bon Appetit" the much-awaited gastronomic part of the French Spring Festival, from 1st to 14th July.

This year, the theme is the French Mediterranean Cuisine and Cinnamon Lakeside has invited Julien Martello, a distinguished French Chef from Marseille, the capital city of Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, to create famous delicacies like mouth-watering sea bass with fennel, lamb stew and prawn Provencal style, ratatouille and *socca* (chick peas galette), *pissaladière* (onion tart with anchovies) from Nice, grilled mackerel with virgin sauce, vegetables gratin in *tian* (earthenware dish), *panisse* (chickpea flour preparation), *tapenade* (black olive paste), delicious lemon tarts and *Tropézienne* cream bun.

"Bon Appetit!" will take place at the Dining Room restaurant, a venue celebrated in Colombo for its top-notch international cuisine. All recipes will be pork free.

Chef Martin Becquart started his career at *La Residence de la Pinède*, a three-star Michelin rated restaurant, in the glitzy St Tropez region and has earned certificates in classic cuisine in France. He then gained experience throughout the world - Uruguay, Argentina, Bahamas, Lebanon, West Indies, Morocco, Grece, New York and Hong Kong. Becquart spent the last 5 years as an Executive chef in the Far East - Sofitel Saigon Plaza, The Andaman Langkawi in Malaysia, Sofitel Macau and Cinnamon Lakeside since 2012. His culinary passion derives from his childhood, his mother being of a great influence in his interest in cooking.



Chef Julien Martello has earned certificates in classic and traditional Provencal cuisine in France and has spent his entire career so far in his hometown Marseille working in several gastronomic restaurants. He is also a pastry chef who has specialised in dessert and chocolate making.

For inquiries, please contact Cinnamon Lakeside, 011 249 10 00, lakeside@cinnamonhotels.com

BOOKS

Tuesday 2nd July 2013
6:30 pm @ BCIS auditorium,
BMICH



by Kumar de Silva

The Bonsoir French Television Programme presented by the Embassy of France in Sri Lanka enthralled Sri Lankan television audiences since July 1985.

It ran for twenty-five years and finally wound up in December 2010, leaving an indelible memory with the thousands who grew up with it.



Barely three years after Bonsoir's demise comes *'The Bonsoir Diaries'* from the pen of Kumar de Silva, one of its pioneers, who, together with his erstwhile colleagues Yasmin Rajapakse and Chintananda Abeysekera, created magic on the little screen during those early days of television.

Un-edited and un-plugged, *'The Bonsoir Diaries'*, a Samaranyake publication, is a cocktail of chapters, bursting at their seams, and, reveals everything you never saw on your favorite television show ... from the 80s ... through the 90s ... into 2000.

Kumar de Silva was decorated *'Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres'* by the Government of France in October last year, in recognition of his significant contribution to promoting French culture in Sri Lanka for more than a quarter of a century.

A Public Relations and Media Consultant, he previously worked at the Cultural Service of the Embassy of France in Colombo. Paris-trained, and an award-winning television personality, he is a founder member of the Alliance Francaise de Kotte.



A founder Trustee of the Dr. Lester James Peries and Sumitra Peries Foundation, he has also served on the Jury of the Sarasaviya Film Awards.

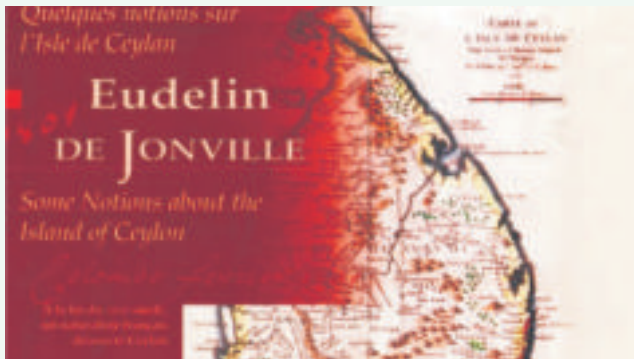


His previous publications were *'Lester by Lester'* and *'Irangani'*. He is currently working on his next book *'Sumitra'* celebrating the life and times of Sri Lanka's legendary woman filmmaker.

Some notions about the Island of Ceylon by Eudelin de Jonville

Launched at the
FRENCH SPRING
FESTIVAL 2012

Introduction, notes by Philippe Fabry. Biography of Jonville by Marie-Hélène Estève.



This book will be available during the presentation of Bonsoir Diaries on 2nd July 2013 at BMICH

This bilingual book, published by Viator, is the long awaited for publication of the French naturalist Jonville's 18th century manuscript, which he wrote when he accompanied the first English Governor to Ceylon.

It will be available on this occasion, as will Fabry's *Essential guides to Anuradaphura, Colombo* and the new revised edition to *Jaffna*.

Viator Publications, associated with Perera-Hussein Publishing House in Sri Lanka and Gingko Editions in France, works as a link between Sri Lanka and France, between French and English languages, between Sinhala and Tamil languages.

www.pererahussein.com



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SOCIO-ECO

Colombo, Thursday 4th July, 9.00 am to 5.00 pm
@ BCIS Auditorium, BMICH. (On invitation only)

URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Following the end of the war, the Sri Lankan government resuming its role as the engine of growth, continues to pursue, with the support of the international community and private investors, a vast programme to accelerate the development of physical infrastructure, while taking environmental factors into account.

These projects focus on several domains that are both priority areas and represent major needs of the country such as water distribution and sanitation, urban planning, solid waste management, land and air transport.

During the symposium, government agencies will present their plans and strategies, namely Ministry of Finance and Planning, Ministry of Defense and Urban Development, Ministry of Water and Drainage, Ministry of Transport, Ministry of Ports and Highways and the Colombo Municipal Council. French companies in Sri Lanka, including Vinci Grands Projets, Alstom, Véolia, SCP, Matière, Egis International, will also share their experience.

The different funding instruments available including the Reserve Emerging Countries (RPE), the Fund for studies and Private Sector Assistance (FASEP) and the new “green and inclusive growth” mandate of the French Development Agency (AFD) will be equally presented.

The purpose of the symposium is thus to provide a current picture of urban development in Sri Lanka and to elaborate on the future visions of the Sri Lankan Society on urban development.

The Sri Lanka France Business Council (SLFBC) is organizing this symposium in partnership with the Economic Service of the French Embassy in Colombo.



SCIENCE

FRENCH SPRING
FESTIVAL IN SRI LANKA

5th to 15th July 2013
@ BMICH BCIS

WATER AT THE HEART OF SCIENCE

EXHIBITION



The issue of water is one of the 21st century's greatest challenges. Abundant but unequally distributed on Earth, this resource is today threatened by climate change and is in danger of overuse. Improving access to water, which is still suffering from glaring disparities, is one of the Millennium Development Goals.

Moreover, the international community has set a goal of halving by 2015 the proportion of people living without safe drinking water and basic sanitation services and, since July 2010, access to them is recognized by the UN as a human right. Thus, the General Assembly proclaimed 2013 the "International Year of Cooperation in the Field of Water".

From Lake Chad to the Mekong, from the Mediterranean basin to the valleys of the Andes, the exhibition presents some of the major projects in French research on water. Richly illustrated and educational, it gives more insights into the key role that research has to play in the sustainable management of water as a vital, indispensable resource for development.



Water at the Heart of Science was produced by the Institute of Research for Development (IRD) and a French Science Centre with the support of the Institut Français. It is exhibited in partnership with BMICH, the International Water Management Institute (IWMI) and the French Agency for Development (AFD). It complements a symposium on sustainable urban development with the participation of several French companies involved in the sector of water, essential to improve the quality of life of the people of Sri Lanka.



Along with the exhibition is also a documentary movie.

A Thirsty World (La Soif du Monde)

by Yann Arthus Bertrand (2012) - 90'

Thursday 4th July @ 6 pm
@ BMICH BCIS

DOCUMENTARY MOVIE



"Will we be able to imagine a new culture of water?"

Yann Arthus-Bertrand

Filmed in some 20 countries, the documentary movie reveals the mysterious and fascinating world of fresh water through spectacular aerial images shot in regions that are difficult to reach and rarely filmed, like Southern Sudan or Northern Congo.

It lets us discover the most beautiful landscapes on our planet, created by water and, depicts as well the harsh, everyday reality of all those people who are deprived of water and may even die for lack of it; the people engaged in the daily struggle to find water, purify it or bring it to those who need it.

DANCE

Hybride

Friday 5th July 2013

7 pm @ Mihilaka Medura
BMICH

by Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai

Dance conference about the birth of a “Bharatemporary” solo.

This dance and talk “conférence-dansée” takes the audience to the very centre of the *Hybride* choreographic creation. It unveils the meandering experiences and contemplations of a dancer in search of an expression emanating from two very different schools: Contemporary dance and Bharata Natyam. Celine calls her dance style ‘Bharatemporary’ which is a fusion of Bharata Natyam and contemporary dance with elements of western classical style.



I have set the basis of choreographic reflexion on the theme of identity. Listening to my natal roots, I take the mudras from Bharata Natyam and incorporate them in my contemporary form. My intention is not to create anything new. I am not trying to do a revolution through my dance. It is more intimate. It is my attempt to connect with both the cultures. It is my personal quest.”

Céline Pradeu-Kanagasabai, is an Indo-French choreographer and dancer.

Born to a French mother and a father of Sri Lankan origin, she began to dance at the age of five with the ballet dance in the Conservatoire National Régional (CNR) of Nantes in France. In 1996, she started to learn contemporary dance in the Conservatory of Paris. Thereafter in 1999, she started to learn contemporary dance in the Conservatory of Paris. She introduced to her work, other styles like the Flamenco and the Persian dances. She also decided to learn Bharata Natyam, because of her origins.



www.celinepradeu.fr

BOOKS

22nd and 23rd August 2013
Matara, Colombo



‘Ethnicity, Politics and Cinema in Sri Lanka’

From global to 'gama'
casting a celluloid mould
for Sinhala cinema (1900-1967)

by Vilasnee Tampoe-Hautin

Vilasnee Tampoe-Hautin is Senior Lecturer at the University of La Réunion, the French University in the Indian Ocean, where she obtained her PhD in British and Commonwealth studies. Her research focuses on the history of Sri Lankan cinema, its genesis and evolution during British colonization. She is the author of numerous articles and books written in English and in French.



Her forthcoming publication, *Ethnicity, Politics and Cinema in Sri Lanka (1900-1967)*. From global to gama, casting a celluloid mould from Sinhala

cinema published in Colombo by Tower Hall Publications addresses the question of the structuring of a Sinhala-language cinema within the context of a South Indian, Tamil and Muslim dominated film industry in colonial and post-independent Sri Lanka.



Ethnicity, Politics and Cinema in Sri Lanka is the outcome of research carried out over a period of five years between 2004 and 2009 in a difficult context, that of the recent civil war. The book deals with questions of identity and their reflection in the field of Sri Lankan and Indian cinema.

CINEMA

French Film Festival

Thursday 11th July 2013, 6.00 pm

@ Committee Room B, BMICH (on invitation only)

Friday 12th & Saturday 13th July, 4.00 pm, 6:30 pm

@ BCIS Auditorium, BMICH

5 movies are on the programme. The festival will open with the critically acclaimed “Flying Fish” by Sanjeewa Pushpakumara which took part at the 3 Continents International Film Festival in Nantes, France, in 2011 and had the honor, this year, of a special screening at the Cinémathèque française in Paris, one of the temples of cinema. Besides, Sanjeewa Pushpakumara’s short film “Unforgiven” was selected for Cannes International Film Festival in May. He is currently in Paris preparing his new feature film “Burning Birds”.

The four French movies presented are all recent and box-office hits in France, being shown for the first time in Sri Lanka.

Along with the exhibition Water at the Heart of Science, a selection of short movies made by Agenda 14 on the theme of water will precede each film.

| PROGRAMME | 4.00 PM | 6:30 PM |
|--|---------------------|---------------------------------|
| THURSDAY 11th JULY Committee room B - BMICH (opening, on invitation only) | | Flying Fish |
| FRIDAY 12th JULY BCIS Auditorium, BMICH | The Tree | The Minister |
| SATURDAY 13th JULY BCIS Auditorium, BMICH | The Painting | The Snows of Kilimanjaro |



Flying Fish by Sanjeewa Pushpakumara (2011) - 125'

Three stories set up during the Sri Lankan civil war. A young girl is harassed at school by Tamil Tigers who demand monetary “donations” that her family cannot afford to pay. A soldier impregnates an unmarried lovelorn woman. When he abandons her, the girl and her father struggle to endure the shame. A widow, mother of eight children longing for male companionship, mistakes a well-to-do villager’s questionable benevolence towards her family as love. Tragedy strikes when her teenage son discovers the affair.

*Best Asian Cinematographer 2011, Asian Film Awards, Hong Kong
Best Asian Film, NETPAC award, Bengaluru International Film Festival 2011.*



The Tree (L'Arbre) by Julie Bertucelli (2010) – 100'

Dawn and Peter O'Neil live together with their children, on the outskirts of a small country town. Next to their rambling house stands the kids' favorite playground: a giant tree, whose branches reach high towards the sky and roots stretch far into the ground. Everything seems perfect until Peter suffers a heart attack, crashing his car into the tree's trunk. Dawn is devastated, left alone with her grief and four children to raise. Until one day, 8-year-old Simone, reveals a secret to her mother. She's convinced her father whispers to her through the leaves of the tree and has come back to protect them.

*Nominated Best Actress in a leading role, Best Adaptation, Best Music - Cesar 2011
Out of competition - Cannes International Film Festival 2010*



The Minister (L'Exercice de l'Etat) by Pierre Schoeller (2011) – 112'

Transport Minister Bertrand Saint-Jean is awoken in the night by his chief of staff. A bus has fallen into a ravine. He must go on site, he has no choice. Thus, begins the odyssey of a statesman in an increasingly complex and hostile world. Speed, power struggles, chaos, economic crisis ... Everything connects and conflicts. One emergency chases another. For which sacrifices are men ready? How far will they keep on going, in a State that devours those who serve it?

*Officially selected in Un certain Regard section –
Cannes International Film Festival 2011*



The Painting (Le Tableau) by Jean François Laguioni (2011) – 76'

A château, flowering gardens, a threatening forest, that is, for mysterious reasons, a Painter has left incomplete. Three kinds of characters live in this painting: the Toupins, who are entirely painted, the Pafinis, who lack a few colors, and the Reufs, who are only sketches. Considering themselves superior, the Toupins take over power, chase the Pafinis from the château, and enslave the Reufs. Convinced that only the Painter can restore harmony by finishing the painting, three characters, Ramo, Lola, and Plume, each of them member of one of the three communities, decided to go on search for him.

Nomination for Cesar of best animation movie – Cesar French awards 2012



The Snows of Kilimanjaro (Les Neiges du Kilimandjaro)

by Robert Guédiguian (2011) – 107'

Despite having lost his job, Michel lives happily with Marie-Claire. These two have been together for thirty years. They have very close friends. They are proud of their union and political struggles. This happiness is deeply affected when two young armed and masked men beat them, tie them up, tear off their wedding rings, and flee with their credit cards. Their distress is even more brutal when they learn that this wild attack was organized by one of the young co-workers just laid off with Michel.

Best Actress in a leading role - Cesar 2011

Officially selected in Un certain Regard section – Cannes International Film Festival 2011

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Highly qualified teachers conduct classes all 7 days at convenient times for students. Most of these teachers had been trained in France and each year they follow training programmes in Sri Lanka conducted by French language experts coming from France.

For fees, timetables, venues, please contact the respective Alliance (see contact details on previous page or visit www.alliancefrkotte.lk)

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| A2 | DELF A2 | |
| B1 | DELF B1 | INDEPENDENT |
| B2 | DELF B2 | |
| C1 | DALF C1 | PROFICIENT |
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French Language Diploma

DAL F Diplôme approfondi en langue française
Advanced French Language Diploma

DEL F J' Diplôme d'études en langue française pour enfants
French Language Diploma for secondary school children

TE F Test d'Évaluation de Français CCP
French proficiency test by the Paris Chamber of Commerce

TEFAQ Le Test d'Évaluation de Français adapté au Québec
French Evaluation Test adapted for Quebec

TC F Test de connaissance du français
French proficiency test by the French Ministry of Education

TCFQ Test de connaissance du français pour le Québec
French language Test for Quebec

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Scheduled DELF-DALF examination calendar of Alliance française network in Sri Lanka (for the Maldives, consult the centre directly)

| | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------|
| DEL F junior | DEL F A1 DEL F A2 | 24th August |
| DEL F-DAL F tout public | DEL F B1 DEL F B2 DAL F C1 DAL F C2 | 13th December |
| DEL F-DAL F tout public | DEL F A1 DEL F A2 | 14th December |

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ALLIANCE FRANÇAISE MULTIMEDIA LIBRAIRIES NETWORK

*Le paradis, à n'en pas douter, n'est qu'une immense bibliothèque.
[Paradise, no doubt, is a huge library.] Gaston Bachelard*

Alliance française multimedia libraries network is the project to bring together the Alliance française network in Sri Lanka and the Maldives representing 6 librairies, meaning 14,000 documents in French or about France, the French language, the francophone world in a variety of media: newspapers, magazines, books, DVDs with subtitles and specific numeric resources accessible on tablet.

Our libraries-cum-resource centres are particularly meant for students of French language looking for pedagogical documents, such as:

- language workbooks with audio-visual aid (audio books),
- easy-reading books,
- oral comprehension CDs; auto-evaluation exercises,
- on-line pedagogical resources,
- preparatory books for official exams (DELFL, DALF).

Alliance Française de Kandy - Molière room

4,700 documents

Strong points: novels, audio books, French movies, and comics.

Library activities: A book sale is organized in every April.

Timings: Tuesday to Saturday 9.30 am to 5.00 pm

Contact person: Ms Uthpala Samarakoon, +94 81 222 44 32

Alliance Française de Kotte in Colombo

1,300 documents

Strong points: art, literature, science, management, technology, history, news magazines, French TV channel TV5, Internet access.

Library activities: Workshops on Francophone stories and tales are conducted once a week.

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Alliance Française de Matara

1,200 documents

Strong Points: novels, teaching methods, periodicals, newspapers, dictionaries, encyclopaedia, children's story books, French books for A/L and DELF exams.

Library activities: reading workshops for school students and book-exhibitions.

Library timings: everyday except Friday from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm

Contact Person: Ms Chathurika Galagamage, +94 041 223 20 60



Alliance Française de Galle Annexe de l'AF de Matara

800 documents

Strong points: novels, children books.

Library Timing: Monday to Saturday 9.00 am to 4.30 pm.

Contact Person: Ms Oshini Jayasundara, +94 71 535 9406



Alliance Française de Malé

800 documents

Strong Points: novels, comic books, theatre, poetry, travel guides, arts books, and Internet access.

Library activities: Poems were recited by children of Ghiyasuddin International School at the 15th "Printemps des Poètes" (Spring of Poets)

Timing: Sunday to Thursday from 10.00 am to 6.00 pm.

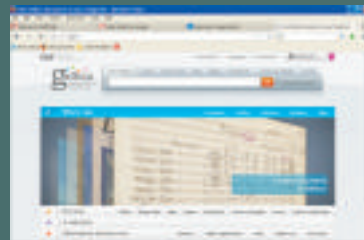
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TWO INTERESTING LINKS ABOUT BOOKS



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Bibliography about Sri Lanka in French language-
from 14th Century up to now.



<http://gallica.bnf.fr/>
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- French is one of the six working languages of the UN and one of the three in EU institutions.

1 out of every 3 French doctoral degrees is awarded to a student from outside France.

FRENCH HIGHER EDUCATION IN FRANCE - a constant national investment

France's higher education system is one of the most efficient in the world. Moreover, it is also open to all.

French institutions figure prominently in the Shanghai Classification of Universities, in the ranking of the Financial Times and Times Higher, and in the European report on Science and Technologies published by the European Commission.

The French government makes substantial investments in education and research. In fact, with 20% of its budget, the education sector represents the most important investment to keep it attractive and competitive.

The world's fifth largest economy, France proves also to be the fourth most popular destination for international students and remains committed to its long-standing policy of equal treatment for domestic and international students. Tuition fees at French institutions are identical for all students and, regardless of their origin. Every one of them enjoys the same benefits (health insurance coverage, housing assistance, etc.).

In France, students enjoy a real quality of life thanks to the special advantages given to their status in an unrivalled and dynamic cultural environment at the crossroads of Europe.

CAMPUS FRANCE -a French higher education promoter

Promoting French higher education and professional training abroad is a critical aspect of the mission of Campus France, a French government agency. Campus France helps prospective students to explore their interest of studying in France, identify suitable programs and comply with visa regulations and other administrative requirements.

CURRICULUM - a normalised environment

French higher education employs the "LMD" system -license, master and doctorate - designed to facilitate student mobility within Europe and around the world.

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The Campus France catalogue of post-secondary programs includes nearly 750 programs taught in English in almost all disciplines.

http://www.campusfrance.org/sites/default/files/domaines_taughtie_en2013.jpg

Thus, for recruiting foreign students, France has become the first destination among countries where English is not the mother tongue of the population.

Therefore, French language fluency is no longer needed to study in France although French Language courses are included in the program, which becomes an additional asset in an international career since it paves the way to 75 French speaking countries.

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CINEMA

SUMMER PROGRAMME

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The illusionist (L'illusionniste) by Sylvain Chomet (2010 – 77')

The Illusionist is one of a dying breed of stage

entertainers. With emerging rock stars stealing his thunder in the late 1950s, he is forced to accept increasingly obscure assignments in fringe theatres, at garden parties and in bars and cafés. Then, while performing in a village pub off the west coast of Scotland, he encounters Alice, an innocent young girl, who will change his life forever.

Best Animated Film - César Awards 2011



Pickpocket by Robert Bresson (1959 – 77')

Director Robert Bresson chose non-actor Martin La Salle for his leading man in Pickpocket. La Salle's inexperience works against the film for some viewers, though Bresson himself was satisfied because his star proved himself a quick study in the art of lifting wallets. Essentially, the story is a character study of a cocky young criminal who becomes so entranced by the act of picking pockets that he literally can't stop himself.

Nominated Berlin Film Festival Golden Bear 1959

My favorite season (Ma saison préférée) by André Téchiné (1993-125') Family matriarch Berthe is advancing in years and developing health problems, so she goes to live with her daughter Emilie. Emilie is a cold, fifty-something professional, who lives in a large upper-class home in Toulouse. She shares her life with husband Bruno, daughter Anne, and her adopted son Lucien. When Christmas arrives, Emilie's troubled brother Antoine arrives at the house for a visit.

Nominated Cannes Film Festival Golden Palm 1993 - Nominated César Awards Best Film 1994



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