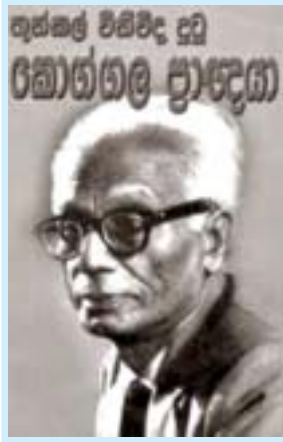


SINHALA CINEMA
with Chinthaka Fernando

Madol Duwa for the second time



Madol Duwa, a novel by Sri Lanka's most prominent writer Martin Wickramasinghe will be produced as a film for the second time. The production agreement was signed recently at the Martin Wickramasinghe Trust Centre.

Dr.Ranga Wickramasinghe and Wasantha Wickramasinghe representing the Trust and Mahil R.Perera representing Dreams Magic Entertainment, the production company, signed the agreement.

Thilanka Perera, a 20 year old graphic designer is directing the latest version of Madol Duwa. Thilanka took to cinema when he was just 12 years old and now he is looking forward to direct this movie with eight years of experience in hand.

He is a specialist in digital designing and the latest digital technology, which is being used in the productions of developed countries, will be widely used in this production. Special effects will be used especially to re-create the settings of the novel based in the 1930s. The film will be produced with cinemascope and D. T.S. Sound Technology.

Thilanka an old Royalist will be in charge of the directing and the editing of the film whereas the screenplay and the cinematography are by Mahil R. Perera. Musician Navarathna Gamage will compose the music. Special effects, which is one of the main features of the film, is done by Siddhartha Nayananda and the digital animation is by Athali De Silva.

Wasantha Kumar Kobawaka is the lyricist of the film. Kavinda Ranaweera will assist in camera direction and Thilak Adhikari will be assisting in scriptwriting of the film.

The cast comprise of veteran Joe Abewickrama, Milton Jayawardena, Jayalath Manorathna, Sriyantha Mendis and few child actors.

Madol Duwa was first filmed by the doyen of Sinhala cinema Dr. Lester James Pieris in 1976 and it was later produced as a tele drama by Sudath Devapriya in 1992.

Asst. Director awarded Kala Bhooshana

Veteran film assistant director Anton Gregory was accorded the prestigious Kala Bhooshana title by Media Minister Anura Priyadharshana Yapa recently.



His cinema career spans over 40 years. He holds a record in the industry as the assistant director who has handled the most number (40) of films.

Gregory has worked as an assistant director under numerous prominent film directors such as M.Masthan, Gamin Fonseka, Lenin Moraes, Neil Rupasinghe, Titus Totawatte, Timothy Weerathna, Daya Wimalaweera and Jacob Selvarathnam.

Film on The Road From Elephant Pass



Gratian award winning book, *The Road From Elephant Pass* of Nihal De Silva, who recently died in the Wilpattu explosion, will be produced as a film.

Veteran film producer Chandran Rutnam will produce the film.

The Far Spent Day, Ginerella Conspiracy and the *Tales Of Paduma* are the other books of late Nihal De Silva.

Buddha Puthra becomes Dharma Puthra



The name of the film *Buddha Puthra* directed by Louis Vandestraten has been changed to *Dharma Puthra*. The National Film Corporation earlier didn't approve the film due to its name.

The film will be released in the MPI circuit cinemas under its new name shortly.

The cast of the film comprises of Vasantha Kumarawila, Anusha Damayanathi, Buddhika Rambukwella, Nimal Sumanasekara, Dayananda Jayawardena, Raja Fernando, Vimal Jayakody, Janaki De Silva, Aravinda Irugalbandara and Hemantha Rathnakumara.

Screen test for Madol Duwa

Selection of child actors and actresses for the film *Madol Duwa* will take place on Friday, June 16, at the Tharangani Hall of National Film Corporation (NFC), Bauddhaloka Mawatha, Colombo 7.



Director of the film Thilanka Perera invites prospective children between 10-18 years of age to be present with their guardian for a screen test from 10 a.m to 2 p.m.

Art director passes away



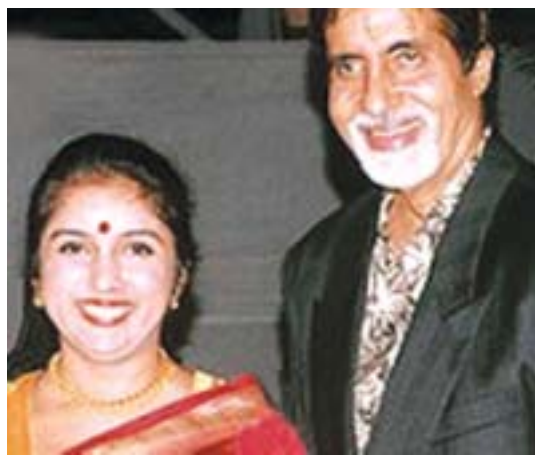
Art Director of the film *Hantane Kathawa*, Pushpananda Weerasinghe passed away recently. Weerasinghe was a veteran artist and sculptor. He also played a role in the film *Hantane Kathawa*. The cremation took place in Veyangoda.

Amitabh and Revathy together again

After an uninspiring *Dil Jo Bhi Kahey* where Amitabh Bachchan and Revathy starred together as a couple, the two would now be seen soon in Ram Gopal Verma's *Nishabd*!

characterisation of these two vastly talented actors who couldn't salvage DJBK inspite of trying their best.

Nishabd stars now comer Jia as Big B's love interest and its shooting is over. The post production of the film is on and the film should be ready for release soon, hence making it one of the quickest films shot by Ram Gopal Verma and Amitabh Bachchan.



Will Akshay-Bipasha ever have a happy ending?

We remember talking about this before the release of *Humko Deewana Kar Gaye* but can't help talking about this again as *Phir Hera Pheri* releases today.

Aankhen — the two sing a song and dance around the trees. But that doesn't release in a life time bonding as Bipasha ditches him after he loses his eyes in a bus accident.

Are you aware that on the screen, Akshay Kumar and Bipasha Basu have never been able to unite with their relationship culminating into a happy ending? One look at the films that have featured the two and you would get the picture:

Ajnabee — the two are very much in love but their villainous acts result in a kiss of death, too early too soon! Perhaps their characters met in heaven.

Phir Hera Pheri — the two are there in the film but Bipasha is paired opposite Suneil Shetty. There is a song *Dil De Diya* pictured on the hot pair though! *Humko Deewana Kar Gaye* — the two are engaged at the very beginning but entry of Katrina into Akshay's life changes his priorities. Result? It's Akshay-Katrina to take the *saath-phas!*

Phir Hera Pheri — the two are there in the film but Bipasha is paired opposite Suneil Shetty. There is a song *Dil De Diya* pictured on the hot pair though! *Humko Deewana Kar Gaye* — the two are engaged at the very beginning but entry of Katrina into Akshay's life changes his priorities. Result? It's Akshay-Katrina to take the *saath-phas!*

Bollywood

Suneil Shetty prefers PHP over CCK



There are number of common factors between this week's releases *Phir Hera Pheri* and *Chup Chup Ke* and one of them is the presence of Suneil Shetty.

When asked to comment over his preference amongst the two flicks, he smiled and said that it was a tricky question. He mentioned that both the films were pretty close to his heart but if he was to be forced to pick one of the two, he would say *Phir Hera Pheri* closely followed by *Chup Chup Ke*.

That's because PHP has a sequel factor due to which he wanted to check out how it had turned up in the final cut. He was also appreciative about his role of Kareena's big brother in *Chup Chup Ke* where he plays a character who could give his life away in the best interests of his sister.

Meet the uncle, oops, Bhoot Uncle!

Wanna meet the friendliest uncle in the entire town? And that too an entity which is not a human being, but a friendly neighbourhood ghost, popularly known as *Bhoot Uncle* That's the character which Jackie Shroff



plays in his upcoming children's film *Bhoot Uncle*. And this is the

brief synopsis of the film—One innocent little boy, four notorious kids, a ghost, a sacred statue, and the adventure begins. No wonder, *Bhoot Uncle* is touted as the most happening children's film this summer as it eyes a July release!

TAMIL FILMS

Prabhu Deva debuts as a director



The remake of the blockbuster *Pokiri* (Telugu movie) in Tamil will have actor and choreographer Prabhu Deva wielding the megaphone. It is going to have actor Vijay as the hero in the film.

This will be the debut of Prabhu Deva as a director in the Tamil film industry.

Rathinam oozes confidence



Bheema is one of the big films in Tamil now. Directed by Linguswamy, produced by A. M. Rathinam, *Bheema* has Vikram playing the hero. The film has been in the news for all the wrong reasons.

First Nana Patekar was cast amidst high fanfare. But the temperamental Bollywood star walked out of the project, demanding around two crores for the role.

After that setback, Prakash Raj was roped in to play that role. Amidst this, there were persistent rumours that the film had been dropped by the producer owing to financial troubles.

A.M. Rathinam's Telugu flick *Bangharam* has nosedived, putting him under financial stress, industry hands said, while giving reasons for *Bheema* being shelved.

Hasselhoff and Pamela Bach celebrate daughter's b'day



Estranged couple David Hasselhoff and soon-to-be ex-wife Pamela Bach reportedly put their differences aside and came together to celebrate their daughter Taylor Ann's 16th birthday.

Sadly, the goodwill didn't last long. After spending \$30,000 to rent out a private Hollywood club for the shin-dig, hiring a DJ, limo, caterers and *aura* reader for 60 friends, not to mention the \$70,000 white Range Rover they gave Taylor as a gift, the

parents began bickering over who was going to pay for all that lavishness.

According to *The Globe*, "David complained that he didn't have a good time and that he got tired of spending the evening trying to get the boys to invite the girls to dance."

"He told Pam the whole thing was her idea and she should foot the entire bill, even though they'd agreed earlier to split all costs concerning their two daughters."

Hatcher reveals Hollywood misery

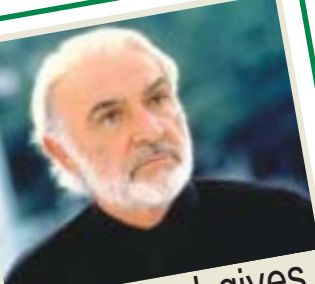
Teri Hatcher revealed how she was frantically in need of a job before landing her *Desperate Housewives* role.

The actress — speaking on *Friday Night With Jonathan Ross* — also told him about the misery of women in Hollywood.

"I was practically begging for a job, I really needed it," she said of one failed audition. "I didn't get it, I cried for 18 hours — I was desperate."

"There's this illusion we feel so great — I wanted to admit in my new book that we women in Hollywood put on extra hair, shove our feet into shoes that don't fit."

The star — who also told Ross she was wearing no underwear for the interview — added: "There are a lot of women where there are parts that aren't satisfied. As you gain confidence you are less sensitive about what other people think. That's played itself out in my life."

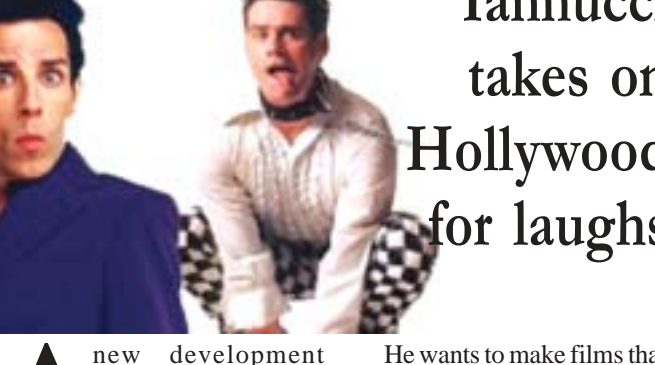


Hollywood gives Connery lifetime-achievement nod

Kelly has pleaded not guilty to 14 counts of child pornography. Prosecutors claim the videotape was made some time during a nearly three-year span between January, 1998, and October, 2000, when the girl may have been as young as 13. Hollywood's elite paid tribute to Sean Connery, who received the American Film Institute's annual Lifetime-Achievement Award.

Directors Steven Spielberg and George Lucas and actors Harrison Ford, Andy Garcia and Mike Myers were among the stars who cheered on the legendary actor at the ceremony held at the Kodak Theatre on Thursday night.

Hollywood



Iannucci takes on Hollywood for laughs

A new development comes as comedy pictures in Hollywood have had to be axed by studios because they have become so expensive. The Jim Carrey and Ben Stiller project *Used Guys* had to be ditched recently after costs went over the \$100-million mark. Iannucci has been quoted as saying "I don't want to make films that could just as easily have gone on telly."

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie thank Namibia

Brad Pitt, Angelina Jolie and their three children will be moving back to Malibu, and the word is they're already back in the USA. The \$9 million Malibu estate has been buzzing with workers. They're finishing off the security system, which includes an elaborate set of cameras pointing in every direction reports TMZ. TMZ was told that a white van arrived at the house and delivered a "massive amount of liquor." As one eyewitness says, it was "magnums of everything." The word from the crew is that the famous couple and their kids are arriving this weekend. A cleaning crew has been working feverishly this week and construction workers have been there seven days a week. On Wednesday, in a video interview from Namibia, Angelina Jolie talks at some length about her incredible experience in Africa — Brad, not so much. "I'd just like to thank the people of Namibia," Pitt said, according to an excerpt from AP Television News. "They've been so gracious and made our stay here very special, and because of that we've had an incredible time with our family exploring the country, and (had) a truly peaceful birth of our daughter." Jolie, wearing a black dress, called their visit "an amazing adventure."



Movie world with Jamila Najmuddin and Arthur Wamanan