

SINHALA CINEMA  
with Chinthaka Fernando

**Superstar due for release**

**S**uper Star, the latest film of A.A.Junaideen will be released to the public on October 15. It will be released in the FLD theatre circuit including Ritz Cinema, Borella.

A special feature of this film is that it has entirely been shot in India, in a small hamlet called Akkadu. The cast of *Superstar* comprises Sanath Gunathilake, Kanchana Mendis, Ananda Athukorala, Manjula Thilini and Dilanga Mendis. Manjula and Dilanga make their debut on the silver screen with this film.

There are few more significant debuts in this film. Ishak Beg makes his debut as a vocalist and Jayantha Rathnayake makes his debut as a film music director. It is significant that the fathers of both of them are renowned figures in the film music industry — late Al Haj Mohideen Beg and Victor Rathnayake. Geetha Kokilawiya, Latha Walpola and Sangeeth Wickramasinge also sing in the film in addition to Ishak. Chandradasa Fernando is the lyricist.

Lalith M.Thomas is the cinematographer while Kumarasiri De Silva handles the editing. Art direction is by Keerthi Ruwan Lalson and Upul Mahanama is the make up artist.

**Ralex Ranasinghe passes away**

**R**alex Ranasinghe, a multi-faceted veteran artist passed away last week at the age of 72. He was an extremely gifted photographer, film critique, art director, painter, creative director and brother of veteran actor Tony Ranasinghe.

Ralex studied at St.Lucia's College, Kotahena. After his student days he joined the *Gnanartha Pradeepa* newspaper as a sub editor.

He then moved to Lake House as a photographer and later became a feature photographer in the *Daily Mirror* newspaper. His creativity spanned the newspapers, the theatre and the silver screen. Even though he couldn't accomplish his life long dream of directing a film his film posters and advertising campaign contributed immensely in taking the films to the general public. His contributions were significant in films like *Ahasin Polowata*, *Sihina Hathak*, *Delowak Athara*, *Duhulu Malak*, *Ransalu*, *Madol Doowa*, *Yuganthaya*, *Palama Yata* and *Bithithi Hathara*.

It is also Ralex who should be credited for introducing Tony to cinema. Even the design of the OCIC film award is by Ralex. It is Fr.Earnest Poruthota who identified Ralex as a "cinematic thinker."

**Ammawarune gets high acclaim**

**D**r.Lester James Pieris's latest film *Ammawarune*, the opening entry of the 16th Fukuoka Film Festival, Japan, has received high acclaim. Apart from verbal acclamations, Japan had undertaken to preserve this great master piece for the next 600 years in honour of its creator.

The chairman of the festival, Tadao Sato had said. "The film has just been completed and Fukuoka will be it's world premiere. It is a beautiful and elevated piece of work depicted through the eyes of Sri Lankan Buddhism — a mother's ardent emotions towards her son in a time of civil war."



Sumithra Pieris, film's producer Jagath Wijenaike, and two actors in the film Roshan Pilapitiya and Asoka De Soya represented the film at the Fukuoka a Film Festival held in Japan from September 15-24.

**Chinese action for Rambukwella**



**B**uddhika Rambukwella, actor and Guinness record holder, has received an excellent acting opportunity.

He has been offered to act in a Chinese film after a Chinese film director witnessed his driving skills. Buddhika has a Guinness record to his credit by reverse driving a car for a long distance. A Chinese film director had seen this and he had selected Buddhika for his latest action film.

**Vijaya Kumaratunga commemorated**

**T**he 61st birth anniversary of popular actor late Vijaya Kumaratunga was celebrated island wide by hundreds of thousands of Vijaya Kumaratunga fans. Vijaya who was born on October 9,1945 was assassinated by JVP gunmen in 1988, breaking down the hearts of thousands of his fans who literally followed him like a god.



Kovilage Vijaya Anton Kumaratunaga was born in Seeduwa and received his education at St. Benedict's College, Kotahena and De Mazenod College, Kandana. His exceptional looks did contribute to his popularity but those who associated him are of the idea that Vijaya's humility attracted people most. He won the award for the most popular actor six times in a row.

Films like *Ahas Gawwa*, *Bambaru Awith*, *Para Dige*, *Podi Malli*, *Kedapathaka Chaya*, *Mahagedara* and *Karumakkarayo* could be cited as films which carried his best performances. He had a husky voice which helped him to become a renowned singer apart from his acting.

**"Shiney Lambi Race Ka Ghoda Hai," says Sush**

**S**hiney lambi race ka ghoda hai," said Sushmita Sen at the press conference prior to the release of her film *Zindaggi Rocks*. Sushmita is playing a rock-star in the film.

The story is touted to be an emotional one for she has an adopted son and a doctor boyfriend (played by Shiney).

Dressed casually in a full-sleeves white t-shirt and faded blue jeans, Sush was radiant even without any makeup.

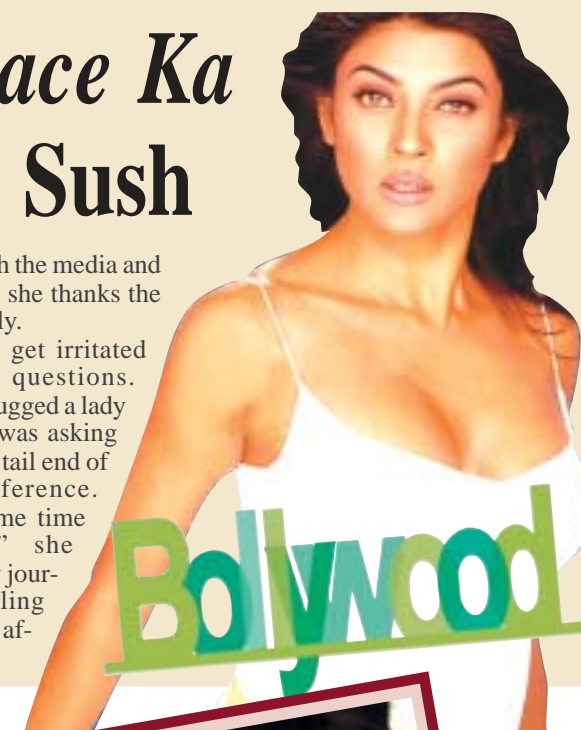
Music director Anu Malik and producer Anuradha Prasad were also present at the function. Sushmita is

very patient with the media and makes sure that she thanks the media graciously.

She doesn't get irritated with difficult questions.

Moreover she hugged a lady journalist who was asking questions at the tail end of the press conference.

"Jaaneman, some time later please," she cooed. The lady journalist was smiling ear to ear there after.



**Himesh turning into an actor?**

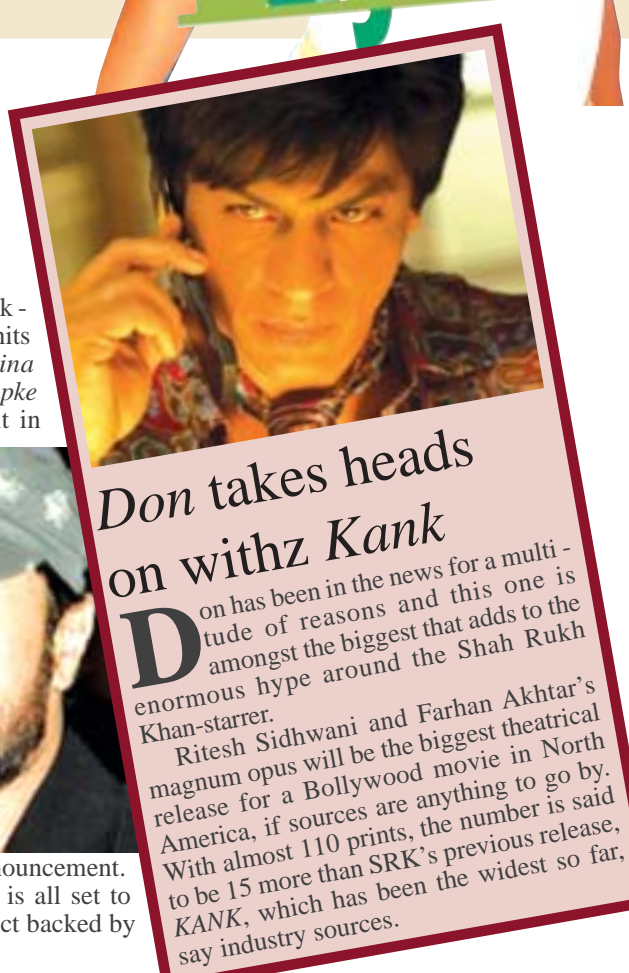
**H**imesh Reshammiya is a busy man. After making a rocking start to the year 2006 with hits like *Humko Deewana Kar Gaye*, *36 China Town*, *Aksar*, *Tom*, *Dick* and *Harry*, *Hera Pheri*, *Chupke Chupke* and *Ahista Ahista* his magic waned a bit in *Anthony Kaun Hai*, *Rocky* and *Dil Diya Hai*. And then he went for a month long concert tour to US which is being termed as hugely successful.

The latest buzz on the man-with-the-cap is that he is all set to make a big announcement. *IndiaGlitz* had earlier reported as to how full page adds had appeared in all the national dailies about Reshammiya making a big announcement. If the rumour mill is to be believed then Himesh is all set to launch his acting career with an international project backed by super players in the entertainment world.



**Don takes heads on withz Kank**

**D**on has been in the news for a multitude of reasons and this one is amongst the biggest that adds to the enormous hype around the Shah Rukh Khan-starrer. Ritesh Sidhwani and Farhan Akhtar's magnum opus will be the biggest theatrical release for a Bollywood movie in North America, if sources are anything to go by. With almost 110 prints, the number is said to be 15 more than SRK's previous release, *KANK*, which has been the widest so far, say industry sources.



**"I am not nervous" - Anjana Sukhani**

**L**ead pair of *Jaana - Let's Fall In Love* were in Delhi on a whirlwind tour for the promotion of their film that releases this Friday.

Rehan Khan and Anjana Sukhani interacted with the media and were visibly happy and excited to see their film hitting the marquee. In spite of huge competition (at least quantitatively) with as many as 11 films coming together on Octo-

ber 11th, neither Rehan nor Anjana were unperturbed. They felt that the content of *Jaana - Let's Fall In Love* had enough meat to take their movie past the finishing line.

When asked whether there were any nervous pangs, Rehan honestly admitted, "Yes, a lot! This is my first film and I can't explain how eager I am to witness the audience seeing me on the big screen. I can hardly count the number of hours left for the D day."



TAMIL FILMS  
**Vivek - A big heart**



**N**ormally when two persons compete for the same slot you expect a lot of acrimony. These days there is a race for the top comedian status between Vivek and Vadivelu.

Both are different types of comedians and both have their own unique style. Vivek and Vadivelu have also one thing in common. They both hail from Madurai.

Though there is honest competition between them, there is no bitter rivalry.

Vivek has in fact on many occasions shown his big heart by openly appreciating Vadivelu.

**Pooja — The right cut**



**A**mong the young crop of actresses, it is Pooja who has caught the eye with her smartness.

The beautiful young girl is widely described as having the right figure among the actresses in Tamil cinema now. She is tall, curvaceous and has the right looks. Such a beautiful figure deserves the right kind of dress.

Pooja, who is well educated and knows the tastes of the modern-day youngsters, is not ready to take any chances with her designer.

The smart girl, who knows more than a thing or two in the fashion industry (she was model coordinator before becoming an actress), designs her own outfits. By this Pooja ensures that she gets what she has in mind and also does not overexpose.

**Aniston and Vaughn split?**

Movie world with Arthur Wamanan and Warren Balthazaar

**T**he romance between Jennifer Aniston and Vince Vaughn is over, according to press reports in the U.S. After a year of refusing to officially confirm whether or not they were even dating, the couple reportedly decided to call it quits when Vaughn left last month to begin filming in England.

A source close to Vaughn tells publication *US Weekly*, the couple broke-up the week of September 9 before he left to shoot the holiday comedy *Joe Claus*.

Vaughn told the source on September 13, "It's

not common knowledge, but we're not together anymore. We've split up." Vaughn then added that they solidified the breakup in a long phone conversation.

A friend close to Aniston confirms the two are no longer together adding, "They're 100 percent done." The relationship reportedly began to unravel soon after Vaughn proposed to the star June 27 while flying back from a holiday in Mexico.

Sources claim Vaughn was uncomfortable with media attention that the relationship had attracted.

The couple co-starred in the hit film *The Break Up* last year, and were first spotted kissing at a wrap party for the movie in August 2005 in Chicago, Illinois.



**Clone Wars: next year**

**D**irector George Lucas last week announced a cartoon *Star Wars* television series called *Clone Wars* is likely to screen next year—although the movie actors will not voice their animated counterparts.

Lucas confirmed the show will follow on from the events in the Emmy-winning *Clone Wars* that aired between 2003 and 2005.

However, the new series will have 3-D computer graphics and will see the Republic fighting a civil war against separatists led by Count Dooku.

Lucas said, "It's a fun place to go. It basically has all



**Paris dates yet again**

**A**fter dating billionaire Greek heirs, rockers and actors, hotel heiress Paris Hilton reportedly has a new man in her life — tennis champion Andy Roddick.

The couple were spotted flirting at Las Vegas' trendy Tao nightclub recently, and were also seen getting hot and heavy on the VIP bed in Vegas' Pure nightclub.

A source revealed that the two were "clearly a couple" and that while the *Stars Are Blind* singer was getting "very touchy-feely," Roddick on the other hand, just "couldn't keep his eyes off her."

"They were snuggling up to each other while drinking Grey Goose vodka and shots of Patron. They were clearly a couple. She was very touchy-feely and he couldn't keep his eyes off her."



**Hollywood**

**The Game, wants to end rift with 50**



**R**apper The Game urged 50 Cent to end their long-standing rift, during a radio interview in New York last week. The two hip-hop stars fell out last year after The Game spoke out in favour of 50 Cent's rap rivals, and the pair have been feuding ever since.

However, following 50 Cent's high profile reconciliation with Sean Combs last week The Game is eager to make friends too. During the interview on Hot 97, he repeatedly asked his rival to call into the station.

He insisted, "(I want) just to talk and just to see where our heads are and see if maybe we can come to an even playing field — respectfully to each other. I want to see if we can figure it out as grown-ups."

**Gyllenhaal not fazed by gay scenes**

**J**ake Gyllenhaal had no inhibitions about acting out the gay sex scenes in forthcoming movie *Brokeback Mountain*, because he grew up in an environment where homosexuality is common.

The 24-year-old actor had no hesitation in accepting the gay role, saying that the liberal way he was raised helped to form his open views on the subject. Gyllenhaal tells British magazine *Empire*, "As soon as I read the script I wanted to do it."

"A lot of people have asked me, 'Were you worried about the sex scenes?' And you know, maybe it's just that I take these things for granted, because I live in LA and some of my close friends and family are gay, and I grew up in a generation where it's not a problem. It's not my fault if people disagree with my ideas, cause that's how I was raised."

