

Brilliance of the sitar strokes

By Amarendra Dhaneshwar

Sameep Kulkarni, an extraordinarily talented young sitarist was featured recently in a concert at Bandra (West). He has mastered the sitar over the last 27 years under veterans like Usman Khan and Shahid Parvez and has been a true globe trotter giving concerts in faraway places like USA, Europe, Thailand, Singapore, Japan and UAE.

Recently he also played sitar in his third Hollywood film entitled 'Among the Believers'. Sameep had chosen the raga 'Yaman' for an elaborate presentation. This raga offers widest scope for imagination and interpretation. With all the seven notes pres-



ent with an addition of the sharp madhyam, the raga can radiate different hues and shades of emotion. Sameep's alap portion explored many

dimensions of the raga. His composition was set to the seven beat taal rupak. With an excellent and proficient tabla artiste like the US based Pra-

full Athalye providing him accompaniment. Sameep showed his command of the rhythm element too. He could play his super-fast patterns at a lightning speed which astounded the audience.

The news of the demise of the senior tabla artiste Ramakant Mhapsekar was received with sadness and grief. Mhapsekar's tabla playing had an old world charm and refreshing clarity. He gave accompaniment to the singers of the stature of Shobha Gurtu, Kishori Amonkar and Prabha Atre. He also worked as a musician for the film industry. Lata Mangeshkar often took him along on her foreign trips for her live shows. Noted santoor player Ulhas Bapat is his disciple.

Tina excels in kathak

By Vijay Shanker



Lakshita festival is an annual festival organised regularly with the intention of promoting and propagating classical arts by reaching out to a larger audience. The credit for this festival goes to accomplished Bharata Natyam exponent Namita Bodaji. The festival was held at the Juhu Jagruti Hall in Vile Parle.

Kathak exponent Dr Tina Tambe impressed everyone with her scintillating performance. Tina is trained in different gharanas like the Raigarh and Jaipur gharana and has evolved as a dancer, creating a distinct style of elegance and precision which was evident in her splendid performance.

Tina commenced the performance with an invocation to the Lord of Dance, known as 'Shiva Stuti' followed with the teen taal of 16 beats and

the most impressive circular movement known as 'chakkars' (32 rounds) was applauded by the compact audience that turned up to watch the classical performance on a Sunday morning. The highlight of the programme was the enactment of the plight of Kubja who was a slave to the wicked Kansa. Her devotion for Lord Krishna forms the climax of the dramatic episode wherein she regains her original beauty and form due to the blessing of the divine grace. Tina's 'abhinaya' was indeed elevating.

Tina received her initial training from Ranjana Thakur and has also imbibed guidance from noted mentors like Dr Suchitra Harmalkar and Dr Uma Dogra. Tina concluded with Holi and received fine orchestral support. Dancers promoting other dancers, is a really welcome and heartening trend.

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK
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By Sandeep Hattangadi

The issue of euthanasia or mercy killing is a much debated issue in medical circles and the upcoming Dr. Amol Kolhe play 'Bandh Mukh' discusses this burning issue. The family of a surgeon, his criminal psychologist wife, a lawyer and a human rights leader form this unusual family where this issue is addressed. The play stars Dr. Amol Kolhe, Ketaki Thatte, Rajan Bane, Shantanu Moghe, Vivek Apte, Pandhari Medhe and many more. The play is written by Vivek Apte and the music score is composed by Rahul Ranade. Dr. Amol Kolhe says, "We being doctors by profession, the writer, director and me had always thought of

Exclusive premiere of 'Bandh Mukh'!



doing a play on this subject and for the first time in the history of Marathi theater we are going to have a grand premiere. In the second half of the play, we will be asking the audience what they feel about the problem and if they have any solution to this issue".

The lighting is by Sheetal Talpade and features sets by Rajan Bhise. The play is produced by Jagdamb Creations and Thirithda Productions. The play will premiere on 12 August at 7.30 pm at Ravindra Natya Mandir. Don't miss this serious drama for anything in the world!

« IN BRIEF »

ZEE TALKIES TO RELEASE 'KANHA'!



Popular composer-director Avdhoot Gupte who has made films like Zenda and Maurya will soon be releasing his latest film called Kanha. As the name suggests, the film is about Gokulashtami and the competition between two Govinda pathaks to construct the tallest human pyramid. Shiv Sena MLA Pratap Sarnaik's Vihang Group has produced this film along with Young Berry Productions and Joe Rajan. Kanha is going to be Zee Studio's next release as well. Pratap Sarnaik's Sanskriti Yuva Pratishthan hosts one of the most popular Govinda's in town. The music of the film composed by Avdhoot Gupte himself, was launched at a gala event in a prestigious five star hotel in Mumbai. The event was attended by who's who of the world of politics including Praful Patel, Amar Singh and the CM of Maharashtra, Devendra Fadnavis. The Marathi film fraternity also made their presence felt. The film has two leads, the energetic and natural Vaibhav Tatwadi and the hunk Gashmeer Mahajani. The film also stars Gauri Nalawade, Prasad Oak, Kiran Kamarkar and child actor Sumedh Vani.

'YAARI DOSTI' TO RELEASE SOON



Yaari Dosti, a film directed by Shantanu Tambe is gearing up for its release. The film stars Hansraj Jagtap and Mitali Mayekar along with Akash Waghmode in leading roles. The film is written and directed by Shantanu Tambe. The motion poster and teaser for this film were recently launched on digital media platforms. The film is about four teenagers from different socio-economic backgrounds and their budding friendship. The film also marks the debut of Ashish Gade. Sumit Bhokse, Shreyas Raje, Sandeep Gaukwad, Nisha Parulekar, Ashok Pawde, Namrata Jadhav and Janardan Singh will also be seen in important roles.

SANSKRIT SONG IN 'YZ'!



It seems that YZ team is not leaving any stone unturned to make their film innovative. Right from the title of the film to the colorful trailers, this film is getting the public very excited. After creating havoc with song 'O! Kaka', YZ has gone into another direction and presented a Sanskrit song. Though the song is written in Sanskrit, it has a very cool blend of jazz and classical music. The song has been picturized on Sagar Deshmukh and Parna Pethe. Parna looks sizzling in her Odissi dance costume. The song uses many classic Sanskrit drama visuals and that is what makes it very remarkable. Music has been composed by Jasraj, Hrishikesh and Saurabh - three individuals who have changed the face of Marathi film music. The film stars Sagar Deshmukh, Akshay Tanksale, Sai Tamhankar, Parna Pethe and Mukta Barve in leading roles. This interesting film has been written by Kshitij Patwardhan and directed by Sameer Vidwans. The expectations are really going through the sky for this Sanjay Chhabriya and Aneesh Jog produced comedy drama. The film hits theatres across Maharashtra on August 12.

TRAILER OF 'PHOTOCOPY' LAUNCHED!

The trailer of producers Neha Rajpal and Viacom International film Photocopy was launched on the social network to a huge response. The film stars Parna Pethe and Chetan Chitnis in lead roles along with Vandana Gupte and Anshuman Joshi. The film about twin sisters is directed by Vijay Maury and is slated for a September release.

TRIBUTE TO MUSICAL BURMANS

S. D Burman and R. D Burman were very well known as the father-son duo who created the golden era of the Indian music industry with their inimitable and unique compositions. Their fans not only fall in love with their music but have a unique bond with it. A musical tribute on behalf of Prasad Phanse and 'Navras Art Academy' titled 'S.D and R.D.' has been organised on August 14 at 6.15 pm in the mini theatre at Ravindra Natya Mandir.