

FRINGE.

Koggala Folk Festival

The Martin Wickramasinghe Folk Museum presents a festival of folk arts and craft. Amongst the activities will be the processing of reed, rattan and coconut fibres to make items such as mats, rope and brooms; cinnamon peeling and processing; pottery; wood carving; indigenous medical practices (ayurveda); preparation of ola leaves for writing and folk entertainment such as puppetry.

January 20th and 21st from 10.00am to 5.00 pm.

Portrayal of mental illness in Sinhalese films.

In this presentation and panel discussion, directors and actors of selected films look at the marginalization of the mentally ill and how films portray madness, often using mentally ill characters to create mystery and add flavour to a film.

Friday 21st January 3:45 pm-6:00pm (Methodist Church, Galle Fort). Inquires- shavindra17@yahoo.co.uk

The Plantation Raj- By Herman Gunaratne

From the best-selling author of *The Suicide Club*, this book launch will feature white tea and a short talk by the author on his book, which focuses on the nationalization of the tea estates in the 1970's.

Sunday 22nd January 5pm, Serendipity Arts Café, 65, Leyn Baan Street, Galle Fort. Call 0776838659 to reserve a ticket.

Whale Watching

Anoma Alagiyawadu, resident naturalist at Jetwing Lighthouse and whale expert will lead fellow voyagers through identifying whales and dolphins at sea.

Saturday January 21st 6 a.m-11 a.m. For more details and tickets contact Jetwing Lighthouse 091 2223744

Sri Lanka – Best for Blue

A lecture by Riaz Cader on how Sri Lanka has emerged as the world's top spot for watching Blue Whales, the largest creature to have inhabited our planet. Guests will also visit the newly opened Whale and Dolphin Watching Centre at Jetwing Lighthouse, the first of its kind in Sri Lanka.

Friday, 20th January, 4:00pm – 5:00pm. The Galle Room at Jetwing Lighthouse.

Drop by Drop! Keep it Flowing

Sri Lanka is endowed with over 100 river basins, tanks and other water sources. How can Sri Lanka nourish its water resources and keep them flowing for generations yet unborn? EFL (the Environmental Foundation Limited) presents an interactive discussion that explores this question.

Friday 20th January 4.00– 5.00 p.m. Heritage Café, 53 Lighthouse St, Tel: 091 2246668

Poem Person- By Dinesh Perera

This first collection of poetry explores life and relationships for youth growing up in a westernized Sri Lanka. It explores the complexity of unconventional, unacceptable love.

Friday 20th January 5.30 pm. Open Courts Grounds, Opposite the Maritime Museum – Galle Fort.

ECSAT Bazaar

Local disability charity ECSAT are holding a bazaar in the Law Court Square on Saturday, January the 21st to showcase handicrafts from the Southern province. Enjoy demonstrations by producers, the chance to experience using a wheelchair in the Fort and a painting workshop with internationally acclaimed author and illustrator Sybil Wettasinghe- all to promote the inclusion of people with disabilities in this year's event.

Exhibitions

CORPUS-A Photography Exhibition.

A glimpse of Galle Fort through photo-artistry, presented by the Photographic Society of Sri Lanka. Galle comes to life with its timeless stone and walls, alleyways, architecture, people and their lives-captured by the discerning lens and keen eyes of the Society's members.

January 18 - 22nd at the Maritime Museum. Lower Level.

Sponsored by The Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands.

KAPUTA

An exhibition of sculpture and drawings by Prageeth Manohansa & Mika Tennekoon on the theme of the Colombo Crow. Curated by Saskia Fernando.

January 18th - February 18th at Amangalla.

EXHIBITION ARCADIA 'A scene of simplicity and Quiet' by Maurizio Boscheri

Enjoy Boscheri's colorful acrylic paintings of endangered wildlife, including his world famous Leopard paintings.

January 18th - February 28th 7.00am to 10.00pm Serendipity Arts Café, 65 Leyn Baan Street.

PHOTOGRAPHIC EXHIBITION 'Street wise Sri Lanka'.

A 10-day thought-provoking exhibition by photojournalist Juliet Coombe on 'Street Peddlars'

January 18nd - 22nd 10.00am to 6.00pm 60, Leyn Baan Street.