

DNA after hrs.

DAILY NEWS & ANALYSIS

★★★ MUMBAI, TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2010

Actor Ajay Devgn opens up about his new-born son Yug: thinks he's been lucky for him

'Nysa is overjoyed!'

Soumyadipta Banerjee

Actor Ajay Devgn smiles when one says that Yug (his one-month old son) has brought luck to him. "Yes, it is a particularly good time because I have had three hits in a row. I think children are always lucky for their parents. The fact that they come into our lives is luck," he smiles as he settles on his sofa and tells us that Kajol is busy with Yug.

So, how is Nysa reacting to the new addition to the family? "She has grown up really fast (she is eight years old now) and she knows that she finally has somebody to play with. She is overjoyed. That apart, we are also balancing it and I am spending a lot of quality time with her," says the beaming father.

Whenever a baby is born, everybody rushes to find out whose features the baby has. "Oh! It's too early to figure out about his features. He is just too small," gestures Ajay with his palms, admitting that this time around the parents are not finding it very difficult to handle a new-born. "It doesn't seem so hard this time around because we have gone through the whole routine once. But the feeling (of having a child again) is something that only a parent can understand, and cannot be put into words," he adds.



DAD'S THE WAY: Ajay Devgn

6 CHILDREN ARE ALWAYS LUCKY FOR THEIR PARENTS. THE FACT THAT THEY COME INTO OUR LIVES IS LUCK

Ajay Devgn

Talking about his work, Ajay admits that lately he has signed on a few 'serious'

films, one of which has touched a raw nerve with the Censor Board.

"The Censors had asked for a lot of cuts for my new movie and we had to postpone the release of the film. But now that we have decided to have an adult certificate, the film will only have a couple of cuts and not thirty cuts as was reported before. There are certain things that could be avoided because it has honour killings as the backdrop," he says.

Before parting, we ask him when will be able to see the baby. "Not before 40-45 days as I think now he keeps sleeping all the time," he says before signing off.

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Sush-Wasim: IS THERE MORE?

Ex-cricketer Wasim Akram gets candid about actor Sushmita Sen on a Pakistani channel

Soumyadipta Banerjee

Recently there have been rumours of former cricketer Wasim Akram being the secret man in actor Sushmita Sen's life. Stories of an alleged secret marriage have also been doing the rounds, but both carefully avoid the topic in any of their media interactions.

However, in a free-wheeling chat with Pakistani actor Reema Khan on her Pakistani TV show, the cricketer has gone on record to say that he "likes" Sushmita and wants to cast her as his heroine.

"Wasim Akram did make a few candid confessions for a show with our host and Pakistani actor Reema Khan. We will be putting that up on the internet soon," confirms Shaukat Khat-tak, bureau chief of Peshawar, of Samaa TV from Pakistan.

"When asked whom he would like as his heroine if he ever decides to act, Wasim instantly took Sushmita Sen's name. He said that he likes her very much and that "she's pretty". But the next instant, he was on his guard for the rest of the interview and took Angelina Jolie's name as the person he would like to go out on a date," says Shaukat from Karachi.

According to sources, Wasim Akram had apparently hinted off-camera that he is "very close" to the beauty. "Wasim in an earlier interview had ruled out being married again," says a source close to the cricketer, who is still mourning the tragic death of his wife, Huma Khan last year.

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IS LOVE IN THE AIR?: Sushmita Sen and (inset) Wasim Akram



Ankit Ajmera

Jayesh Sachdev is one of the few artists in India who specialise in pop art. The idea of pop art essentially came into being after the 1950s when many artists tried breaking free from conformist art cultures and tried to embed mass-produced commodities into works of art. In lay terms, pop art was inspired by Pop Culture. Jayesh keeps experimenting with the art form by showcasing it in the interiors of malls, multiplexes and other public places.

When art goes POP!

Jayesh Sachdev creates wall spaces that seem to go the Andy Warhol-Roy Lichtenstein way



Pop art is more interactive and involves the viewer as compared to any conventional art form. "This genre of art drew inspiration and influence from mass culture such as iconic figures, comic books, and advertising and tried to project art as populist as opposed to elitist. The viewer always has something to identify with when he sees representations of common objects, personalities and



Jayesh Sachdev and his works

ideas which are known to him," says Jayesh. Jayesh explains why he took up Bollywood as a theme for one of his creations for the interiors of a multiplex. He says, "Bollywood is the largest popular culture influence in India and we are a nation obsessed with cinema. Not a conversation goes by without an in-situation or reference to Bollywood." Cricket is another popular theme that could work well. "Cricket is popular. But I still believe nothing has the larger than life impact that cinema does in India. Other relatable themes that could work well with the viewers here include Amar Chitra Katha, Kamasutra and Indian history."

Since Bollywood is a vast subject, how did Jayesh choose the right elements from various films? "It's as simple as going to a restaurant or choosing what you want to eat. You choose what's best. My message is not common but personal. My subject might be simple to identify with, but the idea may be personal," he says. Pop artists such as Andy Warhol and Roy Lichtenstein are inspirations for Jayesh. Presently, he has an exhibi-



BACKSTAGE

Play: *Walking to the Sun* Venue: NCPA Experimental Theatre Date: Sunday, October 17 Time: 6:30pm

Written by Vivek Narayan, the two-hour-long play *Walking to the Sun* is contemporary in style and a blend of history and fiction. It brings together *Dot Ghazi*, the magical philosophical play by Tagore, and the deeply inspiring true story of a Polish doctor and storyteller to replace the harsh reality of hatred with a child-like desire to walk to the sun. It is a special tribute to Rabindranath Tagore on his birth anniversary. -Shreya Badola

'It's a gift of God'

...says artist Varsha Vyas, on her art that stems from her thoughts and beliefs



Artist Varsha Vyas

Shreya Badola "My thoughts flow in different directions and what results is the print on canvas," says artist Varsha Vyas. Her paintings are an expression of her thoughts and beliefs. Citing famed artist Pablo Picasso, she says, "There is no abstract art. You must always start with something. Afterward you can remove all traces of reality. My technique —

Pointillism — is the one which not many artists have used since Georges Seurat (French) Post-Impressionist artist of 19th century," she informs. Varsha had been inclined towards art from her earliest childhood. After a formal education in textile designing she did a did a course in mountaineering too. "It was during this period that I fell in love with nature's splendour and de-



When & Where? Varsha's show is on upto October 17 at Artists' Centre.

cided to capture it on canvas," she adds. Over the years, Varsha has matured as an artist, with her works depicting a lyrical flow of line and colour. Pointillism, she says, gives a 'surrealistic touch' to the abstracts. a_shreyab@rediffmail.com

'Children are metaphors for the future'

...belives artist Daniela Florsheim who has portrayed Indian children in her works

Kritika Kapoor

"I love Mumbai, the people here are so warm and friendly!" artist Daniela Florsheim's voice bubbles enthusiastically over the phone. As an artist, her eyes have the unique prism-like ability to only separate the rainbow of hope and beauty from the stream of poverty and despair.

Her latest work of art includes a series of portraits of children from India. So what made an artist in Germany come all the way there to seek out Indian children as a muse?

She says, "When I travelled to India I was extremely impressed by the love and the strength of the people to overcome all the poverty and despair and the liveliness of the children I met. I've chosen these children as metaphors for representing our future, the fight against climate change and cultural prejudice. The children are all from different castes and here I give them all equal opportunities to be respected, loved and looked at without having a social preconception." She infuses the Dutch golden age



Daniela Florsheim (inset) and her works

style of painting with multi-layered oil colours along with Indian images. "My images are always taken from real life."

She also reveals a few stories behind her portraits. "One is of a biologist I met in Chambal Keoladeo who inspired me to paint the child in winter clothing."

Another, two children who are just back from a wedding ceremony," she informs. "Art flows in my veins," she says of



When & Where?

Daniela's work will be showcased at The Jehangir N. Sheth Gallery, from 12pm to 17th October.



her herself as an artist. "When I start painting, the colours talk to me and I attempt to represent what I draw as the soul of the object in its most pure form."

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'Inside my soul I only want to create albums'

...says Taz, lead singer of the Indian pop band Stereo Nation, who was in Mumbai recently



Ankit Ajmera

The financially powerful era of Bollywood music has lured everybody towards itself from local folk musicians to the celebrated pop artists. It has also caught the fancy of Taz, lead singer of the Indian pop band Stereo Nation who was in Mumbai recently for the recording of a couple of songs from an upcoming Bollywood film, *Diary of a Butler*.

"This is a song about a young girl who comes to Mumbai with dreams and wants to be successful," starts Taz. While B-Town film songs come and go and not all of

them stay on in our memory after the film has gone, some of Taz's hit songs from the late 1990s era of pop music such as *Oh Carol*, *Nachenge Sari Raat* *Sonio Ve* are still playing on the radio.

Does he feel that the pop era was more popular with the audience? "Mid 1990s was the main thing. No wonder many of the songs from that era are still playing today. But as they say, there is a time for everything. Presently as a singer I am focused on playback singing. But I have a feeling a time will come when pop would rise again," he says.

Taz also feels that today with huge budgets and scope for growth, Bollywood is certainly a far greater platform for any musician. "With Bollywood you are creating a song as per the brief for the film," he says.

I HAVE A FEELING A TIME WILL COME WHEN POP WOULD RISE AGAIN...

Taz, Indie-pop singer

TAZ'S B-TOWN NUMBERS: *Duroo Vich Pyar Milede* from *Tom Bin* (2001), *It's Magic* from *Koi Mil Gava* (2005) and *Mathhe To Jadoo* from *Race* (2008). a_ankit@rediffmail.com



Celebrating dance

The ongoing Nakhshatra Dance Festival brings on stage the country's finest classical dancers — including Alarnal Vaidi, Ayana Bhaduri and more. The event is aimed to promote the various existing Indian dance forms.

Divyaleela this coming Friday "Sattriya is the dance from the state of Assam," explains Prateesha. "Though I feel divine when I perform Bharatanatyam, somewhere I felt that I was ignoring this beautiful dance form that belonged to my own state," she adds. -Shreya Badola

DNAya! in association with

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ENRICHMENT

Presenting exciting workshops on **art & science** for kids.

DNA Ya! in association with the American Institute of Enrichment presents 4 interactive workshops on Arts and Science for children aged between 8 - 14 years. Designed to be intellectually stimulating and engaging, these workshops will aim to give the children a unique understanding of Art and Science unlike anything they have experienced before.

Art Appreciation Workshops

These workshops will focus on the works and techniques of artists like Vincent Van Gogh, Pablo Picasso, Claude Monet, and Homer Winslow. Along with helping kids create their own art masterpieces, it will also include sports, games, and quizzes based on Art.

Schedule and Fees				
Date	Artist	Age	Time	
Sat Oct 16th	Van Gogh, Picasso	Grades 3-5	10am - 3pm	
Sun Oct 17th	Monet, Winslow	6-8	10am - 3pm	

1 day Workshop Fee is Rs. 1200/-
Fees include Art Supplies, Snacks, Refreshments, Lunch, and Entertainment

Interactive Science Workshops

These workshops will give the children an in-depth understanding of Electricity, Magnetism, and the Special and General Theory of Relativity. Along with being encouraged to build their own projects, the children will also be involved in interactive demonstrations, games, quizzes, illustrations, and discussions based on science. Prizes will be given out to those who excel in every activity.

Schedule and Fees		
Date	Topic	Age
Sat Oct 23rd	Electricity & Magnetism	Grades 3-5
Sun Oct 24th	Einstein & Relativity	6-8

1 day Workshop Fee is Rs. 1200/-
Workshop Time is 10am - 3pm.
Fees include Supplies, Snacks, Refreshments, Lunch, and Entertainment

Workshop Location	Payment Location	Registration	Workshop Location
American Institute of Enrichment Bandra Centre Suite 1 & 2, Second Bldg A Sardar Vallabhbhai Marg Mumbai, Maharashtra - 400 011 Tel: 02238492100	DNA Office, Central Data Services Room, Rajawade Mills, Chembur, Parel Road, Bandra West Lower Floor, Mumbai - 400 033	Contact: Email on 982011244 or downloading between 9:30 am to 7:00 pm. Payment to be made by cash or cheque in favor of DNA Yeha! Education Pvt. Ltd.	All fees are non-refundable. Registration ends 15th October. Snacks included. Participants will get Certificate.

'Children are metaphors for the future'

...believes artist **Daniela Florsheim** who has portrayed Indian children in her works

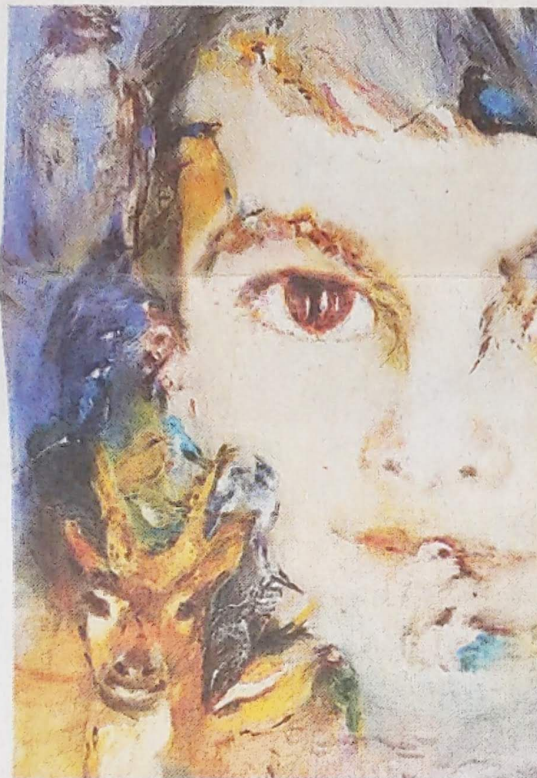
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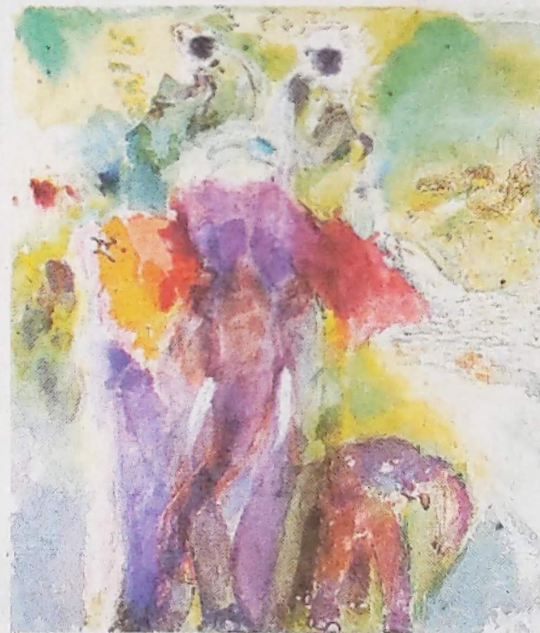
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When & Where?

Daniela's work will be showcased at the Jehangir Art Gallery, Kala Ghoda, from 11th to 17th October.



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