



CREATIVE WORLD

Time independent musicians survived along with Bollywood:

Kavita Krishnamurthy



NEW DELHI, OCT 4 /-/ Veteran playback singer Kavita Krishnamurthy says it is about time the music industry opened up to independent artists as much as it supports mainstream Bollywood singers. The 60-year-old singer, who has been active for over four decades, says the audience needs to take a listen to different kinds of music. "I feel it is time that independent musicians should also survive along with Bollywood. Because it is only Bollywood that becomes the surviving profession. And it's believed that only those who break into Bollywood will survive. This becomes very difficult for other musicians to make a mark. I think the audiences in India now have to open up and listen to different kinds of music and encourage any body who is making music, whether they are from Bollywood or not," Krishnamurthy told PTI in a telephonic interview.

The singer, who has chartbusters such as "Hawa hawaaii", "Dil diya hai jaan bhii denge", "Tu he re", "Albela sajan" and "Maar daala", among others to her credit, says though there is no dearth of talent in the country, there are few songs today that have the ability to turn into classics. "So many talented and innovative musicians are coming up. But I wish there were more ragas involved in the songs. Sometimes I find the lyrics don't touch my heart. But as far as talent is concerned, I think the younger generation is very talented and open to a lot of cultures. They try to create a different type of music after listening and mixing lots of elements. A lot of people are doing independent music. It is so hard what they are trying to do. They are presenting themselves to various social media platforms. It is not easy to promote yourself. I think in their own way they are trying to make a mark for themselves. It is tricky stuff, but they are doing it and very well." Krishnamurthy is set to perform at the 27th edition of Lakshminarayana Global Music Festival, a music extravaganza in the memory of her father-in-law guru professor V Lakshminarayana. The festival was established in 1992 by violin icon L Subramaniam, Krishnamurthy's husband and Viji Subramaniam.

This year Latvian Symphony Orchestra will be part of the line-up. "It will be featuring very special composition. My husband wrote for India's 70th Independence Day celebration called the Bharat Symphony. It has got four movements - Vedic, Mughal, British and fourth is on the themes of Satyamev Jayate and Vasudheva Kutumbhham. "I do the Bharat Symphony with the orchestra and my husband does the piece called 'Turbulence Concerto' with the orchestra. Even my granddaughter Mahati will be doing a tribute piece on Mahatma Gandhi's 150th birthday celebrations," she said. (PTI)

Jeevan Jyoti Ratna Samman presented



KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-/ Bangla Shilpi Sahityik Samajkarmi Sangbadik Samannay Samity and Mailbhumi Sahitya Academy presented the Jeevan Jyoti Ratna Samman to educationist De Sheik Ahmed Ali at a programme organized at the Ashutosh Mukherjee Memorial Hall today. The award was presented to De Ali on the backdrop of 200th birth anniversary of Pandit Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar and 150th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. (EOIC)

I don't want them to disappear: Sriram Raghavan on old film references in his work

NEW DELHI, OCT 4 /-/ He is a cinema aficionado at heart and often tips his hat to old masters in his films through sneaky references. It is Sriram Raghavan's way of keeping the classics alive. The director loves the fact that his followers look forward to these references in his films but says he has to be careful about not being indulgent. "Some of the films I grew up on, I feel most people these days don't know about them. They will just disappear and so I try my best sometimes to get something inside from those films. Of course, it has to be relevant to my story. I cannot do it as an indulgence," Raghavan told PTI in an interview. The director, known for thrillers such as Ek Hasena Thi, Johnny Gaddar and Badlapur, is back

with another feature Andhadhun and as usual the cinema lovers can spot the past references. The older films, especially the classics, are in our subconscious. Today's audiences, unless they go and search for them, they won't find those films. These films were made 30-40 years ago and they are classics. They are study films actually but unfortunately people don't know about them, Raghavan says. Such is the explosion of content now that the audiences have too much on their plate, hence it is not always possible to keep up with the old classics. "There is also too much to watch. I don't know how people pick and watch. There is limited time and just too much content available. I mean you have Netflix and Amazon, there

is already too much there plus our films. There are four-five releases every week. He says there should be a movement to preserve old films. I just feel that there are so many great films which shouldn't get buried. There should be some kind of revival and excitement about them. So when we make a film which refers to a past movie, hopefully, it will raise some interest about that movie as well, Raghavan says. The director says it is wrong to believe that the audiences are 'simple minded' and hence would not be receptive to new ideas. "A lot of producers and hence, writers and all of us, we tend to think that our audiences are too simple minded and hence new ideas should be avoided. They say it will not work. But I

feel that people should at least try that. I mean, you can't dumb it down just for the sake of simplicity. "There is a growing audience for sophisticated cinema. I personally believe that I am making a film for an audience which is intelligent. I cannot think that these people need spoon-feeding," he says. "Andhadhun" is a thriller and should not be confused with a whodunit, Raghavan says. "In India, people confuse suspense with a guessing game. I have not made a single whodunit. Whodunit is what Agatha Christie writes about. "In my stories, I prefer the method where I give as much information to the audience as I can. So they know what's going on. Like in 'Johnny Gaddar', everybody knows what happens



right from the beginning, but the characters don't. Viewers' fun is to watch how these dynamics play out. The truth is in front of you, but do you see it? That's the question." "Andhadhun" which features Ayushmann Khurrana as the blind pianist, Tabu, Radhika Apte and Anil Dhawan, releases Friday (PTI)



Gunther von Hagens and his wife Angelina Whalley pose for photographs next to "Rider", one of his latest works in the Body Worlds museum exhibition at the London Pavillion in London, Britain -- REUTERS

'Mowgli School' inspires students to pick up books

BAHRAICH (UP), OCT 4 /-/ Located in the Dudhwa-Katarniyara forest area here, 'Mowgli School' is busy giving wings to the dreams of village children, thanks to an initiative by the Special Tiger Protection Force. The Special Tiger Protection Force, constituted for tiger conservation, have embarked on a mission to teach children living in the forest areas. Children trek the difficult forest terrain and cover a distance of around 10 kilometres to study at the

school. "Special Tiger Protection Force was basically formed for ensuring safety of tigers and other wild animals, and for checking the man-animal conflict," Ramesh Pandey, Field Director, Dudhwa Katarniyara forest told PTI Wednesday. "Sub-Inspector of STPE, Satyendra Kumar, during his stay at Motipur range, started teaching children of the village (which comes under the said forest range) a few days ago along with the other forest department staff," he said. Kumar started

Dumbledore is clearly gay in 'Crimes of Grindelwald: David

LONDON, OCT 4 /-/ Director David Yates has clarified his earlier comments and said his upcoming "Fantastic Beasts: The Crimes of Grindelwald" will address the sexuality of Harry Potter's headmaster Dumbledore. The 54-year-old director had earlier attracted the ire of Potterheads after he said the film would "not explicitly" address the character's sexuality and his romantic relationship with Gellert Grindelwald. In an interview with Empire Magazine, Yates said Dumbledore is shown "gay". "In earlier interview, I didn't say Dumbledore's not gay. He is," he said. "This part of this huge narrative that Jo is creating doesn't focus on his sexuality, but we're not airbrushing or hiding it... the story (of the romantic relationship) isn't there in this particular movie but it's clear in what you see... that he is gay," he added. Yates also said that film, which features Jude Law as Dumbledore and Johnny Depp as Grindelwald, has a few "sensual moments" between the two characters. "A couple of scenes we shot are very sensual moments of him and the young Grindelwald," he said. Yates also said their relationship will play a pivotal role in future "Fantastic Beasts" movies. ("The Crimes of Grindelwald" is about other things, fundamentally, but the story of Grindelwald and Dumbledore, going forward, that is the story," he added. (PTI)

IndusInd Bank adopts 'Ebar Pujo - Sobar Pujo' initiative

KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-/IndusInd Bank along with Rotaract Calcutta Mid South' presented more than 1200 new clothes to the under-resourced schools and orphanages in the presence of cricketer Sourav Ganguly and other prominent Tollywood actors. The initiative titled 'Ebar Pujo, Sobar Pujo' was conducted in 23 branches of IndusInd Bank across Kolkata and Howrah. During the three weeks drive, the Bank's branches organized special events and workshops to urge, encourage and motivate business communities, professionals, and entrepreneurs to donate new clothes. The Bank's Chief Operating Officer, Paul Abraham said,



"To mark the festive spirit, we have received overwhelming support from our customers who have joined hands to make a difference in the lives of underprivileged kids & their families. We are grateful to all volunteers & NGO partners who helped us in making this initiative a success." (EOIC)

Asha Bhonsle, Amit Kumar record 'Pujor Gaan'

KOLKATA, OCT 4 /-/ Asha Bhonsle, the music Diva, makes a comeback in the Pujor Gaan circuit with a new Bengali singles, 'Ebar Pujor Elaam Phire' for the album 'Pujor Asha', composed by Shiladitya Raj and written by Utpal Das. The other singles of the album, 'Surey Tumi', composed by the duo has been sung by renowned playback singer, Amit Kumar and is written by

another lyricist. The album is produced by Asha Audio and presented by Naktala Udayan Sangha. "We all dream. But not every dream is realised. Unless you have dedication, patience, perseverance and you work towards achieving it. And of course you have to be passionate towards your dream. We also had a dream which we nurtured for over 25 years. Our dream was realised when the legend,

composers, Shiladitya - Raj. Pujor Gaan goes hand in hand with Bengali sentiments. Over the years Bengalis eagerly await for Pujor Gaan, which is a collection of modern Bengali songs or Rabindra Sangeet or even Nazrul Geeti. New songs by the singers from Kolkata and Mumbai has always been a major draw. From Records to cassettes to CDs and now Digital, Pujor Gaan has

never lost its charm. Shiladitya - Raj, the self-disciplined of RD Burman have created these new songs for 'Pujor Asha' retaining the flavour, charm and subtlety of the master's creations which will take the listeners back to those bygone days of melody," said Mahus Lahiri, Director, Asha Audio. The music arrangement of these two songs of the album has been done by Som Chakraborty and the music videos have been shot by Chandan Singh. Musicians associated with RD Burman have recorded bul instruments like Saxophone, Trumpet and English Flute for this album. Apart from Audio CD, priced at Rs 75 the songs of 'Pujor Asha' will be available across all major digital platforms. 'Pujor Asha' will release on Mahalaya, 8th October, 2018. (EOIC)

