

# AV News summary sheet

April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2003

## UNESCO and Auroville

The text printed below is an official 'flash' from UNESCO to its delegates all over the world, issued at the end of the exhibition on Auroville in UNESCO's Paris premises from April 7 - 11 this year. The exhibition was organised by Auroville's Future. Dr. Kireet Joshi and Dr. Singhvi (Auroville's Governing Board) were among the speakers, and there were presentations by Aurovilians Gilles Guigan, Joss, Luigi and Meenakshi.

Paris, April 11, 2003

### **35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Auroville**

Yesterday, the Director-General of UNESCO, Koïchiro Matsuura, participated in celebrations at UNESCO Headquarters marking the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Auroville, a unique 'model city' near Pondicherry, India. Opening an exhibition on Auroville, Mr Matsuura said that "as an intellectual and ethical organization, UNESCO cannot fail to be fascinated by this experience". Inspired by the great Indian spiritual master Sri Aurobindo, Auroville has developed into a full-fledged city of over 1500 inhabitants and enjoys close links with surrounding communities.

Noting that UNESCO had supported the foundation of Auroville and, over the years, has continued to show interest in the unfolding development, the Director-General stressed the similarities between UNESCO's ideals, values and principles and those underpinning this unusual community. He pointed to the way in which key aspects of the Auroville experiment resonate strongly with some of UNESCO's major priorities and concerns such as dialogue among civilizations, cultures and religions; cultural diversity and culture as a factor for development, poverty eradication, quality education and life-long learning; and renewable energies.

The Director-General expressed his appreciation of the cooperation with the Indian Permanent Delegation in organizing the Auroville celebration at Headquarters.

## About the News

The old Auroville News will not appear for the time being. This news summary sheet is a temporary replacement, until a new version of the News has been worked out. Short messages and announcements are welcome, longer items will have to be shortened. In the near future information will be given about where to obtain hard copies of meeting reports or how to be placed on mailing lists to receive soft copies of meeting reports. For the time being messages may be sent to the same email address [avnews@auroville.org.in](mailto:avnews@auroville.org.in) or given to the News office at Aurelec. Deadline is Wednesday noon.

## Notice from Loretta

More photos have arrived for those who ordered photos from the August Exhibition in Pitanga: They are now at Pitanga, waiting to be picked up. Names: Felix, Gudula, Tency & Hilde, Ela (Auroshilpam), Laura, Suzie, Sudar, Rosa, Uma, Jean-Yves, Kali, Namah, Isai Ambalam School, Holly, Grazia, Lalit, Chaitanya, Meena, Florence, please check at Pitanga.

## Notice from Bala/Eco-service/ SWM Group

(1) We would like to inform you that the landfill next to La Ferme has been officially closed. However, in spite of the fact that the waste has been covered well, some amount of waste dumping is still going on and remains an invitation for wild dumping for anybody. Please help in making the message clear: No dumping there anymore. Inform your friends and workers from Kuilapalayam area not to do so. Thank you for your collaboration.

Please note that Eco-Service has identified and prepared another plot for landfilling, has invested into fencing and controls the waste going there.

(2) We are obliged to again bring up the issue of worn-out batteries. Wasted batteries are, due to their contents of heavy metals, to be regarded as hazardous waste, and we have not yet found a sound eco-friendly solution for their disposal. Previously they were stored away in cement-sealed concrete rings. In order to reduce the consumption of these harmful batteries, we appeal to those Aurovilians going abroad in summer to buy re-chargeable batteries and a battery charger. You could also bring some for your friends staying here. This would certainly help us to reduce the problem.

## Change of telephone numbers of NATURALLY AUROVILLE BOUTIQUE (Chennai)

TELEPHONE: 28330517 TELEFAX: 28330518

## From The Magic Lantern Theatre

The Magic Lantern Theatre wishes to thank the Alliance Française (Chennai), Supriya, Renu, Afsaneh, Eric and Sanjeev of Udavi school, Mani, Andre, Babu, Mike of New Creation Transport and School, Ramesh of Solar Kitchen, Aurelio and Balu of Mohannam, Shankar and Ashok of Kuilapalayam Cultural Centre, Mita of Auroville Language Laboratory and Karthikeyan to make "Veshakaran" have a successful run.

## From IDC

The following Building Applications have been submitted to Auroville's Future and feedback can be given within two weeks:

- ?? Rossella, Aurodam, extension of her existing house
- ?? Mukta, Kindergarten Compound, Centre Field, Temporary Creche
- ?? Verite community, Verite, Integral Learning Center; with condition regarding the parking and the access (still has to be defined) towards ILC near Aurosoya
- ?? Satprem, CSR, extension of a house
- ?? CIRHU, Administrative Area (near Bliss), Hostel

## News from the SAIER Development Programme

We are happy and grateful to announce that the SAIER development proposal, which was submitted to the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department of Education of the Government of India in 2001 was officially sanctioned on March 6th 2003. The Indian Government, in its recognition of the work of SAIER as an All India Institution of Higher Learning, has approved the release of funds for expanding the existing SAIER services.

These funds will be disbursed over a five-year period, ending 31 March 2007, and it is expected that these funds will be used to foster the growth of educational and research centres within Auroville for the benefit of Auroville, India and the world. (For further details, please see AVNet or contact SAIER.)

### **From Brooks:**

I would very much appreciate hearing from other people in Auroville who have cellular coverage from BPL, AIRTEL or Reliance about the dependability of their signal. (I do NOT want to be approached by company agents or sales representatives, thank you.) You can contact me at 98423 43001 or [brooks@auroville.org.in](mailto:brooks@auroville.org.in)

### **VCR WANTED**

Annapurna needs a Video Cassette Recorder (VCR) for a limited period of time. If you have a second-hand VCR that you would be willing to lend or rent to Annapurna for perhaps a month, please contact me. We are not interested in a Video Cassette Player (VCP).

Brooks, tel. 98423 43001 or [brooks@auroville.org.in](mailto:brooks@auroville.org.in)

### **From Aruna:**

In the name of all lovers of dynamized water I would like to thank Bhagawandas and his team for the beautiful effort they are doing to install d.w. machines in various places in Auroville, such as in various schools, now at the Visitors Centre etc... We can only hope to see more and more of these machines installed in and around Auroville. A big hearty thanks to the Aquadyn team.

### **Dance**

DANCE SPACE: Darya offers a unique space where stillness, meditation, dance & improvisation meet effortlessly... Diving into the unknown... discovering together....

On Mondays, in Verite, 5:30–6:00 PM.

### **Health**

Sigrid, healing practitioner, Heilpraktikerin, offers classical homeopathy, child care, personal development. Consultation in English, French, German and Tamil.

Timings for consultations:

Mon, Wed, Fri, 9 - 12.30 a.m.

Tue, Thu, 10.30 - 12.30 a.m.

and on appointment at Health First, Prayatna, phone 2623669.

Also available: HOMEOPATHIC FIRST AID KIT for travel and home. 36 REMEDIES for burns, accidents, travel sickness etc... Pick your manual in English, German or French.

### **Exhibition: "MATRIMANDIR: VISION FOR AN EVER EVOLVING CONSCIOUSNESS"**

An exhibition of original drawings and photographs of Matrimandir, as worked out during Mother's years (1965-1973) is being held at the Exhibition House of the Sri Aurobindo Ashram, 1 Rangapillai Street, Pondicherry, from April 17 – 27, 2003. Timings: 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 - 7 p.m.

### **Video showing**

THE TRIAL OF LIFE - Nature Series by David Attenborough

Timings: Monday nights at the Visitors Centre, 8 PM

Part 3: April 21st Part 4: April 28th Part 5: May 5th

(provided there is no other cultural event announced at the same time)

### **Cinema**

C I N E M A - Bharat Nivas - AUDITORIUM

FRIDAY 25 APRIL - 7.30 PM (Film show starting at 7.45 sharp)

AN AUTUMN AFTERNOON - SAMMA NO AJI

Directed by Yasujiro OZU, Japan, 1962

With: Chishu Ryu, Shima Iwashita, Shinichiro Mikami, Mariko Okada, Keiji Sada

Synopsis: The Hirayama family lives peacefully and happily. Shubei, chief accountant, is a widower who has a daughter, Michiko and two sons (one is married). A friend of him advises him to marry his daughter. But Michiko only wants to stay at home to take care of her old father and the house... This is the last movie of the great Japanese director Ozu, where we find all the familiar components of his films always focusing on simple family situations. Original Japanese version, with English subtitles - Duration: 1h52' - 35mm film - Colour

### **Amphitheatre programmes**

**Tuesday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6.00 p.m.:**

"Savitri", the epic poem by Sri Aurobindo read by Mother, accompanied by Sunil's music  
Book VII, The Book of Yoga, Canto 3, The Entry into the Inner Countries (contd.)

**Thursday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.:**

Reading from l'Agenda de Mere, 16.9. and 18.9.1964

"La vie d'occident... ils n'ont pas une minute pour se purifier ce qui tombe constamment sur eux et pour se resaisir. Dans ces conditions, comment peuvent-ils être des hommes libres? "

English text will be available. Come and enjoy a special sunset. Sigrid

### **Kalamitra programmes**

Kalamitra is happy to invite you to attend the following two programmes:

Posters with more details will be put up at key places: Solar Kitchen, Pour Tous etc. Please help to share this information with all your friends and invite them. Thanks, Tapas

#### **1) Indian Classical Dance Performance**

Presented by Snehakimar Desai & troupe - visiting artists from Pune and devotees of Sri Aurobindo & The Mother.

The Bharatnatyam Dance form has been amazingly and aesthetically blended with Hindustani (North Indian) music. "Devangan Nritya" is the name given to this style. This innovation was made by Dr. Anjani Arunkumar and has won hearts of audiences in India & abroad over the years.

Date: **Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**

Venue: Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas. Time: 8 PM

#### **2) Play**

"Flowers Aren't Enough"

Written and performed by Naomi Ackerman, a visiting artist from Israel.

The play is a monologue that tells the story of Michal, a young woman from an upper middle-class family who finds herself in an abusive relationship.

The show was originally produced under the auspices of the Israeli Ministry of Welfare. The monologue is woven from true stories and actual incidents. Unfortunately such stories are all too common. The monologue has been performed over 500 times for very diverse audiences.

Naomi has performed all over Israel and has successfully toured all over the world.

The presentation of the play is 60 minutes. A discussion with audience participation can take place if the audience so wishes.

Date: **Sunday, 11<sup>th</sup> May**

Venue: Sri Aurobindo Auditorium, Bharat Nivas. Time: 7 PM

### **Nederlandse radio-documentaire over AV ~ Zondag, 19 April, 3.30 pm, Merriam Hill**

**(Dutch radio-documentary on Auroville by Rob Hessing.)**

'Stad van de Dageraad', radio-documentaire over Auroville.

#### **COMMUNITY MEETING**

**A forum for information and communication amongst ourselves**

**Wednesday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 5.15 pm, SAWCHU.**

#### **Agenda:**

- 1) update on recent developments**
- 2) topics brought forward in the meeting itself**

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