

New York in the grip of Indian dance fever

4-day festival *Erasing Borders* brings 15 troupes from around the world together

Uttara Choudhury, New York

The four-day *Erasing Borders* Indian dance festival got New Yorker's warmed up with two open-air shows in bustling city locations and then segued into sold-out evening performances at the Ailey Citigroup Theatre in Manhattan. There was something to suit everyone, whether it was an eloquent Odissi and Bharatanatyam recital or a funky modern Bhangra artist.

The Indo-American Arts Council (IAAC) brought together 15 dance companies from all over the world for the four-day festival ending on Thursday.

"It has been exciting to curate this festival from over 80 companies that applied from India, United States, London, Canada and the Far East. We have included established as well as emerging performers. Their dancing brings us a taste of diverse forms, styles and gharanas of South Asia," said guest curator Uttara Coorwala.

Some of the dance companies moved between classical and contemporary styles without missing a beat. Lata Pada choreographed a stately Bharatanatyam recital, *Kalinga Nartana*, for Toronto's Sampradya Dance Company and also cre-



■ Kalinga Nartana by Sampradya Dance Creations in the *Erasing Borders* festival in New York —Uttara Choudhury

ated *Howzaat!*, a lively work about cricket. "At first the cricket references were not clear even to this Englishman; later all the

running, catching, bowling, fielding became too obvious. But the prime pleasure was that this was always a real dance and that the six female performers, all dressed in cricketing white, were all so vivid," said dance critic Alastair Macaulay in a review in the *New York Times*.

Other works—*Pipaasha*, by Ananya Dance Theatre Company; an excerpt of *Tides of the Moon*, by Thrash; *Nomadic Still*, by Dakshina/Daniel Phoenix Singh Dance Company; and an excerpt from *Quebasian Rhapsody*, by Sinha Danse were efforts to connect Indian and Western dance genres.

"We hope this dance festival will act as a catalyst to raise awareness about Indian dance and bring more Indian dance companies into the limelight," said "*Erasing Borders* festival director Prachi Dalal.

The borders between Indian dance and the West have been crumbling. Outside the nightclubs, gyms across the US, including the hugely popular Bollywood Axion and chain of New York Sports Clubs are offering 'bhangra masala' aerobic and dance classes. There is a serpentine queue to get into Indian dance instructor Pooja Narang's Bollywood Axion in Manhattan's bustling Times Square. "I probably get 60 to 70 emails and 20 phone calls every day from people wanting to sign up," Narang told DNA.

Sharp images...

Pigeon jailed for drug sneak

Bosnian police have taken a pigeon into custody for smuggling drugs into one of the country's highest security jails. According to Josip Pojavnik, deputy warden of Zenica prison, prison guards grew suspicious when they saw "four prisoners visibly intoxicated shortly after the pigeon landed on a prison window." It is believed that the drugs were stuffed into tiny bags and attached to the pigeon's legs. "We suspect that the pigeon carried the drugs from Tuzla, a town around 70 kilometres more than 40 miles northeast of Zenica in central Bosnia," *Telegraph* quoted Pojavnik, as saying The pigeon is behind bars while police investigates who might have loaded with drugs.



■ Madonna performs on the opening night of her *Sticky and Sweet* tour at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff on Saturday —Reuters

Naomi's Sphinx connection

Naomi Campbell felt a spiritual connection to the Great Sphinx of Giza. The supermodel spoke to the half-lion, half-human Egyptian landmark while on a personal tour conducted by secretary general of Egypt's Supreme Council of Antiquities, Zahi Hawass. Hawass said, "She is particularly interested in the Great Sphinx of Giza. She claims she feels a great spiritual connection to it. I took her to visit and she started talking to it." However, the archaeologist cannot reveal what Naomi said to the statue. He added, "She wouldn't even tell me." The revelation comes shortly after Naomi hit out at Kabbalah—the mystical Jewish faith.

No nanny for McConaughey

Matthew McConaughey is reportedly refusing to hire a nanny for new son Levi. The *Fool's Gold* actor—who welcomed his first child with fiancée Camila Alves into the world last month—is said to be determined to raise his son without any outside help, much to the distress of Brazilian model, Camila. A source said, "The house is getting messier and neither Matt or Camila are getting much sleep. Camila wants to hire someone but Matthew strongly objects—he thinks at least for the first few months he and Camila should be the only ones caring for Levi." Matthew recently revealed he hopes Levi grows up to be less "selfish" than himself.

Jen postpones wedding

Jennifer Love Hewitt has reportedly delayed her wedding. It has been claimed the actress and her fiancé Ross McCall decided to postpone the nuptials following a rocky patch caused by the amount of time they have spent time apart. A friend of Jennifer's said, "It's hard because he's filming in New Mexico and she's in Los Angeles. The relationship is strained and their wedding won't happen anytime soon." *Ghost Whisperer* star Jennifer, 29, got engaged to Ross, 32, last November.

Avril gets Malaysia nod

Malaysia has allowed Canadian pop star Avril Lavigne to hold a concert ahead of the country's independence day celebrations, reversing a decision to bar the performance following protests by an Islamist party. The decision to allow the Aug. 29 concert in Kuala Lumpur was taken at a cabinet meeting after studying the assurances given by the concert organiser, Arts and Culture Minister Mohamad Shafie said. The government had previously asked Lavigne's promoters to change the date of the concert.

Saudi to finger-print air travellers

Dubai: Starting this Haj season, passengers arriving at King Abdulaziz Airport in Jeddah and Prince Muhammad Bin Abdulaziz Airport in Madina will be finger-printed, a senior Saudi official has said.

The Saudi government has recently started finger-printing seven million foreign residents, who make

up 30% of the its total population of 21 million and started training personnel to master the new system at the country's entry points.

World Bank estimates this number to reach 34 million in 2020.

"When a foreign national is finger-printed, all his or her relevant data is stored in the database. Informa-

tion includes the person's full name, employer, religion and country of origin as well as the validity of his or her residence permit or visa," Brigadier General Zaid al-Turaifi, the director of Saudi's Passport Institute in Riyadh, told the *Saudi Gazette*.

"A digital photo of the person is saved in the data-

base too," he said. In 2003, the Saudi government began a package of new measures including finger-printing to eliminate the problem of overstaying. Now foreign residents and visitors will be finger-printed to help put an end to those who enter the country with fake passports or forged papers. —PTI



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Tender submission and opening date & time are hereby extended as below:

Tender No. & Date	Description of the Work	Last date & time of submission	Date & time of Tender opening
PU-E982706 dt 21.07.08	Supply... erection... commissioning of "Underground / Over head yard pipe work for SMS & CRM Expansion"	15.00 hrs 09.09.08	16.00 hrs 09.09.08
PU-E982708 dt 30.07.08	Supply... erection... commissioning of "Shop Internal Pipe Work"	15.00 hrs 11.09.08	16.00 hrs 11.09.08
PU-E982712 dt 22.07.08	Design... supply... commissioning of "Ventilation Systems for SMS & CRM Expansion"	15.00 hrs 12.09.08	16.00 hrs 12.09.08
PU-E982713 dt 30.07.08	Supply, Installation... commissioning of "Auxiliary Power wiring, lighting, inter-plant cabling, Earthing, Lightning Protection system and Telephone Cable work for SMS & CRM Expansion"	15.00 hrs 11.09.08	16.00 hrs 11.09.08

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There's a little bit of SAIL in everybody's life

Tattooed bikers on 'Mission Rescue Pets'

Rugged New Yorkers display unusual tenderness for abused animals

Caroline Dworin, New York

They met on the local hot rod scene. They saw one another at tattoo conventions around the area, comparing bikes. They looked like heavies, a band of Hells Angels, with nicknames equally tough: Mike Tattoo, Big Ant, Johnny O, Batso, Sal, Angel, Des.

They meant no harm. Clad in leather, inked to the hilt in skulls and dragons, with images of bloodied barbed wire looped about their necks, they shared something else — a peculiar ten-

derness for animals, and the intensity needed to act on the animals' behalf when people abuse them.

The group became a little larger over the course of about 15 years, with various animal-loving, tattooed bikers in the New York area joining the conversation. Having run

in crowds where animal abuse was rampant, the men volunteered at shelters and the American Society toward Animals, and they tried to solve cases of missing or abused animals.

animal lovers

Next month, the bikers will begin a programme in the city's public schools to educate children about being kind to all animals, even the less attractive breeds. They will be accompanied by Elwood, a small, hairless Chihuahua mix judged in an annual California contest to be the World's Ugliest Dog.

Missari is the executive director and the dispatcher for this biker brotherhood, working from his office in Manhattan, where he spends some of his time phoning in leads to the men on the road. He gets up to 250 calls a day.

The men rescue animals sold for a pittance to buy drugs, or used for fighting and



■ Batso and Big Ant with pups from the litter —NYT

colonies of feral cats that angry neighbours . They have received calls from Australia and reports of a serial cat killer in Pennsylvania. They hand cas-

es of criminal activities to the police. "That's not our specialty," Missari said. "We specialise in getting the abuser away from the dog." —NYT

Turks find Ramzan remedy

Decide to use diet patches to ease hunger pangs during holy month

Ankara: Turkish Muslims plan to resort to appetite suppressing diet patches to help them get through the daily fast during the Ramzan holy month, *Anatolia* news agency reported.

One of the most popular questions asked on a helpline run by Turkey's religious affairs directorate is "whether diet patches are suitable for



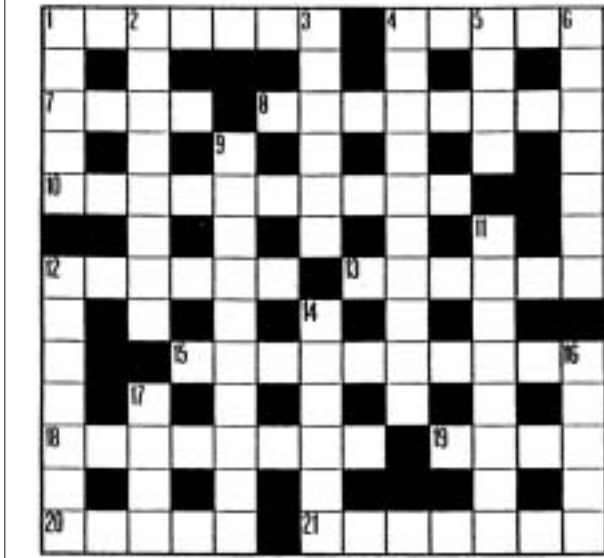
fasting" and "whether the use of diet patches will amount to foul play," the report said.

Theologists have reassured them they have nothing to worry about. "Fasting is a way of disci-

plining the body. Those who use diet patches try to achieve the same. That's why diet patches are not objectionable," said Mehmet Baris, the muftu, or highest Muslim authority, in the southern province of Adana.

The patches, which release appetite-suppressing ingredients to the body through the skin, cannot be considered as corrupting the fast because their effect amounts to "showering or applying a pomade on the skin" rather than eating, theology professor Kerim Yavuz said. —AP

Crossword no 1078...



Across

- The girl looks different, having slimmed (7)
- They may be carried on while waiting (5)
- A love outwardly secure (4)
- International shipping line (8)

- Superficially he maintains our ways (4,6)
- Fishermen use many spinners (6)
- Holy piece of land in Scotland's borders (6)
- Travel bargain offer? (5,5)
- Given the sack? (8)
- Cut-price food (4)
- Swindler has to show regret and go back inside (5)
- Mother takes a long time obtaining reparation (7)
- Down
- Row to the right ship (5)
- Showed annoyance in grating nutmeg? (8)
- One way of underlining a decision (6)
- A sober habit (10)
- Cry from a small boat (4)
- Kissed perhaps - the usual start between girl and boy (7)
- Improve meal or I eat out (10)
- Instruction for barristers and aircrew (8)
- No quick-growing plant? (7)
- An expression of surprise in a legal document (6)
- Leaps into excuses (5)
- A slow mover may be fired (4)

Solution No. 1077

Across: 1 First to last, 9 Chagrin, 10 Bobop, 11 Noes, 12 Cellmate, 14 Wither, 16 Tether, 18 Epilogue, 19 Horn, 22 Groom, 23 Trounce, 24 Astronomers.
Down: 2 Image, 3 Sort, 4 Tender, 5 Labelled, 6 Sabbath, 7 Acknowledge, 8 Appearances, 13 Reformer, 15 Tripods, 17 Suntan, 20 Owner, 21 Room.

WEST CENTRAL RAILWAY
OPEN TENDER- TENDER NOTICE NO. DY.CE/C/KOTA/15 OF 2008 Date: 21/8/2008
For and on behalf of President of India, Dy. Chief Engineer (Construction)/I, West Central Railway, Kota 324002, invites open tenders on prescribed form for the following work.

S. N.	Tender No. & Name of work	App. Cost	Date of selling	Date of submission	Date of opening	Completion Period	Cost of Tender form	Earnest Money
1.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS-1 Nagda-Kota Sec- Construction of Type-I quarters at-SGZ, VMA, & MEP- Total 34 No's.	Rs. 152.42 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	15 Months	Rs. 5000/- in person & Rs. 5500/- by post	Rs. 226210/-
2.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS-2 Nagda-Kota Sec- Construction of Type-I 24 units & Type-II 22 units quarters at stations-JHW, DKRA & BWM- Total 46 No's.	Rs. 228.54 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	18 Months	Rs. 10000/- in person & Rs. 10500/- by post	Rs. 264270/-
3.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS-3 Nagda-Kota Sec- Construction of Type-I 38 units & Type-II 4 units quarters at KTCY, DKNT, DARA & RMA- Total 42 No's.	Rs. 185.48 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	18 Months	Rs. 5000/- in person & Rs. 5500/- by post	Rs. 242740/-
4.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS- 4 Kota-MTJ Sec- Construction of Type-I quarters at- BTE, SWAR & BXN- Total 27 No's.	Rs. 114.77 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	12 Months	Rs. 5000/- in person & Rs. 5500/- by post	Rs. 207390/-
5.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS- 5 Kota-MTJ Sec- Construction of Type-I quarters at- NMD, GGC & HAN- Total 65 No's.	Rs. 276.35 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	18 Months	Rs. 10000/- in person & Rs. 10500/- by post	Rs. 288180/-
6.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS- 6 Kota-MTJ Sec- Construction of Type-I quarters at- MXL, SWM, IDG & LKE - Total 54 No's.	Rs. 244.25 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	18 Months	Rs. 10000/- in person & Rs. 10500/- by post	Rs. 272130/-
7.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS- 7 Kota-RTA Sec- Construction of Type-I quarters at- ATRU, SYL, CAG & DHR- Total 40 No's.	Rs. 174.85 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	15 Months	Rs. 5000/- in person & Rs. 5500/- by post	Rs. 237430/-
8.	Tender No.DY.CE/C/KOTA/QRS- 8 Kota-RTA Sec- Construction of Type-I quarters at- ANTH, BJK & BAZ- Total 61 No's.	Rs. 285.55 lakh	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 10 hrs to 15.30 hrs. & upto 12 hrs. on 10/10/08.	25/9/08 to 8/10/08 on working day & 10/10/08 upto 15.45 hrs.	10/10/08 at 16.00 hrs	18 Months	Rs. 10000/- in person & Rs. 10500/- by post	Rs. 292780/-

Minimum Eligibility Criteria:- Following criteria is required for these tenders (Sr.No. 1 to 8), Joint Ventures are not allowed in these tender- Tenderer shall fulfill following eligibility criteria regarding Turnover and Similar nature of work either as an individual or Partnership firm, Company. Only those firms/tenderers who in their individual capacity fulfill the minimum eligibility criteria need to quote for tender. **Turn Over:-** Total contract amount received during the last three financial years and in the current financial year i.e. upto date of opening of tender should be a minimum of 150% of advertised tender value as per attested certificate from the employer/client/Chartered Accountant or audited balance sheet duly certified by the Chartered Accountants etc. **Similar nature of works:-** Should have physically completed in last three financial years (i.e. current year and three previous financial years) at least one similar single work, i.e. "Any Civil Engineering work" for a min. value of 35% of advertised tender value of work. Tenderer should submit the documents regarding the eligibility criteria alongwith tender documents. Documents in support of minimum eligibility criteria shall not be accepted after opening of tender however clarification/verification on the documents submitted can be sought after opening of tender. **Tender documents downloaded from internet.** Tender documents downloaded from internet shall accompany with requisite tender form in the form of Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque or Money Receipt issued by any Railway Station Master. The tenders without requisite cost of tender form/tender fee in acceptable form shall be summarily rejected. **Earnest Money:-** Tender without requisite EMD in valid prescribed form shall be summarily rejected. **Cost of Tender form (Non refundable):** As mentioned above each set for postal delivery payable at Kota by Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque drawn in favour of Dy. FA & CAO (C) W.C.Railway, Kota payable at Kota. For postal Delay, Railway will not be responsible. The above tender fee is available on Web Site www.tenders.gov.in Tender Documents is not transferable. Railway reserved its rights to reject the tender without assigning any reason. In case it happens to be holiday on the date of opening, the tender will be opened on next working day at same time of opening. The provisions of Building and other construction workers (RECS) Act 1996 and Building and other construction workers welfare cess Act-1996 shall also be applicable. The tenderer for carrying out any construction work in Rajasthan must get themselves registered from the Registering Officer under Section-7 of the building and other construction workers Act, 1996 and rules made thereto by the Rajasthan Govt and submit certificate of Registration issued from the Registering Officer of the Rajasthan Govt. (Labour Deptt.) for enactment of this Act, the tenderer shall be required to pay cess @ 1% of cost of constructions work to be deducted from each bill. Cost of material shall be outside the purview of cess, when supplied under a separate schedule item.

Dy. Chief Engineer (Constrn.)/ I WCR-Kota

“भ्रष्टाचार संबंधी शिकायत हेतु रेलवे विजीलेंस मोबाइल हेल्पलाइन नं.: 0761-155210

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