



International
Women's
Association

FEBRUARY 1995



MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 27th February, 1995 — 3-00 p.m.

At: The British Council Auditorium
737, Anna Salai
Madras-600 002

'ORLANDO' — a film by a woman director

Written and directed by Sally Potter, this is a story of a journey through time of someone who lives for four hundred years, first as a man, then as a woman.

The film is based on the novel by Virginia Woolf. It comes to us through the courtesy of the British Council. All are welcome.

**NIRMAL SESHADRI
ISSY SANDERSON**

International
Women's
Association

India's fabled Craft Heritage has come down to us in a stunning continuum of nearly 5000 years, going back to Indus Valley and beyond. In the true tradition of the Indian ethos, craftspersons have remained anonymous through the ages while their priceless creations have been immortalised in stone, silver, brass or bronze. Today, as winds of a high-tech computerised age overwhelm society, Indian craft and the craftsperson stand at the crossroads, in dire need of voices to be raised for their survival. One such voice is that of Gita Ram's, whose dedication and untiring and ceaseless work for the cause of craft and the craftsperson has made an impact on the lives of our country's craftspersons.

Gita's search could have been different, since her interests vary from art to environment to economics. But craft chose Gita because in its entirety of philosophy and lifestyle in the truest sense, it touches the life of every Indian from the humblest to the most affluent with beauty and meaning. To Gita, before even craft, comes the humble craftsperson. For over two decades, Gita has identified herself with the craft movement through the Crafts Council of India and the Madras Crafts Foundation. She has also served as the Deputy Vice President for the World Craft Council's South East Asia chapter and presently she is a Director of Poompuhar. It has been Gita's constant endeavour to provide India's craftspersons due recognition and reward as well as economic benefits. She has toiled unflinchingly to get them better wages, health care and training facilities, all done with a rare human touch. Gita has travelled widely in remote parts of India in order to revive dying crafts.

We salute Gita Ram's ceaseless caring quest for the world of craft and the craftsperson.

The International Women's Association has great pleasure in conferring " The Woman of the Year " Award on Gita Ram for her outstanding commitment to and involvement with the cause of craft and craftspersons of India.

LILY MADHOK

MARGARET SEKHARAN

(PRESIDENTS 1994 / 95)

February 14, 1995
Madras

IWA NEWS LETTER

Vol. IX No. : 9
Madras

FEBRUARY 1995

MONTH AT A GLANCE

Thursday, 2nd February	EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING	10-15 a.m.
Thursday, 9th February	ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS Crafts Demonstration and sale by IWA members	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 14th February	WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD Presentation at Chola Sheraton	10-15 a.m.
Monday, 20th February	MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS 'Navarasas' in Bharatha Natyam by the Dhananjayans — V. P., Shantha and Satyajit	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 21st February	PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION 'New Dimensions of Humanism' Lecture by Dr. Joanne Waghorne, Professor of Religion in Contemporary India, from University of North Carolina	10-15 a.m.
Tuesday, 28th February	BOOK DISCUSSION 'Beyond Love' by Dominique Lapierre Review by Jaiboy Joseph	10-15 a.m.

FROM THE PRESIDENTS

Dear Members,

February as you all know is the shortest month of the year and we have less meetings this month than has been 'our wont' this year.

The Woman of the Year programme is to be held on St. Valentine's Day and we look forward to seeing all of you at that meeting.

Both Presidents have moved their residence during the year, (Lily having mooted the idea) and before the end of the year should be settled in their new homes.

LILY MADHOK
MARGARET SEKHRAN

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, 2nd February, 1995 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Irene Pruller Dass's
26, Poes Garden
Madras-600 086



Please have your blurbs ready — positively.

Activity Chairpersons, please bring all pending attendance sheets and give them to Angelika Mandaiker at this meeting without fail.

ARTS AND HANDICRAFTS

Thursday, 9th February, 1995 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Sandra Rowland's
River House
1, Turnbolls Road
Madras-600 035



CRAFTS DEMONSTRATION AND SALE

We have some talented artists and artisans among members of IWA and their friends. They will demonstrate their work and exhibit the results to members and guests. Items will also be on sale, so bring your purse! Contact Sandra (4341888) or Shakunthala (459199) to arrange your presentation.

**SHAKUNTHALA JAGANNATHAN
SANDRA ROWLAND**

We also thank the following hostesses for helping us to make the visit to Film City enjoyable.

Alagammai Alagappan
Geeta Chandrasekharan
Rani Das Gupta
Srikanta Jhaver
Bela Khaleeli

Kshama Narasimhan
Neena Sanghavi
Shobha Seshasayee
Usha Viswanath

Overseas Women's Club invites IWA members for their Annual Garden Tea to be held on Wednesday, 8th February, 1995 at the Madras Club at 3 p.m. The programme includes Musical Pot Pourri and International Tea. Donation cards of Rs. 100 each are available from Chandrika Chidambaram (4917609), Alison Emoto (8269162) and Aruna Vijaykumar (8272732).

WOMAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Tuesday, 14th February, 1995 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Hotel Chofa Sheraton
10, Cathedral Road
Madras-600 086

GITA RAM, chosen as Woman of the Year for her diligent devotion to the cause of craftspersons over many years, will receive the award instituted by Nirmal Mirza.

Please be prepared to stay right through the function. Leaving midway does not become an IWA lady, especially if she is a Woman of To-day! This function is only for members, so NO guests please.

Fond Farewell to :

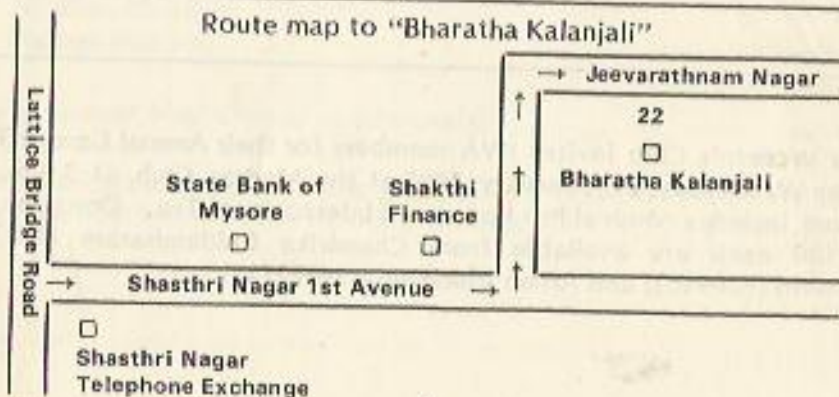
Michi Nagasaka who leaves for Japan in February. Our good wishes go with you, Michi.

Change of Address and Telephone Numbers :

NEELU SAWHNY
E-30, Greater Kailash Part I
Second Floor
New Delhi-110 048
Phone : 621 79 54

Sheela K. Sarath 4938524 (R)
4938411 (O)
4937295 (O)

MARGARET SEKHRAN
A-1 118/B, Eighth Main Road
Anna Nagar West
Madras-600 040



MUSIC AND PERFORMING ARTS

Monday, 20th February, 1995 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Bharatha Kalanjali
22, Jeevarathnam Nagar
Off Shasthri Nagar 1st Avenue
Madras-600 020



“NAVARASAS” — a dance demonstration by the DHANANJAYANS

The nine predominant emotions revolving round the life of a man are the “Navarasas”. We are privileged to be invited this morning to “BHARATHA KALANJALI”, the prestigious dance institution of the renowned dancers SHANTHA & V. P. DHANANJAYAN.

The Dhananjayans have dominated the dance scene for over two decades excelling as superb dancers, brilliant choreographers and inspiring teachers. Their institution celebrated their 25th anniversary in 1993. The many choreographic accomplishments of the Dhananjayans include the “Adventures of Mowgli” — the story of jungle book — for the Academy of Indian Dance in London and Pandit Ravi Shankar’s “Ghanshyam”. Every summer they conduct a dance camp in Virginia in the USA. They are also on the faculty of visiting professors at the University of Pittsburgh.

This morning, Shantha, Dhananjayan and their multi-talented son Satyajit will present a unique dance demonstration exclusively for us.

(R.S.V.P. call Nirmal between 7 a.m. and 9 a.m.)

This programme is sponsored by SHAW WALLACE & CO. Our grateful thanks to them.

**NIRMAL SESHADRI
ISSY SANDERSON**

Please follow the map on page 4 and instructions to get to “Bharatha Kalanjali”, 22, Jeevarathnam Nagar.

- 1) Turn into Lattice Bridge Road in Adyar & go past Shantha Sundari Kalyana Mandapam.
- 2) Turn left into Shasthri Nagar 1st Avenue, near the Shasthri Nagar telephone exchange.
- 3) Go straight down past State Bank of Mysore and take the first left after Shakthi Finance.
- 4) Turn first right, “Bharatha Kalanjali” is the second building on the right.

PHILOSOPHY AND RELIGION

Tuesday, 21st February, 1995 — 10-15 a.m.

At : U.S.I.S. Auditorium
220, Anna Salai
Madras-600 006



"NEW DIMENSIONS OF HUMANISM" will be the topic of a lecture delivered by Dr. Joanne Waghorne, Professor of Religion in Contemporary India, from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Her lecture will cover how Hindus are defining a new cultural identity by constructing contemporary Hindu temples in Madras and in the United States. Author of several books on South Indian temples and divinity, Joanne and her photographer husband, Dick, capture the excitement of the ever evolving Hindu worship by looking at the development of new Tamil temples in Tamil Nadu and some new elegant temples in America. Please join us for an enlightening morning !

RANJINI MANIAN
JOANNE GRADY HUSKEY

Congratulations to :

Nanditha Krishna, for the release of her book, PAINTED MANUSCRIPTS OF THE SARASWATI MAHAL LIBRARY, by Dr. J. Jayalalitha at the World Tamil Conference, Thanjavur ; and

Lakshmi Viswanathan, for her excellent lecture-cum-demonstration on the Love Poems of Kshetrappa at the Sixty - Eighth Conference of the Music Academy held in December 1994.

Condolences to :

Maureen Murari, who lost her brother ; and Seema Sait, whose father-in-law passed away.

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesday, 28th February, 1995 — 10-15 a.m.

At : Dorothy Saldanha's
462, Kilpauk Garden Road
Kilpauk
Madras-600 010



BEYOND LOVE – by DOMINIQUE LAPIERRE

Beyond Love is a richly textured drama of dauntless men and women tackling the greatest challenge of our time — AIDS. They are people of courage and commitment beyond exception — beyond love.

JAIBOY JOSEPH has been in the media for a number of years. He was Special Correspondent and columnist to a number of dailies and magazines. He will review the book for us.

**SULOCHANA ALEXANDER
ROSA MARIA SRIDHARAN**

CURRENT EVENTS

Sujaya Menon thanks the following hostesses for their overwhelming response in contributing to the success of the meeting with Aishwarya Rai, Miss World 1995 held in January.

Susan Abraham
Kusum Chadda
Latha Chohan
Joyce Gopalan
Sherna Irani
Premila Jacob
Mahin Khaleeli
Katy Madan
Farida Majid
Bina Mathew
Darley Mathew

Sashi Ravichandran
Shylja Rau
Seema Sait
Indira Satyamurthi
Rukku Seshasayee
Daksha Sheth
Nandini Srikanth
Stina Vasu
Shanthy Verghese
Lalitha Zachariah

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

THE BOARD

PRESIDENTS	:	Lily Madhok	4993125/4990661(R) 4994101(O)
		Margaret Sekhran	
VICE-PRESIDENTS	:	Lakshmi Padmanabhan	8264334(R)
		Barbara Cortez-Greig	4344884(R) 8273040/208(O)
SECRETARIES	:	Shyla K. Rau	8276676(R) 8276893(O)
		Seema Sait	8261018(R) 8264112(O)
TREASURERS	:	Zubeida Asgarali	8271614
		Angelika Mandajker	611265

ACTIVITY CHAIRPERSONS

ARTS & HANDICRAFTS	:	Shakunthala Jagannathan	459199(R)
		Sandra Rowland	4341888(R)
BOOK DISCUSSION	:	Sulochana Alexander	8262410(R)
		Rosa Maria Sridharan	417289(R)
CURRENT EVENTS & CAREERS	:	Sujaya Menon	4910044(R)
COOKING SWAPSHOP	:	Usha Bail	6412621(R)
		Irene Pruller Dass	4990865(R) 417233(O)
HEALTH & ECOLOGY	:	Rupa Kadhiresan	4992847(R)
		Vijaya Rangarajan	8284334(R) 4992653(O)
HISTORY, CULTURE & TOURS	:	Sushila Natraj	4911015(R)
		Sabine Salam	832670(R)
MUSIC & PERFORMING ARTS	:	Nirmal Seshadri	413820(R)
		Issy Sanderson	4343348(R)
PHILOSOPHY & RELIGION	:	Ranjini Manian	453085/4342466(R)
		Joanne Grady Huskey	4347888(R)