



igned in such
oy are easily
the custom-
in a hurry to
lunch or din-

es the Azad
tels different
ty and tasty
at it serves,
a, biriyani,
r, mixed fried
s or pizzas.
is different
r snack shops
store a tempo-
ypical Indian
ally Bengali
dian sweets.

ated by Anil
dram, Manu
tographers:
attathiri

y.
puram,
is

d and

ng

desk

India

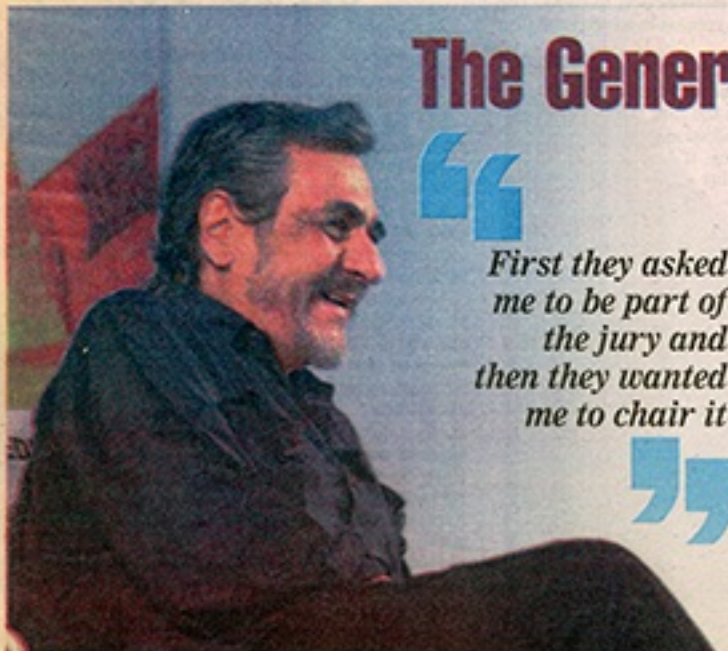


Film Express

Daily with The New Indian Express

9th INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL OF KERALA

Thiruvananthapuram, Tuesday, 14 December 2004



The General speaketh

“
First they asked
me to be part of
the jury and
then they wanted
me to chair it
”

affected by the political situation and vice-versa,” he said.

So why did he switch from architecture to movie-making? “Oh! I was stupid enough to think that I had lots of things to tell the world. And while the life of an architect is restricted, I wanted to travel all over,” he revealed.

But has architecture helped him in movie-making? “Yes, it always gives you the idea of the ensemble. A whole idea of what is made in parts and you generally don’t miss the details,” Leduc said. This Mexican director has both courage and talent. In ‘Dollar Mambo’, Leduc uses just song and dance to tell the story of life in a cabaret.

But Paul Leduc, like Tsai Ming-liang, is a worried man when it comes to the film distribution system. “The movie house owners are often pressurised by distributors to run Hollywood movies at the cost of national cinema. At one point

in time, Mexico used to make 130 to 160 movies a year. Now, the production has dropped to less than 10 a year,” said Leduc.

Come next spring, and its shooting time for Leduc again. For he is planning a film based on five stories by a Brazilian writer, Ruben Fonseca. “Its actually all different stories at different times and little by little you realise they are the same. The film is about the globalisation of violence and violence of globalisation,” he said.

He has a daughter, Valentina, who is a film editor and helps Leduc with the editing as well as costumes. “My children are being as stupid as me to get into film-making. My son is getting into photography as well,” said Leduc.

Try telling him that the world would have missed a great film-maker and he would retort with a chuckle. “How do you know that the world has not missed a great architect?”

Leduc is just waiting for the films to end, to roam around in the streets, especially the market. “I want to buy some spices. I love cooking and want to make some curries when I am back home,” he said.

By Reema Narendran

He looks like a character straight out of a Latin American novel. Bearded, pleasant, jovial and with a great sense of humour too!

Paul Leduc started out from home to participate in the IFFK as the director of film ‘Reed: Insurgent Mexico’, a visual translation of John Reed’s experiences with the Pancho Villa army. Out of the blue, Leduc found himself heading the IFFK jury as the jury chairman designate. Alan Corneau found it inconvenient to attend the festival. In mock seriousness, Leduc lets out a secret: “It was a trap! First they asked me to be part of the jury and then they wanted me to chair it. So here I am, exhausted by seeing movies and movies”.

Born in Mexico in 1942, Paul Leduc studied architecture and theatre and worked as a film critic for El dia and the weekly El Gallo. He studied film for several years at the IDHEC in Paris and after his return to Mexico, founded the film collective Cine 70. He is considered a leader in Mexico’s new wave cinema. “Mexican films generally do not make a distinction between commercial films and experimental films. In fact, it’s actually an interesting combination of the two. But now the situation is not so rosy in Mexico, with the Hollywood declaring war and winning it too,” he said.

Paul Leduc was the first film-maker to undertake a cinematic rendering of art legend Frida Kahlo’s life. “Most of my films relate political contexts to individuals. They portray how anybody’s life is

inside

- Dancing villain is back **2**
- Nine going on to Ten **2**
- Pangs of Democracy **3**
- Time, sex and frustration **6**

My choice
The poll for the audience award of the IFFK-2004 will be held on December 15, 16 and 17. The facility for the same will be arranged at four major venues of the festival.

IFFK pays homage

A one-minute silence was observed before the screening of films in the competition section of the IFFK at the Kairali Theatre on Monday as a mark of respect to the four cine workers who were killed in an accident earlier in the day.

Four film workers of the Merryland Studio here were killed in the accident which occurred at Thonakkal near Kazhakoottam. They were returning from Ernakulam after film-related works. Those killed are Sathesh Kumar of Noyyattinkara, Anilkumar of Peyad, Sreekantan Nair of Pappanamcode and Ramachandran Nair of Malayinkeezhu.

HEALTH & BEAUTY
With the Timeless Knowledge of
Ayurveda... for 120 years.

Traditional Ayurvedic Treatments:

- Rejuvenation Therapy/ Body Purification Therapy
- Body Immunisation/ Longevity Treatment
- Medicinal steam Bath/ Sleeping programme
- Body care programme

Specialized Treatments:

- Rheumatoid/ Arthritic/ Spinal Cord/ Paralysis
- Insomnia/ Skin Diseases/ Nervous System Disorders
- Hypertension/ Diabetes/ Sports Injuries

VASUDEVA VILASAM ARYAVEDYASALA & NURSING HOME
No. 10, Thiruvananthapuram Road, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. Phone: 0471-2631842. Fax: 0471-2631843. Email: vvilasam@rediffmail.com. www.vvilasam.com

Branches: Guruvayurathalayar Road, Kozhikode, Kerala, India. Phone: 0974-2273462. Opp. Karamana Hospital, Iddukki, Kerala, India. Phone: 0471-2266211. Kaddi Road, Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, India. Phone: 0471-2266211.

Other Vasudeva Group Centres: Vasudeva Vilasam Herbal Remedies P Ltd., Vasudeva Herbal Concoctions, International Institute of Ayurveda, Vasudeva Vilasam Publications, Aranyak Ayurveda Pharmaceuticals P Ltd.

Vasudeva Vilasam now brings you
Mildin - the herbal facial powder which is effective in giving good nourishment and softness to the facial skin. Apart from reducing pimples and acne marks, Mildin helps in imparting a fresh radiance and glow to the skin.

Chemist and distributor calls for 'Mildin - Herbal Facial Powder' is unregistered area.