

# Zola to Sinhala silver screen

Most of the novels, short stories written by Emile Zola, one of the most adapted authors in world literature, will soon be on the silver screen and the television series. Since the beginning of the cinema, more than 70 films have been adapted from the works of Emile Zola. His novel *Nana* was adapted to cinema 9 times and *Germinal* 7 times and *L'Assommoir* 11 times. Emile Zola's short story *Pour Une Nuit d'Amour* (For A Night of Love) was adapted to cinema first by a Danish film director August Blom in 1913 and by an Italian director Luigi

Laggi in 1914. In 1921, Yakov Protozanof and in 1946 Edmond T. Greville and in 1988 Dusan Makavejev did films based on Emile Zola's *Pour Une Nuit d'Amour*. It is significant that after 61 years of the Sri Lankan film industry for the first time a Sinhala film have been done based on a French short story. "*Ekamath Eka Rateka*" (Once Upon A Time) is directed by award winning actor, producer Sanath Gunatilake. Sanath's maiden direction *Ekamath Eka Rateka* is based on Emile Zola's short story "For A Night of Love" featuring Nirosha Perera, Sanath



Nirosha Perera Gunatilake, Ravindra, Roshan Semini, Iddamalgoda, Chandani Senevirathna, Tony Ranasinghe. Music is composed by Maestro Premasiri Khemadasa. Lal Wicramarachchi has handled the camera. *Ekamath Eka Rateka* is produced by Janaka Ramanayake and dialogues and screenplay have been penned by Sanath Gunatilake.



Nirosha and Sanath



Roshan and Nirosha

# The Lady magazine tries to shed dusty image

LONDON (AP) - A dusty grande dame of British publishing is getting a makeover. The Lady magazine, founded in 1885 as a "journal for gentlewomen," is famous for recipes, rules of etiquette and classified ads seeking cooks, butlers and nannies. On Tuesday, it marched into the 21st century with a glossy new issue featuring adventure-travel tips, full-color advertising and even- whisper it - a Web site.

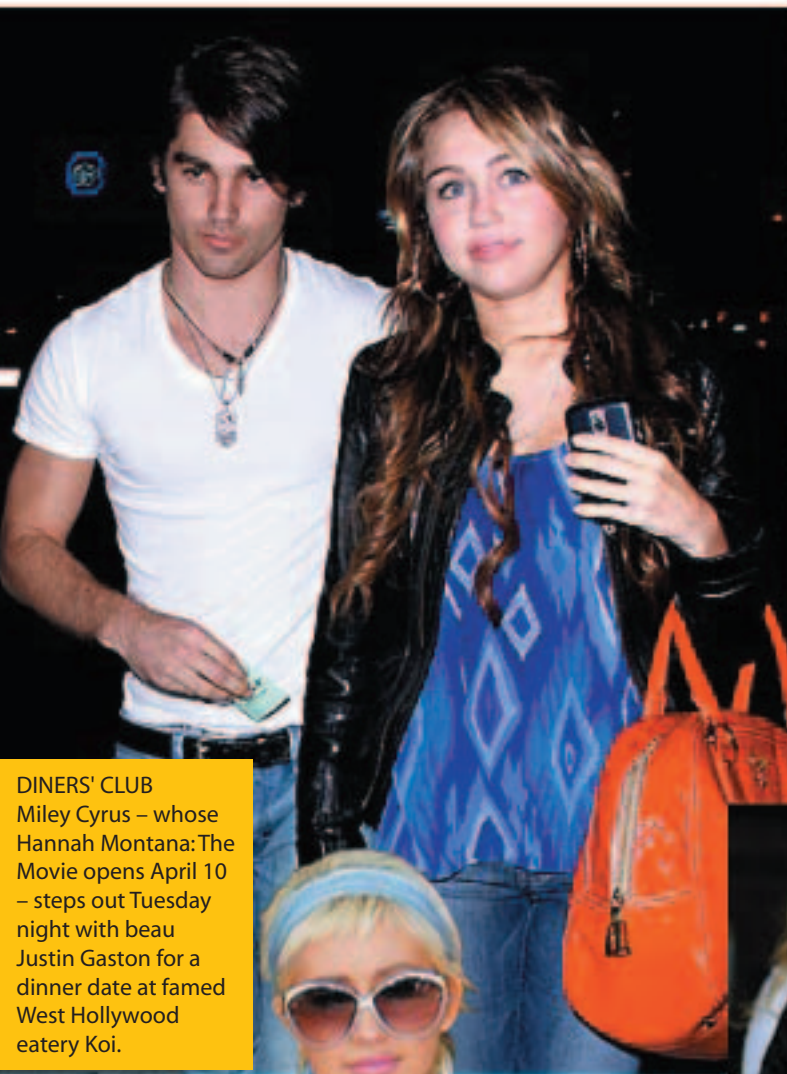


The revamp is part of the ambitious plans of new publisher Ben Budworth, great-grandson of the magazine's founder. "We're very keen not to be seen just as a place where butlers and under-gardeners are sought," said Budworth, a former radio-station executive who took over The Lady last year after a stint training helicopter pilots in Florida. "Where we were seen as irrelevant and eccentric, we want to be seen as charming and amusing."

The Lady is a well known - though no longer widely read - British institution, whose classified ads have regularly been used by the Royal Family to seek domestic staff. Its offices, in an imposing pastel-painted building in Covent Garden, are a London landmark. The past issues displayed in the building's window indicate The Lady's problem. There's not much difference visually between a 1939 issue featuring a model in quilted chintz negligee and a black-and-white 1978 edition promising sto-

Copies of the newly relaunched 'The Lady' magazine in central London, Monday March 30, 2009. The dusty grande dame of British publishing is getting a makeover. The Lady magazine, founded in 1885 as a 'journal for gentlewomen', and famous for dispensing recipes, rules of etiquette and classified ads seeking cooks, butlers and nannies. (AP Photo)

ries about "a prettier you" and "Charles Darwin." Inside, the building is a labyrinth of corridors and staircases leading from a basement archive full of dusty bundles up to a comfortable staff "smoking room" - smoking in the workplace is now banned - and a boardroom dominated by a portrait of founder Thomas Gibson Bowles, a politician and journalist who also launched the British version of Vanity Fair. Adrian Monck, head of the journalism program at London's City University, says The Lady is "a charming reminder of another age." "It's a miracle it's still with us," he said. Although The Lady has survived, it has not thrived in recent years. The maga-



**DINERS' CLUB**  
Miley Cyrus - whose Hannah Montana: The Movie opens April 10 - steps out Tuesday night with beau Justin Gaston for a dinner date at famed West Hollywood eatery Koi.



**ISLAND FLAVOR**  
A dapper Johnny Depp greets his fans Tuesday on the Puerto Rico set of his 1950s-era film *The Rum Diary*. The movie is based on a novel written by the actor's late pal, Hunter S. Thompson.



**ARMED & READY**  
Jennifer Aniston sheds her puffy coat to reveal her famously toned arms as she continues shooting her comedy *The Baster* on Tuesday in New York City.



**SHOP GIRL**  
Staying color-coordinated with pale jeans, a head scarf and oversized white-rimmed shades, a retro-looking Christina Aguilera steps out Tuesday for a shopping trip to Fred Segal in Beverly Hills.



Ginnifer Goodwin showed off her short new 'do at the opening night festivities for the Broadway revival of *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical*, at Al Hirschfeld Theatre in New York City.



**'RALLY' CALL**  
Eva Longoria Parker gets revved up for a good cause, cozying up to a classic car at a press event Tuesday for the Rally for Kids with Cancer Scavenger Cup in Glendale, Calif. The *Desperate Housewives* star is the honorary chair of the two-day race, presented by Wonderwall from MSN and taking place in Los Angeles on May 1.



Vanessa Hudgens in Los Angeles, Vanessa Hudgens, Amanda Seyfried and Megan Fox delighted their senses at a private dinner to launch Gucci's Flora perfume at the Sunset Strip's infamous Chateau Marmont hotel. "I am wearing Gucci, Gucci, and more Gucci! It's my very first time wearing Gucci, Gucci and more Gucci," laughed Hudgens, repeatedly invoking the name of the luxe label before taking her seat for the intimate three-course dinner. "I feel sexy - this is so much fun!"