



partying
shot

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★★★
Pune, Thursday, May 6, 2010

INSIDE.

Wander-ful!



Artist Pralhad Tiwari creates a colourful and descriptive series inspired by the Banjaras

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Paris Hilton relaunching pop career?

The actress has apparently decided to revive her music career and has met acclaimed songwriter Linda Perry



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BUZZZZZ.

Aamir comes to nephew Imran's rescue...

Not satisfied with the first cut of nephew Imran Khan's movie *Delhi Belly*, actor Aamir Khan has decided to restore it himself. Aamir will turn editor of the movie and guide Abhinav Deo, the director. But this means that Imran will have to wait for some more time to see the completion of the film as Aamir is currently busy with *Peepli Live* and will then move over to complete wife Kiran Rao's *Dhobi Ghaat* before taking up *Delhi Belly*.

Imran says, "Aamir and Abhinav will sit on the edit soon. The post-production will happen when they sit down together."
—Prithwish Ganguly



Imran Khan and (R) Aamir Khan



(Clockwise) A Ferretti 550 against the Gateway of India; Gondhkar at a yacht party and a group of city youngsters on a sailing yacht

Get set sail!

Puneites are discovering the high life on the high seas with luxury yacht parties and sailing lessons being the flavour of the season notes Preeti Devnani



If we tell you that yachts are what Puneites are loving this summer, don't mock us. We know Pune is miles away from the sea, but the city glitterati don't mind zipping down to Mumbai to hit the shores on fancy yachts.

Prabhu Tony, an executive with a Mumbai-based sailing company, says that their sailing company located in Mumbai has had many youngsters from Pune who want to learn sailing a yacht. "We teach sailing on a Beneteau 7.5s which is a 25 foot sailing yacht. We take off from the Gateway of India and sail into the high sea. The course is of 10 sessions consisting of two and a half hours each, costing Rs40,000. Post completion, the students get a certificate and can then later hire a yacht and take it out all by

themselves. Many sailing enthusiasts from Pune come down on weekends."

But if all you want is to stretch out your legs on the yacht and spend a relaxing day, then why not just hire a fancy luxurious yacht for the same. If you can't own a yacht, you can rent it out - in just as much style! Spending a romantic day at the sea or getting together with friends is what everyone's doing and so should you.

Businessman Prakash Dalwani from Vimannagar, planned one of the most romantic evenings with his fiancée on a yacht in Mumbai. "We sat on the deck of the Sun Seeker, a 50 feet 3 BHK luxury yacht, and saw the most beautiful sunset while sipping on some wine and cheese. I often have work in Mandhwa and so hire small

yachts as taxis to get there from Gateway of India," says Prakash.

Whether you want to splurge on cash like Prakash or go modest, yachts are available in all shapes and sizes to fit all pockets.

Khojesteher Kathawala, an executive with another sailing company, "You can hire a James Bond style six seater luxury speed boat yacht for Rs6,000 to Rs8,000 an hour or have a massive party on one of the biggest yachts on Mumbai shores which is a 140 feet beauty with a capacity for 120 people. It is super luxurious with a lounge, bar, jacuzzi, LCD screens and everything else you can imagine."

A club in Mumbai called Zenzi, hosts a Yacht party every Sunday for which Akshay Grover of Oriental Sports on MG Road, went for. "The theme was 'Sea and Beach' and an artificial beach was created on the lower deck, while a chilled out section was made on the upper deck where they had massage counters. Great food, booze and music turned the day into a great escape from the mundane Pune partying scene."

Pune actor Smita Gondhkar who loves yacht parties says, "This is the time to set sailing because the seas will shut down by May 20. Sailing on a yacht is the best way to soak in the summer sun."



Writer's bloc

What's the reason behind the downfall of big budget Bollywood films? While big money is spent on the stars and special effects, the writers are paid peanuts

SUPARNA THOMBARE

WHILE the speculated cost of making the recent Vivek Oberoi starrer *Prince* was around Rs50 crore, apparently not even five per cent of the total cost was spent on the script. Despite Bollywood getting more organised, writers — the backbone of a film — are often paid way less compared to the overall budget of the film. While big-budget films like *Drona*, *Love Story 2050* and *Tashan* proved to be box office duds, small-budget films with tight scripts like *LSD*, *Dev D* and *A Wednesday* were winners.

Film-maker Sudhir Mishra says, "Writers are an exploited and ignored lot. When they are writing a script, there is no development budget allotted. It is all on speculation," he says.

Another writer says on condition of anonymity, "Many fresh writers don't get beyond the signing amount at times. Big production houses pay much less than the market price. They think it's a

big break for a writer just to work for them."

However, producer Harry Baweja feels respected writers get their due. "The writers, who know their job, are respected and paid well. You have to show your mettle over a period of time. Salim-Javed used to get paid a bomb in their time," Baweja says.

However, if an upcoming and talented writer does not at all get the chance to prove his/her mettle in this melee of scriptwriters, then where does the question of being 'paid a bomb' arise?

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Big-budget films like *Drona* and *Tashan* (right) were box office duds

Money matters!

New writers for small projects get around Rs2-5 lakh. Writers with some experience are paid around Rs20 lakh. Well-known writers for major projects get around Rs50-60 lakh. However, the only recent exception was writer Abhijat Joshi who was said to have been paid a whopping Rs1 crore for *3 Idiots*.

Bullock to Woods' wife: I would have kept hitting!

BEFORE Jesse James' alleged infidelity came to light, Hollywood actress Sandra Bullock offered some advice to Elin Nordegren about Tiger Woods.

According to *FoxNews.com*, celebrity website *Hollywood Life* discovered an audio of Bullock at the People's Choice Awards, in which she's telling The Insider, "If I were Elin man, I would have hit a lot more than she did. I would have kept hitting."

"You would still be swinging the golf club?" the interviewer asked.

"Yeah, she stopped. She was respectable. I'd get the baseball bat, I'd get everything out," Bullock said.

—ANI



Sandra Bullock

The best of both worlds

Shubha Mudgal and Aneesh Pradhan have conceptualised a medley of *qawali*, jazz, folk music, blues, *taranas* and Indian classical music

VISHAKHA AVACHAT

WHEN THE artists in question are Shubha Mudgal and husband Aneesh Pradhan, you can expect something interesting to look forward to. Speaking about her efforts to constantly draw out the best from different forms of music, Mudgal says, "I am curious about all aspects of music and have enriched myself by exploring different forms."

She and Pradhan have now conceptualised a fusion-pop performance titled *Koshish* that they perform all over the country. "As I belong to the Indian classical music background, my work always carries its influence," says Mudgal. She adds that through *Koshish*, they have tried to incorporate music forms such as *qawali*, jazz, folk



Shubha Mudgal and (inset) Aneesh Pradhan

music, blues, *taranas* and Indian classical music. "We have tried to utilise forms of poetry in an unconventional way," she adds.

Mudgal's songs such as *Ab Ke Sawan* and *Ali More Angana*, which were released over a decade ago, still find their popularity among all age groups. When asked

whether the fusion is done to appeal youngsters as well, she replies, "I sing songs that appeal to me and I am asked to sing. You cannot predict the taste of people, especially youngsters, some may like classical and some may like heavy metal."

Mudgal, who has also learnt

Kathak at the age of four, says that as her parents were fond of music and art, they encouraged her to pursue dance, music and drama. "I feel fortunate to have great gurus like Pandit Vinaychandra Maudgalya and Pandit Jitendra Abhisheki.

When I read the biographies of eminent musicians and the hardships they faced, I marvel at their achievements," says Mudgal.

When she had expressed the desire of learning *thumri* to Pandit Maudgalya, he referred her to another guru, who was the best at it. "I have stayed at Pandit Abhisheki's home in Pune and his wife Vidyatai took great care of my son, who was a child when I was learning music from him," recalls Mudgal.

Koshish has Pratap Rath on the percussion, Murad Ali on sarangi, Benoni Sons on the drums, Berty on the guitar, Jony Dias on the keyboard, Aneesh Pradhan on the tabla and Shubha Mudgal on vocals.

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