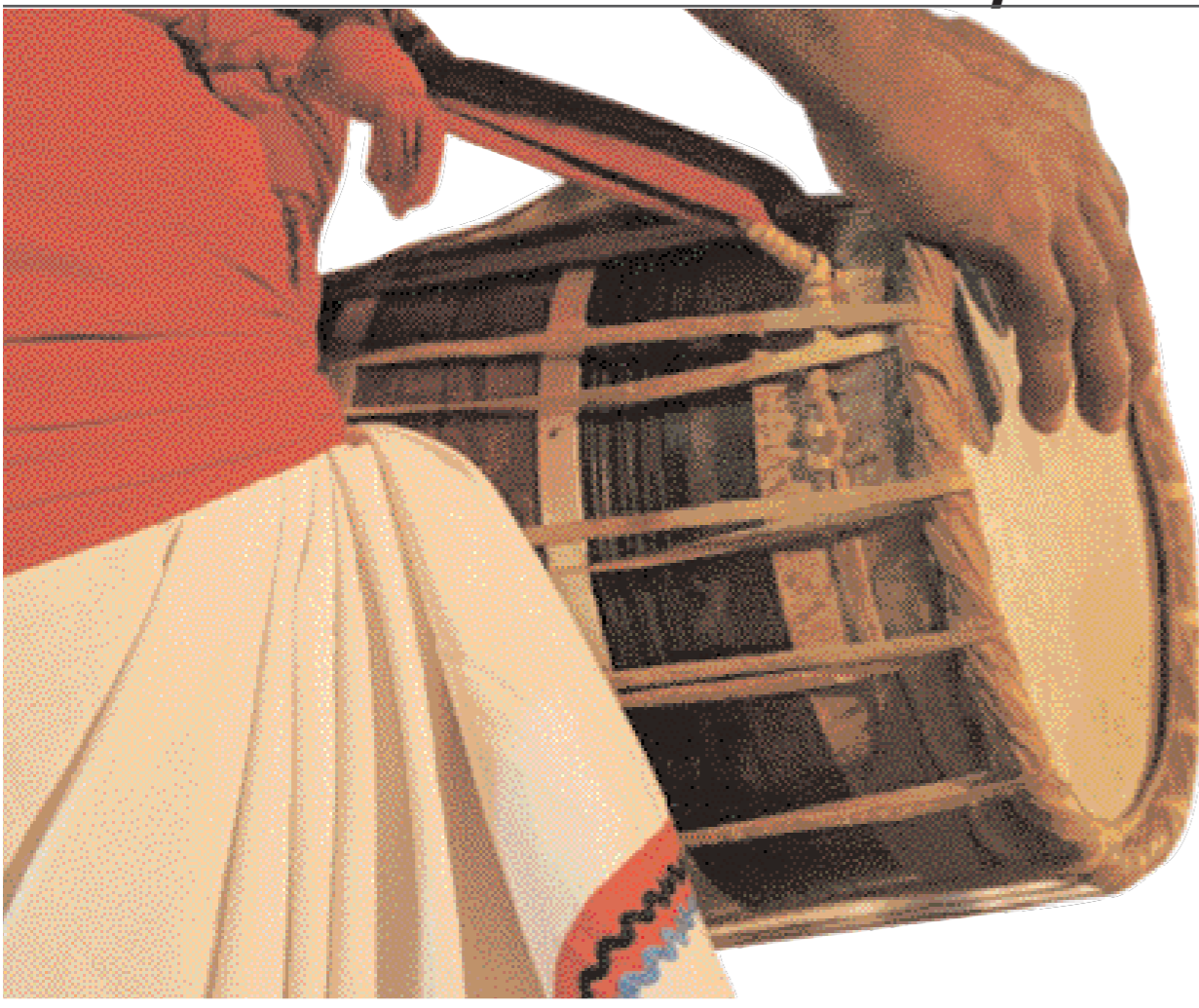


# Art beats

## Bera Poya Hewisi



The dazzle of a burning torch, the glint of beads of sweat on ebony colored torsos, the thunder of drums and suddenly a toddler rushing out to one of the drummers...standing on her toes she kisses the drum...the past momentarily links with the future.

Click goes the camera. This is exactly the moment Nisansala Karunaratne had been waiting for. "I always try to find the beauty of the unexpected in everything around me. This was such a moment."

The Bera Poya Hewisi conducted in line with the research project of a PhD student of the University of Chicago, USA held on April 11, in Melegama, Wadduwa, focused entirely on low country drumming and revived a tradition practiced in temples of the south till the late 1950s. According to the "Guru" the "Yak Beraya" was one such drum unique to the south and which was widely used throughout the night.

Having gone, having seen and having clicked, Nisansala is happy to share these moments with the *Sunday Observer* readers.

-Aditha

Pix Nisansala Karunaratne



Reviving a by-gone tradition



A kiss from the future

