



Visions

*In the flashing rays of the setting sun,
A kaleidoscopic haze of gathering,
disintegrating, racing clouds
So high
In a patch of sky,
I see
Spectrums of twisted fragments, smudges
and suggestions
Of pictures in the sky
My imagination
Fertile sharpened alert
And ready to clutch at a straw
of a suggestion,
I have visualised;
Images of
Warriors fighting gruesome battles,
Bull fights,
Tatters of Renaissance paintings,
Frescoes of Ajanta, Sigiriya,
Appearing for a moment;
Transforming into some hideous
Gargoyle of a thing
Ludicrous.
Strange stunning iconic images
Surrealistic.
My subconscious awed,
Is my mind flawed?
3/4th of a century ago
Seated beside an old cook woman
With a lined,
But kind
Face.
I watched the
Wondrous folk tales she told me then
Enacted
In the kitchen fire among the flames
And the dying embers of the twig fire
Among the burning logs of a cozy hearth
of a colonial bungalow, 6,000 feet above sea level
In N'Eliya
When I was working there
as a teacher of teachers,
I saw
The faces of Kalagolaya and Dikwitiya;*

*His face was dark, etched in charcoal.
She was ethereal and fair,
Like in the painting of Sandro Botticelli
"The birth of Venus."
In the scalloped cirrus clouds
At the break of day,
have you not seen?
Fold upon fold of sheep grazing?
From the beginnings,
Man has gazed at
The screen of the sky and seen,
Visions
Fantastic forebodings
And such things
Projections of our minds hard disks?
Not all
for
I have seen
The ripping of azure sky
In two
By a chalk line of white smoke
After the silent supersonic jet
Had fled.
I saw a perfect rainbow
Once
Spanning the bowl of the sky
Standing at the edge
of the bridge
at
Balakaduwa
I watched, this gift of God
Fascinated,
Until it faded away
And then over the distant dimly
silhouetted mountains
Arose scintillating; majestically,
The defiant
Evening wishing star
I wished a secret wish.
And left lamenting.
Au revoir
Till we meet again.
- Stanley Amunugama*

A solitary tree standing aloof

*Shapely with spread foliage
Seems to dominate the river bank
Golden rays of the setting sun
Reflect on the water ripples
Make a splendid marvel
Sparkling leaves of the majestic tree
With the goodbye dance
To the descending star
Cormorants on wings
Making a v-shaped pattern
Fly towards their night shelter
Three-quarter moon smiles
In the sky spotless
Now the solitary tree
Withdraws for the night
With a few guests of herons
Water buffaloes in slow lethargy
Move towards the shed
Unaware of the enchanting beauty
One who took the evening walk
With alert watchful mind
Entered unknowingly
The silent meditation
A state of no thoughts
Creative energy filled the mind
There was peace, bliss and freedom per se
O man! Drop your ego unconditionally
Man, you are not living
But struggling to achieve
Never ending becoming
Makes you dull and weary
Rose is rose, never wants to be a lily
Simply live!
There resides the happiness
- N. Widanagama*



Happenings

Sunday, September 15

Oriental Trio - Terrace Mt. Lavinia
Coda - Colombo Hilton - 8.00 p.m.
Barefoot Band - Barefoot 11.00 a.m.
Norma'n Jazz - Mount Lavinia Hotel - 11.00 a.m.
Rhapsody - Cinnamon Lakeside
DJ Kapila - Library - 8.00 p.m.

Monday, September 16

DJ Kapila - Library, Cinnamon Lakeside - 8.00 p.m.
Rebels - 7° North - 7.00 p.m.
Perfect Combination - Colombo Hilton
Stella Karaoke - Il Ponte

Tuesday, September 17

Burn - R+B Disco
Kogomotso and Nathi - Hilton - 8.00 p.m.
Trivia - Cinnamon Lakeside
DJ Kapila - Library
Stella Karaoke - Il Ponte

Wednesday, September 18

Mirage - Margarita Blue, Galadari
Kogomotso and Nathi - Colombo Hilton
Warren and Rozette - Colombo Hilton
Kismet - Galadari Hotel
Shaman Ranaweera - 7° North,
Misty - R and B Disco

Geoffrey Fernando - FDOs

DJ Kapila - Library

Replay - Colombo Courtyard
Trio - Mt. Lavinia Hotel Lobby
Sing-a-long - Galadari Hotel - 7.00 p.m.

Thursday, September 19 (Poya Day)

Friday, September 20

Rebels - Mount Lavinia Hotel
Mirage - Margarita Blue, Galadari Hotel
Kogomotso and Nathi and Burn - Colombo Hilton
DJ Kapila - Library
Warren and Rozette - Cinnamon Lakeside
Soul - 7° North
Battery - R and B Disco
Geoffrey Fernando - FDOs

Saturday, September 21

Audio Squad - R+B Disco
Mirage - Margarita Blue, Galadari Hotel
Collective Colours - Colombo Hilton
Cold Sweat - Cinnamon Lakeside
Deezone - Library
Soul - 7° North
Geoffrey Fernando - FDOs.