

D A V I S  
M U S E U M A N D  
C U L T U R A L  
C E N T E R

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** January 20, 2006

**Media Contact:** Nina J. Berger  
617-971-9340, NinaJBerger@hotmail.com  
Barbara Levitov, 781-283-2034, blevitov@wellesley.edu or  
Geeta Patel, Associate Professor, Women's' Studies Department, 617 297-0235,  
geeta.patel@verizon.net

**DAVIS MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER PRESENTS FILMS OF  
OUTSPOKEN SRI LANKAN DIRECTOR PRASANNA VITHANAGE**

**Wellesley, Mass.** — The Davis Museum and Cultural Center, Wellesley College, presents ***Films of Prasanna Vithanage: Gender and Nationalism, War, Violence and the Place of Grief and Compassion***, a series of screenings, discussions and workshops, February 8 – 12, 2006.

One of the most successful Sri Lankan filmmakers, **Prasanna Vithanage**, along with **Robert Crusz**, Director of the Tulana Media Centre in Sri Lanka, will be on campus for the series. Vithanage's first film *Sisala Gini Gani (Ice on Fire)*, won nine OCIC (Sri Lanka) Awards including Best Director, Best Actor and Best Actress. His four other films have been shown at numerous international festivals, and have won many awards, including the Grand Prix at the Amiens Film Festival in 2000. The series is organized by Geeta Patel, Wellesley College Associate Professor of Women's Studies.

**February 8** Wednesday 4:30 – 10 pm

**Reception, Lecture, Screening, Discussion**

4:30 pm Reception with filmmaker Prasanna Vithanage and Robert Crusz, Director of the Tulana Media Centre in Sri Lanka. Davis Museum lobby.

5:15 pm Lecture by Robert Crusz: "Cinema and its Place in a Time of War"

6:15 pm Film: *August Sun (Ira Madiyama)* (2003)

8 pm Discussion

**February 10** Friday 12:30 – 10 pm

**Workshop, Reception, Screening, Discussion**

12:30 – 3 pm Workshop with Prasanna Vithanage and Robert Crusz

5:30 pm Reception: Collins Café  
7 pm Film: *Death on a Full Moon Day (Purahanda Kaluwara)* (1997)  
8:15 pm Discussion

**February 11 Saturday 3 – 10 pm**

**Screenings, Reception**

3 pm Film: *Walls Within (Pawuru Walalu)* (1997)  
4:30 – 5:00 pm Reception: Collins Café  
5:30 – 7:30 pm Film: *August Sun (Ira Madiyama)* (2003)

**February 12 Sunday 3 – 7pm**

**Screenings**

3 pm Film: *Ice on Fire (Sisila Gini Gani)* (1992)  
5 pm Film: *Dark Night of the Soul (Anantha Rathriya)* (1996)

*Funded by the Davis Museum and Cultural Center and Amy Sommer '87.*

*Co-sponsored by Wellesley Association of South Asian Cultures, Women's Studies Department, Peace and Justice Studies Program of the Department of Religious and Spiritual Life, The Feministic Inquiry Fund, Writing Program, Department of Art and Art History, Cinema and Media Studies, and Office of Religious Life*

**DAVIS MUSEUM AND CULTURAL CENTER HOURS AND INFORMATION**

**On the Edge: Chinese Artists Encounter the West, a groundbreaking exhibition featuring experimental work from the 1980s through 2004 by 12 of China's leading avant-garde artists, and Xu Bing: "Any Opinions?" a site-specific lobby installation, open at the Davis Museum on February 15, 2006.**

The Davis Museum is open Tues–Sat, 11am-5pm, Wed until 8pm, and Sun noon-4pm, closed Mondays and holidays. Admission is free. The Center is located on the Wellesley College campus at 106 Central Street in Wellesley, Massachusetts. Parking is free and available in the lot behind the museum. Additional parking is available in the Davis Parking Facility.

For docent tour information, please call 781-283-3382. The museum's Collins Café, recognized for its innovative cuisine, offers a fresh menu daily and is open weekdays until 3:30pm. The museum, Collins Café and Collins Cinema are wheelchair accessible and wheelchairs are available for use in the Museum without charge. Special needs may be accommodated by contacting the Director of Disability Services, Jim Wice at 781-283-2434 or at [jwice@wellesley.edu](mailto:jwice@wellesley.edu).

**For information call 781-283-2051 or visit [www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu](http://www.davismuseum.wellesley.edu)**

**FREE ADMISSION. FREE PARKING.**

**MEDIA NOTE: For more information, digital images, or to set up an interview with, please contact Nina J. Berger at 617.971.9340, [ninajberger@hotmail.com](mailto:ninajberger@hotmail.com); Barbara**

Levitov at 781-283-2034, [blevitov@wellesley.edu](mailto:blevitov@wellesley.edu), or Geeta Patel, 617-297.0235, [geeta.patel@verizon.net](mailto:geeta.patel@verizon.net).