

11/08/2004

Pictorial tribute to dancer Ramli

"WHEN I dance, I am like a receptacle overflowing with rasa (feelings), like an incandescent vulnerable firefly, burning pure and bright," declared Ramli Ibrahim recently.

"This pure intense fire is the most sacred part of myself. It is the point of time when I celebrate life with my total being."

These words were included in a pictorial sketch of Ramli, published by the Sutra Dance Theatre.

The book titled Ramli! The Heart of Sutra is being sponsored by HSBC Bank Malaysia Berhad and is published in association with Silverfish Books.

The official launch of the hardcover coffee-table book was attended by Datin Paduka Marina Mahathir and HSBC chief executive officer Z.J. Cama.

The black-and-white photographs were taken by Eric Peris, Chu Li, Sivarajah Natarajan, Syed Zainal Rashid, Adam, Ashish Khokar, Avinash Pasricha, Branco Gracia, Chooi Tan, Francoise Savaton, Gill Marais, K.K. Lam, Nirmala Karuppiah, Normah Nordin, Ramli Ibrahim, S. Thinnakaran, Waseem Khan and William Harald-Wong.

In the foreword, Australian art writer James Murdoch wrote: "This book of photographs celebrates one of Malaysia's most gifted sons, the dancer Ramli Ibrahim.

"In dance, he has become largely identified with Indian classical dance, especially the north-eastern style of odissi. In the face of considerable opposition, Ramli has dignified the burgeoning presence of Indian classical dance in multi-racial Malaysia."

For details, call 03-40211092 or visit www.sutradancetheatre.com.

(END)