

**MARK YOUR
DIARY**
PLAY READING | THE CRUCIBLE - ARTHUR MILLER

Reverend Parris's daughter Betty and another girl are smothered and the local physician is unable to determine the cause. There is talk in the village of an unorthodox cause. Rumours of witchcraft fill the town. **Alliance Française, 5pm**

MUSIC | 77TH SRISRI RAMANAVAMI

NATIONAL MUSIC FESTIVAL Nadaravaram by Bangalore Lakshmin, SS Ramesh Babu and group, followed by Carnatic music concert by Rajyas and Gayalini. **Old Fort Grounds, 5.30pm**

THEATRE | WASTI BANE TO LIFE WASTI BANE:

The story revolves around a Gujarati family. Life has its ups and downs, but one must never worry too much. That's the message this comedy play tries to convey. **Wasty one-liners are the highlights of the play. Chennarayana Memorial Hall, 2.30pm**

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Rhythm connects us all

Music Goes Beyond Borders, Says Percussionist Lucas Van Merwijk

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"I am really old. I started playing music when I was 18; I'm 64 now," chortles Lucas Van Merwijk, renowned percussionist and bandleader of Van Merwijk Music Machine. The jazz quartet will perform in the city on Sunday evening at Indigo Live Music Bar. The legendary artiste tells TOI why improvisation is important. Excerpts.

Cuban music seems like an unlikely choice for someone who's lived in the Netherlands for the most part...

It was a connection. For some reason, in the early 80s in the Netherlands, there was a surge of interest in the Latino culture. It happened in all of Europe but mostly in the Netherlands. In fact, Rotterdam CODARTS conservatory, where I studied and have been teaching for the last 35 years, was the first school to teach Cuban music in Europe. Today, we have Cubans coming to us to learn Cuban music!

**TOP
COPY**

You play for two well-established ensembles — the 20-piece Cubop City Big Band and Nueva Manteca. What was the idea behind setting up the Van Merwijk Music Machine?

While I am primarily known as a Cuban music percussionist, I am also known for my world music experiments. I try



JAZZING IT UP: Lucas Van Merwijk (second from right) and other members of the jazz quartet Van Merwijk Music Machine, which will perform in the city on Sunday

WE LIKE TO EXPERIMENT

"I try finding connections between different musical cultures — be it South American music or European. I like putting different musicians together to create something new and that is what I am trying to do with Van Merwijk Music Machine...we take traditional Cuban songs and put them in contemporary settings; we like to experiment

them in contemporary settings...

department of the Amsterdam Conservatory for over 30 years. What's the advice you give your students?

Practice as much as you can because you are young now and have the stamina to practice. As you grow older, you will have lesser time to practice because you'll be busy touring. Also, don't specialize or focus too much only on one genre. Be open to all sorts of music, there's great stuff out there. Another thing I tell my students and musicians is that to be a successful musician, it is important to know the business of music as well.

Elderly couple ends life on railway track

Times New Network

Bengaluru: An elderly couple allegedly committed suicide by lying down on a railway track near Shettyhalli in Peenya on Saturday morning.

Srikanta Shastry, 71, and his wife Nagarathna, 64, were residents of Ramiah Layout in Peenya 8th mile in north Bengaluru. They lived close to the railway gate where their bodies were found around 8 am. Shastry had been ailing for a long time.

Police got the number of their daughter and reached from a cellphone found in her pocket. Police said the couple seemed to have laid themselves on the track before the train from the Peenya-Tumkur line rushed in. They had been coming a burden to the family members, relatives and

Bizman, commits s

Bengaluru: A businessman and his wife were undergoing a legal battle over consuming Friday night. T. Mohan Kumar, a home-based