Jaipur, Saturday, January 23, 2010

## on the fringe

SOLDOUT

## 'Stageman' Kaushik holds the day...

in the Feroz Khan-directed play Salesman Ramlal

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THOUGH Arthur Miller's classic Death of a Salesman is one of the most heard and read plays, still its equally popular Hindi adaptation Salesman Ramlal managed to pull a long queue of city folk and visitors outside Birla Auditorium on Friday evening on the ninth day of the Jaipur Heritage International Festival.

Though it was hard to understand why the media (print and electronic) was not allowed to take pictures of the play even during rehearsals. Never mind the absence of photographs in the newspaper, the story of a loser salesman surely turned out to be the winner.

The stage was actually the small house of 'ordinary man' Ramlal played by Satish Kaushik, the first character who enters the stage. His grouse is that nothing ever grows in the small area within the fence of his house, thanks to the neighbouring high building.

From this emerges a litany of complaints that all members of the family have against each other.

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Though a tightly gripping performance was given by all the actors, nevertheless it was Satish Kaushik, who held the play together and effortlessly portrayed different moods. And Jaipur lapped it all up.

ARABIC proverb

He who lends a book is an idiot. returns the book is more of an idea.



## Next stop, le Louvre

The Indo-French art show that kicked off on Friday at JKK is headed to Paris!

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t was a great opportunity both for the French and Indians to exchange their thoughts, ideas and, of course, creativity as the artists are together for an Indo-French exhibition in the city. Inaugurated on Friday, the display is on at Chaturdik art gallery in Jawahar Kala Kendra.

Aiming on providing an international platform the show has 39 artists—19 French and 20 Indians—displaying their work at the exhibition.

"This is for the first time that this kind of exhibition is being organised where artists of two countries are getting a chance to know each other," Nadine le Prince, artist and curator of the show. "I want French artists to rediscover the Indian culture and art." she adds.

After displaying their work in Jaipur, the artists will get a chance to exhibit their work at the renowned le Musée du Louvre, in Paris in December.

Says Vidya Sagar Upadhyay, a well known city artist, "It will be a golden opportunity for the Indian artists to display their work at such a renowned museum."

Pavlina, who has come to India for the first time, seems to be amazed by the works of Indian artists. Coincidentally, her work too has got an Indian touch. She says, "One of my paintings shows a woman with folded hands. And I was quite surprised to know that the gesture represents a respectful greeting, Namaste. in India."

Calling the exhibition a unique effort, city artist Jagmohan Mathodia says, "Our thoughts may be different but the essence is that both the countries love art." The show is on till January 31, so don't miss the chance to see some fine work.