

NAMASTE AMERICA

Indo American Association for Art & Culture



World Premiere in Beijing: Montblanc Hosts International Gala Event to Celebrate the Official Opening of its New and Biggest Concept Store of Montblanc in the World

VIP Guests Nicolas Cage, Naomi Watts, Jessica Alba and Amber Heard award-winning actor Maggie Cheung as well as other VIP guests attend the opening.

International Guests from the worlds of film, music and the arts joined the luxury Maison Montblanc, for an epic and unique celebration to launch its new 4-storey store in the heart of Sanlitun in Beijing. This contemporary and imposing concept store will be Montblanc's biggest flagship in the world, a place where visitors will be invited to discover the world of Montblanc masterpieces in an interactive and innovative way.

At the World Premiere of its China flagship store, Montblanc presented the entire Collection Princesse Grace de Monaco, an exquisite tribute to the timeless elegance of Grace Kelly.



**Perfect Woman
4th June 2012**

Actress Isha Sharvani supports Hanjer Biotech Energies' 'Keep City Clean & Green' initiative for motorists on World Environment Day

On the occasion of World Environment Day, Hanjer Bio-Tech Energies ("Hanjer"), a unique player and innovator in the Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) management business, conducted a special community awareness initiative - 'Keep Your City Clean & Green' - for motorists in Mumbai, urging them to dispose waste responsibly only in garbage bags and keep the city, clean, green and waste free.

Popular Bollywood Actress Isha Sharvani lent support to Hanjer's initiative by communicating the 'Dispose waste only in garbage bags' message and later by distributing special Hanjer garbage bags to motorists at the busy CST traffic signal. She appealed to motorists to appeal to refrain from littering and dispose waste responsibly. Hanjer also conducted a day long free distribution of special garbage bags at all prominent traffic signals across the City.



Namaste America Hosts An Evening With Vidya Balan

Atul Nishar, President of Namaste America, Indo-American Association for Art & Culture, hosted an evening to celebrate critically acclaimed actress, Vidya Balan's contribution to Indian Cinema.

The evening began with the felicitation of Vidya Balan which was followed by an interesting interaction with the actress. Popular television and film producer, Ekta Kapoor, distinguished film director, R. Balki, celebrity photographer, Atul Kasbekar and the Editor - Hi! Blitz magazine Shalini Sharma, were some of the distinguished panelists who enthralled the audience with their anecdotes and talked about their association with the actress. Neha Kakkar, of the Indian Idol fame entertained the audience with popular songs from Vidya Balan's films as a musical tribute to her.

This evening was attended by dignitaries across the city from Industrialists, Corporate CEO's, Celebrities, US Consulate Staff to numerous other Socialites and Media Personalities.



Celebrity Swimwear Designer AmbiKa Sanjana launched BiKa amidst great pomp and fair.

Mumbai recently saw all the glitteratis and fashionistas at a much looked forward do at the luxurious store CREO, where AmbiKa Sanjana launched BiKa Swimwear, an international swimwear brand.

There was an eclectic mix of socialites and celebrities who graced the occasion like Mia Yuedo Reshma & Sulaiman Merchant, Adam & Nishi Bedi, Nishka Lulla, Ashish Rabeja, Siddharth Rawal, Shama Sikander and Rizwan Sikander Henry and Ashita Tham, Haniif Hilal, Parvez Darsari, Sonal Shah, Karishma Tanna, Subha Sen and Rupal Gagar and many more.

The highlight of the event was Live Mannequin modelling the BiKa Swimwear. AmbiKa's muse Mia Yuedo stepped out gracefully in BiKa swimwear, which got many applaads. AmbiKa collaboration with an NGO called Birth Right where a portion of the money generated by BiKa goes to the NGO was the talk of the evening.



BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

Vivid Sydney, an Australian event that features light art installations, live music performances and over 100 creative industry events, celebrated its fourth year. The opening celebrations included 'Lighting the Sails' of Sydney's iconic Opera House, unveiling 3D colour projections and digital artistry.



1. Andrew Storer
2. A guest enjoying the Eiko Wings installation
3. An icy work of art: Igloo
4. Drag queens at the do

NEW FASHION DESTINATION

After Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore and Chennai, Jaipur is now the most sought-after fashion destination for industry players. Rajasthan Fashion Week (RFW), a three-day extravaganza full of luxury, style and glamour, was held in the pink city recently at the Marriott. Celebs like Akshay Kumar, Sonakshi Sinha, Vivek Oberoi, Riya Sen, Amrita Puri, Vikram Phadnis, and others graced the occasion.



1. Akshay Kumar and Sonakshi Sinha with Sharad Raghav
2. Sharad Raghav with Ejaz and Tia
3. Nitya Bajaj with Payal Rhatgi and Sangram
4. Amrita Puri with Amit Talwar
5. Mahima Madaan showcasing her collection
6. Gitanjali Rawat with Jesse Randhawa
7. Julia Bruchwitz
8. Sulakshana Monga with Jesse and Rohit Verma

VIVA VIDYA

Atul Nishar, president of Namaste America, Indo-American Association for Art & Culture, hosted an evening to celebrate critically acclaimed actress Vidya Balan's contribution to Indian cinema. The Mumbai event was attended by Neeraj Bajaj, Dr Alka Nishar, Habil Khorakiwala, Tabu and Richard Rothman, Sunita Menon, Satish Shah and others.



1. Atul Nishar with Vidya Balan
2. Aditi Govitrikar
3. Lillete Dubey and Satish Shah
4. Nishka and Neeta Lulla
5. Dr Alka Nishar and Neeraj Bajaj
6. Atul Nishar and Michael Mullins
7. Rashmi Uday Singh
8. Aditya Hitkari with wife Divya Palat

Atelier
4th June 2012



Atul Kasbekar, Ekta Kapoor, Shalini Sharma, Vidya Balan, R. Balki

Hi Blitz

4th June 2012



Atul & Dr. Alka Nishar

Atul Nishar of Hexaware Technologies and Shalini Sharma, Editor, *Hi! Blitz*, hosted a felicitation for Vidya Balan for the stunning year she has had at the box-office, and the critical acclaim she has received, with every significant award for Best Female Actor coming her way, including the National Film Award. The evening was marked with a panel session, moderated by Shalini Sharma, which included Vidya Balan herself, Ekta Kapoor (producer of *The Dirty Picture*), Atul Kasbekar (fashion photographer and owner of Bling, the agency that handles the actor's business work) and R Balki (director of the acclaimed film, *Paa*).

The discussion focused on how Vidya Balan had broken the cookie-cutter mould that has become the norm for many Bollywood female actors now, and helped bring talent and



Raman & Kastur Maroo

Hi Blitz 4th June 2012



Michael Mullins (Acting US Consul General, Mumbai)

courage centre-stage with her brave choices and sterling performances. As a producer, Ekta Kapoor reaffirmed that, for her, talent scored over surface beauty, and movies like *The Dirty Picture* signal a change in the way Bollywood looks at female lead actors. During the felicitation, Vidya's father came on stage and made a moving speech about how even he was astonished as to the tremendous talent of his daughter, but that he always knew she would one day become very famous. After the session, singer Neha Kakkar of *Indian Idol* fame came on stage and belted out hip-swinging numbers from the actor's movies.

Venue: The Trident, Nariman Point, Mumbai

Buzz: Vidya Balan's astonishingly good manners which don't falter for even a minute.



Nayan & Parul Patel



Vidya Balan, Vidya Balan, Saraswathy Balan

CELEBRATING RAINDROPS

An evening, hosted by Atul Nishar celebrated Vidya Balan's contribution to Indian Cinema. Ekta Kapoor, R Balki, Atul Kasbekar, Neha Kakkar, Satish Shah and Bharat Dabholkar were present at the event.

EKTA SHOULD STICK TO GOWNS.

Society
4th June 2012



Rashmi Uday Singh Atul Nishar with Vidya Balan



Meme Dubey with Satish Shah Michael Mullins



Ekta Kapoor



R Balki Divya Pathak with Aditya Chatterjee

Photo: Shantani Desai



Atul Nishar, Vidya Balan and Neeraj Bajaj



Aika Nishar



Ekta Kapoor and Sunita Menon



Michael Mullins

Say namaste, guys



Aditi Gowitrikar

It's no secret that Vidya Balan has won hearts across the country with her unconventional Bollywood career, and to honour her for this feat, Atul Nishar, president of Namaste American, hosted an evening to felicitate the National Award winning actress. Vidya, accompanied by her parents, was greeted with a volley of compliments on her sari, but what caught our attention was her little conversation with Lillette Dubey. After complimenting Dubey's choice of sari for the event, Vidya said, "Please don't say I... most people now say that you

should never tell me to take their jewellery or sari. You never know — I may actually take it." R Balki was among the first to arrive, and was seen looking for Vidya. Ekta Kapoor, R Balki, Atul Kasbekar and Shalini Sharma interacted with Vidya and spoke about their association with her. Neha Kakkar presented a musical tribute to the actress. Chhaya Momaya, Kailash Surendranath, Nisha Jambwal, Farid Currim, Priyanka Batra and Roopa and Harish Fabiani were also seen at the do.



Nishka and Neeta Lulla



Neha Kakkar



Reena and Ashok Wadhwa



Atul Kasbekar



Angela



Lillette Dubey



Lata Patel



Aditya Hitkari and Divya Palat



R Balki



Satish Shah

Bombay Times
4th June 2012

Asian Age

4th June 2012



● Vidya's parents

● Neera Bajaj and Dr Alka Nishar

● Neeta Lulla

VIDYA REIGNS

✓ Vidya Balan proved why she's the queen bee in Bollywood once again when she was felicitated by Namaste America, Indo American Association for Art & Culture on Friday. Vidya's proud parents were all smiles. Good friend and producer Ekta Kapoor turned up in a sari and spent good time chatting with Vidya. It was a pleasant surprise to see Aditi Govitrikar turn up at a social do after a long time. She looked pretty in a blue number. Mother-daughter designer duo Neeta Lulla and Nishka Lulla also turned up in saris. Also seen were Reena and Ashok Wadhwa, Rashmi Uday Singh, Dr Alka Nishar, Neera Bajaj, Divya Palat and Aditya Hitkari among others.

● Divya Palat and Aditya Hitkari

● Reena and Ashok Wadhwa

● Vivan Bhatena with wife

● Nishka Lulla

● Vidya Balan
PHOTOS:
Satej Shinde



ish Shah with wife

● Rashmi Uday Singh



Ekta Kapoor



● R. Balki



● Lillette Dubey

● Aditi Govitrikar

Asian Age
4th June 2012

DNA Afterhrs 4th June 2012



DESIGAL:
Vidya Balan



FEELING DEMURE: Ekta Kapoor



KEEPIN' IT SHORT:
Aditi Govitrikar



HEAD TURNER:
Lillete Dubey

A tribute to Vidya

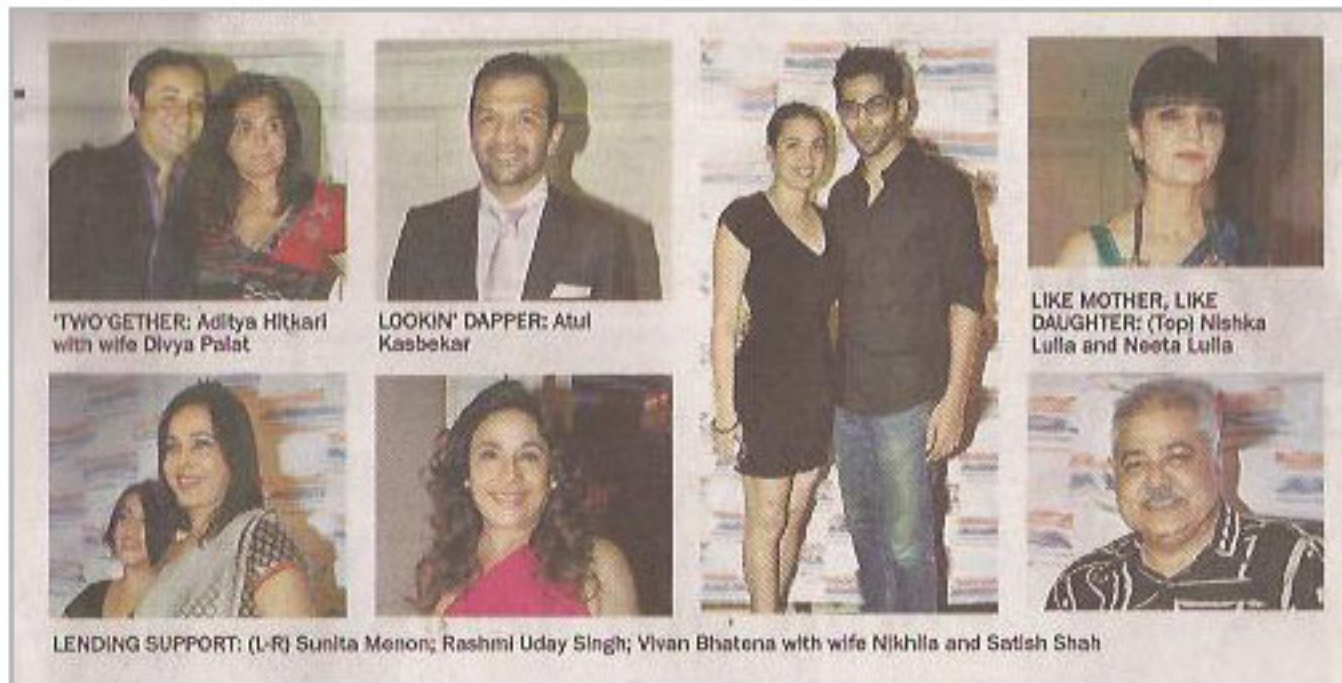


SUCCESS BASH SATURDAY, JUNE 2 NARIMAN POINT

The do was organised to celebrate Vidya Balan's contribution to Indian cinema. The evening began by felicitating Vidya, where some of the B-Town celebs joined in and enthralled the audience with anecdotes related to their association with the actor. They included the likes of Ekta Kapoor, R Balki, Atul Kasbekar and Aditi Govitrikar. Neha Kakkar sang popular songs from Vidya's films. Also spotted at the event were Lillete Dubey, Nishka Lulla, Neeta Lulla and Rashmi Uday Singh among others.



DNA Afterhrs 4th June 2012



Mumbai Mirror
4th June 2012



VIDYA'S OMG MOMENT

It was a well-attended evening to felicitate Vidya Balan hosted by Atul Nishar of an Indo-American association for art and culture.

When Vidya's father, PR Balan, who had accompanied her to the do, was invited up on stage to say something about his daughter, a shy Vidya promptly covered her face in nervous anticipation of what he was about to say. Turned out, it wasn't as embarrassing as she had imagined.

The doting dad congratulated Vidya, telling her how proud he is of her endeavours. Overcome by nostalgia, he went on to speak about how he had messaged his girl during the interval when he first saw *The Dirty Picture*. "I am really proud of you Vidya and I did not find the movie vulgar at all. You are a brilliant actress and a new star will be born after *The Dirty Picture*," he had texted at the time. Judging by the response to the film,

his predictions seem to have come true.

Seen exchanging pleasantries at the event were Michael Mullins, Neeraj Bajaj, Dr Alka Nishar, Habil Khorakiwala, Tabu & Richard Rothman, Sunta Menon, Satish Shah, Reena and Ashok Wadhwa, Aditi Govitrikar, Rashmi Uday Singh, Ananya Dutta, Bharat Dabholkar, Lilete Dubey, Lata Patel, Neeta Lulla and Nishika Lulla.

-Sneha Mankani