



Sri Lanka Verein Hamburg e.V.

Making films with children and young people



Films are very popular with children and can be a source of enrichment. They strongly identify with the characters, who make them laugh and entertain them. At their best, they also offer young viewers a window into the world, providing them with new insights, revealing patterns of action, and encouraging them to reflect on themselves and the world.

With this fundamental understanding, the Sri Lanka Association is financing the production of two films by the well-known screenwriter, film, and television director Parakrama Niriella, who has already received numerous awards and prizes for his innovative approaches to theater and film.





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One film, "*The Clock Thief*," is about a reunion between an older man and a younger man who was his student. The young man expresses his great gratitude to his former teacher because the teacher didn't betray him, even though he had stolen a classmate's watch. Because the teacher found an elegant way to return the watch to its owner—without openly embarrassing anyone—he saved the thief's dignity. The thief immediately realized how fairly and with solidarity the teacher handled the situation, and he has never stolen anything since and even became a teacher himself.

The second film, "*The Mischievous Five*," is about a group of girls and boys who grow up with their families in beautiful nature and often steal fruit from their neighbours' trees. As a result, they don't hear the school bell ringing in time. Since they are now late for class, they don't fully understand what the teacher was asking: what career they would choose later in life. The following day, while the other students introduced themselves dressed as their respective professions (doctor, mechanic, teacher, nurse, planter, pilot, army officer, and even Buddhist monk), the six mischievous children presented their ideal of a healthy environment using hand-painted and crafted components. This thrilled all the students and gained much applause.

We are excited to see when the films will be released and how the children engage with the topics.

