

Saltzman's shots of Beatles in Rishikesh

A photo exhibition by Paul Saltzman in New York looks at a journey the Beatles made to India in the 1960s where they wrote 48 songs in seven weeks

Uttara Choudhury, New York

Paul Saltzman needed some peace after a shattered romance and sought it at the Maharishi Mahesh Yogi's quiet ashram in Rishikesh. He had no idea at the time that he would bump into the Beatles at the ashram. In fact, he had no clue then that his pictures taken with a 35mm Pentax camera would capture a defining moment of the 1960s, the moment when Indian meditation went global.

Saltzman's exhibition in association with the Indo American Arts Council opened at the weekend at the Morrison Hotel Gallery. It has 25 images of the Beatles and visitors can buy signed limited edition prints for \$4,500 to



Paul Saltzman's images of the Beatles in Rishikesh — Copyright Paul Saltzman. All Rights Reserved

\$1,000. John Lennon's ex-wife Cynthia Lennon, who was there at the ashram in Rishikesh when Saltzman took his pictures as a 24-year-old back-packer, says the pictures of the Beatles, sitting cross-legged with the Maharishi, were to spark a huge interest in eastern mysticism and meditation.

"I had no idea the Beatles were staying at the ashram till I reached its gates. Then the Maharishi's main disciple told me it wasn't a good time to visit. I decided to pitch my tent outside the ashram. They sent me vegetables and eventually after eight days — the disciple invited me into the ashram," Saltzman told DNA.

Saltzman, who is now a well known two-time Emmy award winning film and television producer-director, says it was easy to hang out with the Beatles; "Within five minutes of sitting with them I literally stopped thinking of them as the Beatles. It was a gift to see them as regular folks. I didn't want anything

from them and I think that's why they took me into their small group and why the photos I took are so intimate and at ease."

Since no professional photographers were allowed in the ashram, Saltzman got the only good pictures of the Beatles in India when they were at the height of their fame. They lived in the ashram in simple rooms with bunk beds and a small chest of drawers. Saltzman took 54 pictures of the Beatles, Mia Farrow, Donovan and Mike Love of the Beach Boys meditating, writing music and living at the ashram.

"When I returned home to Toronto, I used several of the pictures in a magazine cover story; then put the transparencies away. My daughter Devyani had become a Beatles fan at 16 along with three of her girlfriends. I hadn't even thought of the photo until, at 18, she reminded me," said Saltzman who then used the pictures in a book, *The Beatles in Rishikesh*, published by Viking Studio, Penguin-Putnam.

Saltzman who is film-maker Deepa Mehta ex-husband, says he would love to bring the exhibition to India; "I would love to take it to India but had no luck finding galleries to work with."



Letter from hong kong

Breathing sweet freedom

What distinguishes Hong Kong from the rest of China is that here you can breathe in lungfuls of freedom with every breath you take. (Cynics might say that it's far more likely that you'll breathe in lungfuls of toxic fumes from the factories in southern China, but that's another story...) Under the "one country, two systems" principle that applies to this former British colony that reverted to China in 1997, Hong Kong people enjoy levels of freedom of expression that are unimaginable in mainland China.

Indicatively in Hong Kong bookstores, you can buy books that are proscribed in mainland China: just the other day, I picked up *The Open Road*, Pico Iyer's book on the Dalai Lama, which would be confiscated at the border into mainland China if customs authorities caught me with it. And at the iconic Star Ferry pier in Tsim Sha Tsui, Falun Gong activists frequently stage demonstrations, and put up gory posters chronicling the torture of the sect's followers in mainland China and denouncing former President Jiang Zemin. If the same followers so much as unfurled a Falun Gong poster in any city in mainland China, they would be thrown into the slammer in an instant and subjected to some inventive interrogation procedures.

That sense of openness puts Hong Kong in a unique situation when it comes to looking at contentious issues such as the Tibet unrest or the protests against the Olympics torch relay overseas. Its population is, like in mainland China, predominantly ethnic Chinese; but unlike mainland Chinese citizens, whose worldview is (largely) blinkered by the Chinese government's propaganda machine, Hong Kong Chinese can see all sides of the issues.

Yet, in my interactions with Chinese friends and acquaintances here, I often sense an unease or an unwillingness to engage in any serious discussion on these subjects. When they do articulate a tentative viewpoint on Tibet or the Olympics torch, it more often mirrors the views of mainland Chinese citizens ("The West is interfering in China's affairs"; "The Western media is distorting the Tibet situation"; "the protests against the Olympics torch relay amount to politicisation of sports").

Opinion polls conducted by various universities show that nearly 85% of Hong Kong's population is "displeased" or "infuriated" by the protests against the torch relay; and just as many people think that such protests hurt the Olympic spirit.

Media commentators often dismiss Chinese hysteria against Tibetan protesters and the Olympics torch relay protests as the response of a brain-washed, indoctrinated populace. The response of Hong Kong's population, which isn't subject to that "indoctrination" and yet mirrors the mainland Chinese outlook, shows that such reductionist observations may be somewhat off the mark...



Venkatesan Vembu

Family recipes passed down from one website to another

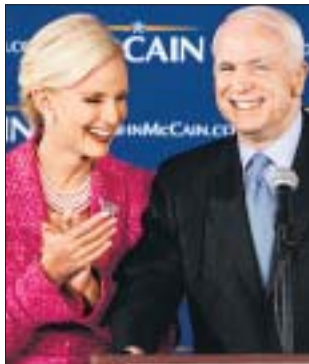
Cindy McCain's family recipes, as listed on campaign website, were copied as it is from *Food Network*

Elisabeth Bumiller, Washington

It was a recipe for scandal. Until early Tuesday morning, visitors to John McCain's campaign website could find seven of "Cindy's Recipes," among them three elegant and healthful offerings: passion fruit mousse, ahi tuna with Napa cabbage slaw and farfalle pasta with turkey sausage, peas and mushrooms.

Only problem was, all three, listed as favourite family recipes of Cindy McCain, McCain's wife, were taken verbatim from the *Food Network*. A fourth, rosemary chicken breasts and warm spinach salad with bacon, bore a striking resemblance to a similar recipe by Rachael Ray.

By midmorning, the McCain campaign had taken all seven recipes off the website and was pointing a finger at an intern who, tasked several months ago with contacting Cindy McCain's staff for favourite McCain recipes, had prowled the Internet instead.



"The intern has been dealt with," said Tucker Bounds, a campaign spokesman, who declined to provide details. Nonetheless, Bounds said, "we took away his zero pay."

"Parfallegate" was first reported on Monday night by David Weiner on *The Huffington Post* website after he was alerted by Lauren E Handel, a New York environmental defense lawyer. Handel, an avid cook, had plugged ingredients into an Internet search engine, looking for a recipe for dinner Sunday night, and found that the *Food Network* and McCain sites popped up at the same time.

"I thought, This is weird, John McCain has a recipe for pasta with sausage and peas," Handel said in a telephone interview. Curious, she began investigating and discovered the lifted recipes. She mentioned the episode on Monday

morning to one of her law partners, who happened to be Weiner's father. The mouse soon exploded.

A spokeswoman for the *Food Network*, Carrie Welch, said late on Tuesday that the network had no comment, but Ray was more talkative. "My recipes are supposed to be accessible to everyone — interns, students, senators and families alike," Ray said through a spokesman, Charlie Dougiello. "I personally find it flattering when anyone cooks my food." Ray, a Democrat, then invited both McCains to share recipes on her show.

Also on Tuesday, the *Wonkette* site posted a recipe, "Cindy McCain's 3-Minute No-Bake Cookies," which appeared in the December 2007 issue of *Yankee Magazine* and was identical to a recipe from Quaker Oats. Bounds said he would look into it.

The Huffington Post also reported that the passion fruit recipe had appeared under Cindy McCain's name in *The New York Sun*, in an article that also included a recipe from Michelle Obama (apple cobbler) but not one from the spouse of the other Democratic presidential candidate. The article did include Hillary Rodham Clinton's recipe for oatmeal chocolate chip cookies. —NVT

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davp 10109/11/0002/0809

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TENDER NOTICE
1. Tenders are invited in two bid pattern (Technical & Commercial) from reputed firms preferably specialised in the field of polo and equestrian sports by the Principal Director, Directorate of Adventure, Physical Fitness and Sports Activities on behalf of the Chief of the Naval Staff for providing services of stable hands, Polo trainers, Dresser, and saddler for a period of Twelve months from 01 Jun 08 to 31 May 09.

2. Detailed tender document containing eligibility criteria for the parties to respond, tenders terms / conditions and other details for the contract can be obtained from ADAPSA from 1000 hrs to 1000 hrs on all working days till 12 May 08 from IHQ of MoD (Navy) / DAPSA, 7th Floor, Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakyaपुरी, New Delhi - 110 021 or may be downloaded from Indian Navy website www.irfc-nausena.nic.in, on payment of Rs. 500/- in form of DD drawn in favour of INPEC NPF.

3. The 'Technical Bid' will be opened on 12 May 08 at 1600 Hrs in the office of IHQ of MoD (Navy) / DAPSA, 7th Floor, Chanakya Bhawan, Chanakyaपुरी, New Delhi - 110 021. The 'Commercial Bids' of firms who qualify technical evaluation by TEC, will be opened subsequently, date and time will be intimated to all concerned. The firms will be required to offer the manpower for technical evaluation at INPEC C/o 'B' Sq, Cariappa Marg, Delhi Cantt on 13 May 08. Tenders found incomplete or received late, will be rejected and no further correspondence on this matter will be entertained. The department reserves the right to reject any or all tenders without assigning any reason thereof.

4. The Tenderers or their duly authorised representatives are permitted to present during the opening of the 'Technical Bids' and the 'Commercial Bids', as stated above.
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Government of West Bengal Tender

Sealed tenders are invited by the Milk Commissioner, West Bengal on behalf of the Governor of the State of West Bengal, Central Dairy, 64/99, Belgachia Road, Kolkata - 700037 for supply of the following items: Sl. 1. Group 'A' Item Pasteurized White Butter quality specification as per IS 13690:1992 Qty. 50 M. T. (12.5 M. T. x 4 Re-frigerated container). Place Central Dairy Kolkata. Sl. 2. Group 'B' Item Supply of 1 (one) Tanker loads of Pasteurized and Chilled Milk of 9000 kgs. in each Road Tanker per day as per Tender specification. Qty. 1 (one) Tanker loads of Milk per day each containing 9000 kgs. of Milk. Place Central Dairy Kolkata. General Terms: a) Sale of Tender Paper: Tender papers will be sold on payment of Rs. 50/- (non-refundable) for each item. The amount should be deposited to the Cashier at the office of the Milk Commissioner, West Bengal, 23-A, N. S. Road (9th Floor), Kolkata - 700001, during office hours upto 2 p.m. from 12.5.2008 to 12.6.2008 (except Saturday, Sunday & Holidays). N.B.: NO TENDER PAPERS WILL BE SOLD ON THE DATE OF OPENING OF THE TENDERS. b) Acceptance of Tender: Tender Papers will be accepted from 12.05.2008 to 13.6.2008 during office hours (only upto 2 p.m. on 13.6.2008) in sealed cover at the aforesaid office. c) Date of opening of Tender: Tenders will be opened on 13.6.2008 at 2.30 p.m. in presence of the members of the Tender Committee and authorised Representatives of the Tenderers who might be present at the time of opening of the Tenders at the aforesaid office. ICA 1290(14)/2008

Virginia Tech remembers victims



A man grieves at a memorial of 32 granite blocks representing each of the people killed by Cho Seung-Hui at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia. The one-year anniversary of the worst school shooting in US history is on Thursday —AFP

Global india

Leicester to install Gandhi statue

The £20,000 statue needs to be installed within three years

Press Trust of India, London

A search is on for a suitable sculptor after the Leicester City Council gave its approval to install a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in the city, ending months of contentious campaign and debate over the merits of the issue.

For several months, Gandhi was pitted against local heroes such as footballer Gary Lineker and DNA inventor Sir Alec Jeffreys, and supporters and opponents of Gandhi's statue debated its merits.

However, there was no debate at the meeting on the merits of having Gandhi's statue, a council spokesperson said. She added that as per rules, the statue will need to be installed within three years of the approval.

The 3.8 metre statue is to be located off Belgrave Road, the nerve-centre of commercial and cultural activities of people of Gujarati origin. Leicester has a high British Asian population, and is predicted to be Britain's first white-minority city in 12 years.

The cost of the statue, £20,000 will be met by the Samanvaya Parivar, a charity organisation. The group has been asked to earmark separate funds for the maintenance of the statue.

Campaign's lead supporter, Goa-origin Labour MP Keith Vaz expressed his delight at the decision and said Gandhi's statue is a fitting reflection of Leicester's multiculturalism. The campaign for the statue also received the backing of Lord Richard Attenborough, known for the Oscar-winning film, *Gandhi*.

Theme song of Ek Chalish ki Last Local creates waves in Pakistan

PEPSI has used a song from the film as a jingle in its ad

Amir Mir, Islamabad

If there would be one example of pumping blood into the buried, Indian film maker Sanjay Khanduri's *Ek Chalish ki Last Local* would be the best one to give — and that too happening through the theme song of a beverage ad, (PEPSI) featuring Pakistani band Call's song *Laree Chhotee* thus giving life to the wound up film after a year of its release.

Having a loosely knitted plot and mediocre acting, the film had flopped both in India and in Pakistan.

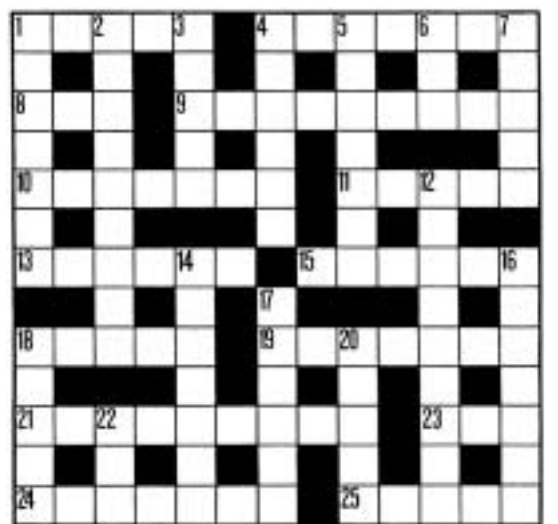
Interestingly, after the release of the PEPSI ad, the film: audio and video, CDs and DVDs — of all things — is 'short' on the market in Pakistan as the



However, after signing the pact with PEPSI, as much as PEPSI has come into the lime light, with a sharp edge over its long-time competitor Coke, Call itself has apparently been given a new lease of life. Xulfi, the lead guitarist of the musical band who thanks his lucky stars over and over again is ecstatic as the band claims to have been contacted by quite a few film makers from the film industry across the border.

"It was great to see our song being the only one used for the promo of the film for so many months but after signing up with PEPSI, it feels that we have really made it big!" Xulfi and Junaid (band mates) exclaim.

Crossword no 950



- Across**
1 Not at all keen to be plain-spoken (5)
4 Won't it give you a free ride? (7)
8 Start leading the field (3)
9 Tributes paid to organised labour (5,4)
10 Unfit to be an eminent person? (7)
11 Is about to study pictures (5)
13 Enters the lists? (6)
15 No way to go through a congested area (2-4)
18 It's moved by chairmen (5)
19 It means less hands and less hair (4,3)
21 You'll know when you've got it (9)
23 Put Sue into employment (3)
24 Thing to change into this evening (7)
25 Locations for tourist attractions, we hear (5)
- Down**
1 Money still to be paid on a watch (7)
2 Left alone — apparently (9)
3 It's quite rough and ready, as a rule (5)
4 Part of Russia the subject of many a novel article (6)
5 Something to keep aunty in change! (7)
6 Africans might hunt it with spear or gun, perhaps (3)
7 Stands up for higher values (5)
12 Because you'd prefer to pay later? (2,7)
14 It ends a flight in two ways (7)
16 They won't stand for being portrayed (7)
17 Handwriting learnt by actors (6)
18 Passed a writer in the street (5)
20 Birds from higher nests (5)
22 Run out to see the vessel (3)

Solution No: 949
Across: 1 Re-election, 3 Cream, 9 Upstage, 10 Elastic, 11 Opals, 12 Petals, 14 Season, 17 Alpha, 19 Ash tree, 21 Ketchup, 22 Tails, 23 Phrenology.
Down: 2 Elegant, 3 Limit, 4 Crutch, 5 Inshore, 6 Nyasa, 7 Messengers, 8 Cheapjacks, 13 Leather, 15 Sorting, 16 Sampan, 18 Put up, 20 Hotel.