

**Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival presents**  
**Hunger: A celebration of the literary and artistic genius of writer Knut Hamsun**  
**and artist Somnath Hore**

**Kolkata 13<sup>th</sup> January, 2013:** Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival 2013 on its closing day presented an evening dedicated to Norwegian author and Nobel Laureate ***Knut Hamsun*** and genius Indian sculptor and printmaker ***Somnath Hore***. His Excellency Mr. Eivind S Homme, Ambassador of Norway to India inaugurated a special exhibition of Somnath Hore's 100 drawings and woodcuts, on view for the first time. The genius Indian sculptor's sketches, sculptures and prints were a reaction to major historical crises and events of 20th century Bengal, such as the Bengal Famine of 1943 and the Tebhaga movement.

Presented with The Royal Norwegian Embassy, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR and Seagull Books, the inauguration was followed by a dramatized reading from ***Knut Hamsun's* masterpiece 'Hunger'** by renowned theatre and film actor **Jayant Kripalani**. The Nobel award winning book 'Hunger' is a monologue of a struggling artist hoping for success, and is considered one of Hamsun's best work. The book an autobiographical is regarded as one of the first examples of psychological literature and the stream-of-consciousness technique.

The event, a unique juxtaposition between the Norwegian Nobel Prize winning author and famous Indian artist was highly appreciated and well received by the attending literati. The exhibition and a festival of international films on the theme of hunger will be on through the following week at Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR.

**About Jayant Kripalani**

Jayant Kripalani is a well-known film, television and stage actor, director and trainer. Most known for TV series, like *Khandaan, Mr. Mrs* and *Ji Mantriji*-he also wrote the screenplay for Shyam Benegal's film, *Well Done Abba* (2009). He has worked in advertising, at JWT, Grant Kenyon & Eckhardt and as Senior Creative Director with RK Swamy BBDO. Jayant has directed and produced a number of films for multinationals, as well as the scripts for the original *Ghar Jamai* which was aired on Doordarshan. He has also written and produced *PC aur Mausi* - a mini TV series.

**About Apeejay Kolkata Literary Festival (AKLF) 2013:**

A Community initiative by the Apeejay Surrendra Group, the annual literary festival hosted since 2010 in Kolkata is the first international literary festival in Kolkata, a city celebrated for its intellectual depth and cultural heritage. An array of special curated discussions, performances and some of the finest literary events are scheduled for the fourth edition from 9th- 13th January, 2013. A noteworthy literary and cultural representation from across India and overseas will be seen at the Festival, amongst the finest minds from India and overseas. Prominent personalities attending will be

Ramachandra Guha, William Dalrymple, Shyam Benegal, Pavan Varma, Yasmin Ali Bhai Brown, Amit Chaudhuri, Leila Seth, Manil Suri, Ruchir Joshi, Onir, Urvashi Butalia, Shobhaa De and Tishani Doshi and several others. Events are scheduled at significant cultural and heritage venues across Kolkata like National Library, St John's Church, banks of Hooghly, Lascar Monument, and at India's finest and most loved 92 year old iconic bookstore- Oxford Bookstore, Kolkata. Amongst the many highlights is Festival's collaboration with the Tibor-Jones South Asia Prize to recognize and encourage new and emerging writers in the South Asian region.

**For event videos & pictures Log On to <http://www.aklf.in/>**

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