

Entertainment for a cause



Sumit Tappoo

Bollywood music lovers in Auckland were recently treated with a delightful show of new and nostalgic presentation by Sumeet Tappoo and his nine-member Mumbai-based musicians from the film industry.

Female vocalist Jasmine Kapadia, who has performed at various solo concerts and often with Anup Jalota had also accompanied the group from Mumbai. The event was to raise awareness and funds for New Zealand's most premier charitable organization The Starship Children's Foundation.

New Zealand Soni Samaj (NZSS), in association with Caltex, brought the hugely talented Sumeet

and his team of high-profile musicians for a one-night only concert in Auckland's Dorothy Winstone Theatre. The event raised over \$20,000.00 and all of it is destined towards providing world leading health care for children here in Auckland.

The concert entitled "A Celebration of Bollywood" was a three-hour extravaganza of romantic music with soothing ballads from the latest Bollywood movies as well as a "Trip Down Memory Lane". The evening started with the timeless music of 'Sholay' and Sumeet singing Rahat's "Tere Mast Mast Do..." followed by the latest

numbers of Shaan, Sonu Nigam and Atif Aslam. Sumeet also paid tribute to Kishore Kumar, Mohammed Rafi, Mukesh and Jagjit Singh.

President Sanjai Bagia said NZSS was absolutely thrilled to have helped in delivering a super quality and super charged Bollywood musical show which the audience should treasure for a very long time. The success of the concert was also cemented by raising a substantial amount of funds for the Starship Foundation.

Sanjai Bagia said the project was unique from several angles. "Through this concert, NZSS has helped in raising awareness around Starship Foundation amongst its members and wider society.

"We have also reached out and called for assistance from our large circle of friends, supporters and well-wishers. We were incredibly supported by large reservoir of business community. Caltex, who already is involved with the Starship Foundation in the corporate level, has been openly welcoming and supportive of NZSS's vision of becoming Starship Foundation Supporter. We hope that our vision can be shared amongst other communities so they too can reach out and make a positive contribution towards greater good in New Zealand," Mr Bagia said.