



Cecile Theon directs a choir

MUSIC IN THE VILLAGE

On World Music Day, Hauz Khas Village celebrated *Fete de la Musique*

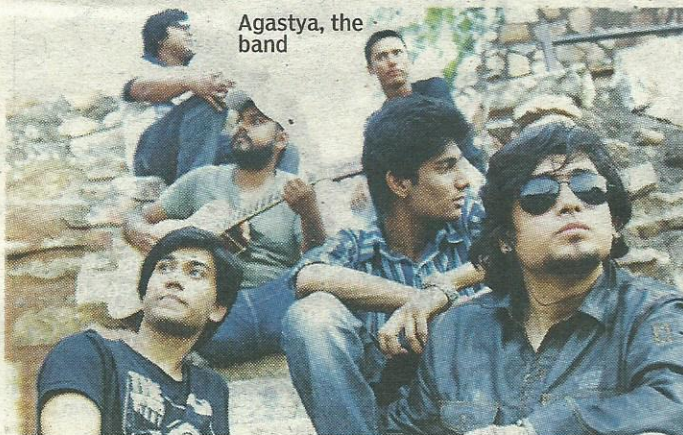
VISHAV

THE ASIAN AGE

While the whole world reveled in the sounds of music this Saturday on the eve of World Music Day, Delhi, in no way, lagged behind as live concerts were held all over the city. And the tone of this global festival was set in the Hauz Khas Village where the whole place buzzed with music with around 35 live performances happening simultaneously. It was truly a celebration of music.

This grand extravaganza, *Fete de la Musique*, that has become an annual feature, was organised by Alliance Francaise de Delhi (AFD), in association with Hauz Khas Village Traders Association.

Mitushi Khurana, the cultural coordinator at Alliance Francaise, shares, "Basically *Fete de la Musique* has turned into a global movement that started in France some 25



Agastya, the band

years ago. It gives an opportunity to all artists to play wherever they want. And since AFD is the French cultural centre in Delhi, we have been promoting this festival every year since last 15 years. Earlier it used to be restricted to inviting French artists to perform here, but since last three years, we have expanded it to all sorts of bands, amateur and pro. It's a way of bringing the French way of celebrating music to India."

Though the two outdoor gigs were cancelled,

the music lovers still had plenty to enjoy with so many variations of music to groove to, head-bang to, or silently listen to.

Cecile Theon, who gave two spectacular performances



Music is a universal language and a fantastic way to communicate

CECILE THEON

— as the director the Belgian Embassy Choir at Out of the Box café and as the vocalist of a Jazz trio at Amour, shares, "Music is a universal language and is a fantastic way to communicate. And that's what we wanted to do with our performance — to communicate. Since *Fete de la Musique* is a global festival, that's why we wanted to play something that signifies that."

True to that sentiment, the choir performed *Around the World*, singing about different places like Mexico, Paris, Africa, and so on.

Abhishek Joshi, vocalist and guitarist of the band "Then and Now" that performed in Imperfecto and Amour, shares, "Last year also we played in the festival and both of our gigs were jam packed. This event is all about the spirit of music, without any barriers. This will only get bigger and bigger with time."

Keshav Mudgal, of the sufi band Agastya, adds, "I think it's a great concept and HKV is the perfect place to have this kind of an event. With an event like this, fans get the opportunity to hop from one gig to another and experience different kinds of music as the choices are limitless."