



■ Ms Karkar, standing, fourth from right, with the cast

# Stars in their eyes

By ALICIA DE HALDEVANG

TWENTY-TWO Bahrain students took their cinematic talents to the big screen last night with the premiere of their latest science fiction film about a planet in danger of being ruled by tyrants.

The production, *Silveraven*, was shot in Bahrain and was part of a course project for the New York Institute of Technology (NYIT) computer graphics students.

It gave the youngsters the opportunity to explore various techniques related to cinematography and filmmaking, from scriptwriting and casting to shooting and editing.

The project, which stretched over two terms due to the time required for shooting, editing and arrangements needed for posters, banners and advertising, makes NYIT one of the first universities to produce movies as part of its curriculum.

The film, which is one hour and 20 minutes long, was directed by Bahrainis Samar Karkar and Basma Al Mudaifa, who also wrote the storyline, and was supervised by Professor Zeeshan Jawad Shah, who also starred in the film as a mugger.

*Silveraven* premiered at Seef Megaplex in the presence of cast members, families and friends. It will also be screened today and tomorrow from 6pm to 7pm. All proceeds will be donated to the Bahrain Red Crescent charity.

The plot tells of Ravana, a planet that is parallel to Earth, but is hidden under an invisibility energy field. Zenguards are leaders for the districts of Ravana and the planet falls in danger of being ruled by the Evil Drake and Maverick, the stepbrothers of Zenguard Ray.

Zenguard Ray and his wife Sylvia die trying to save Ravana, as people are evacuated to different planets. Their daughter Sky is evacuated by their best friend Michael to planet Earth, with her memories and powers blocked, so that she may live a human

life.

Maverick kills Drake to be the supervillain, but is prevented from wreaking his havoc on other planets by Michael, who traps him in the fallen planet Ravana. Maverick eventually breaks the barrier around the planet and reaches Earth to attempt to conquer it.

It is now up to Sky and her friends to overcome the obstacles in their path to save Earth and the universe, but she first has to realise the magnitude of her powers in order to fulfil the prophecy and survive.

The main cast include Ahmed Zayani as Maverick, Sanad Karkar as Zenguard Ray, Samar Karkar as Jana, Mohammed Zubari as Dominick, Hala Al Alaiwat as Sky/Silveraven, Ameer Suhail as Drake, Mohammed Junaid as Xander, Lubna Hussain Kazmi as Sylvia, Bu Idrees Mughal as Edge, Razan Jamal as Valerie, Lujain Tab as Envy and Emaad as Aden.

## Production

Badreya Al Mahmeed plays a school teacher, Roqaiya Janahi is the girl in the mugging scene, Reglender Braggs is Gabriel, Abdulla Yusuf Mohammed is Peter, Omar Zarka as Tony, Fatima Nadher plays Lily, Gia Ali Shah steps in as baby Sky, Talal is the second mugger and Nasser Iftikar Butt is Michael/Shabotski.

Tickets for the film cost BD3 and can be purchased half an hour before screening starts.

DVDs of the film will be also be available after Friday and those interested in purchasing a copy should call Aaron Miranda on 33444786.

The production team's main sponsor was CineCo, as well as Wael Pharmacy and Yousuf Mahmood Husain Pharmacy.

For ticket sales and more information call 36600444, 33444786, 36388781 or 37707090.

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