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KERRIGAN LA-BROOY
BACK IN CONCERT

DATE
MARCH 17TH 2012
VENUE
ARTHUR WREN HALL
ADDRESS
STUART AVENUE, HAMPTON PARK
MELWAY 96-E8
TIME
7:30 PM
MUSIC
COUNTRY & ROCK 'N' ROLL
AND GUEST ARTISTS

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Pheasant-tailed Jacana
(Hydrophasianus chirurgus)

By Chanith Wijeratne

The Pheasant-tailed jacana (Hydrophasianus chirurgus) is one of Sri Lanka's most remarkable birds. It uses its long toes to spread

its weight out, to stop it from sinking as it walks on water plants, most notably water lilies. Usually it has brown wings, a brown band on its breast and a yellowish nape and upper head. When the breeding season approaches, its plumage changes. Its belly and breast turns black, its nape becomes a beautiful golden-yellow and a long, black tail-extension grows from its tail. It is a sociable bird that can swim, but usually walks gracefully on waterweeds, catching and eating various insects. In flight, its legs trail behind it and it flies slowly and weakly low over the water.

Pheasant-tailed jacanas are the only species of jacana with two different plumages. They nest on floating waterweeds. The females are more colourful than the males and may have several husbands at the same time. They are the only species of jacana in the genus Hydrophasianus and are also known as the water-pheasant or the lotus-bird.

You can easily spot this majestic bird and observe it's behavior at Thalangama Tank, many other tanks and lakes in Sri Lanka

(I have seeing him at Yala, Vilpattu and Thalangama tank. The photo here was taken at Yala national park in December 2010 from my point and shoot camera)

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