

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

June 29-July 12
Shilpangan arranges a watercolour exhibition of reputed sculptor and painter Hamiduzzaman Khan starting from June 29. Two famous art-critics Rabiul Hossain and Moinuddin Khaled will be honoured for their outstanding contribution to the country's art movement along with Fayza Haq of The Daily Star and Ashishur Rahman Shuvo of The Daily Janakantha for cultural reporting. The programme starts at 5.30pm. The exhibition is open for visitors everyday from 10 am to 9 pm.

Folk Music Festival

June 25-28
Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, in association with UNESCO, holds a four-day long festival of folk music in Bangladesh. The schedule is as below:
June 28 at 6.00 p.m., Baul, Bayati, Marfati, Murshidi and Palagaan.

Dance

June 30
The High Commission of India has arranged Manipuri classical dance performance and 'Maharaas' on June 30 at 7:00 at the National Museum Main Auditorium, Shahbagh, Dhaka. The programme will feature the well-known dancer of India, Kalavati Devi and her trainees in Bangladesh.

Inter school festival

June 27-30
Willes United Club, a wing of Willes Little Flower school, is holding a four-day festival named 'Willes Festival 2003' from June 27 to June 30. The festival includes the Inter School Science Fair, debate and art competition. Around fifty schools are taking part in this festival taking place at the school auditorium.

Indigenous culture

Memory of Shidhu-Kanu rejuvenated

Santal Fair kicks off in Thakurgaon

CULTURE DESK

JUNE 30 is the historic Shidhu-Kanu Day observed by the Santals to commemorate the Santal-farmers' revolution against repression. On this occasion, a three-day long Santal Fair starts today at Mollanipara of Balia in Thakurgaon district. All over Bangladesh especially in the northern districts live around two and half lacs of Santals. Alone in Thakurgaon live around 40,000 Santals. These Santals are a very integral part of our national population rather than just a separate indigenous community. Starting from the mass-upsurge of Tebhaga to the country's Liberation War, the Santals have



extended their solidarity, contribution and participation. Among the Santal revolutions against repression the most important are those taking place during 1885-1886. Shidhu and Kanu, along with two other brothers, Chand and Bhairab, were the pioneers in this rebellion. With them in the lead, around 30,000 Santals took part in a mass walking across the Damnadihi Khel plain-land in Birbhum towards Calcutta. In fact, it was the first such incident in the history of India. Brave Shidhu and Kanu were killed in the revolution. But their spirit still lives among the hundreds of thousands of living Santals. And the fair is held each year to revive that spirit among the Santal community so that the indigenous heritage--language, culture and life-style--lives through generations. Arranged by Gidri Bauli, the fair features football match, art-camp, swimming contest, songs and dance competition. Besides competition of different Santal cultural activities like Santali traditional dance, stage drama, Santali film shows and archery competition, also characterise the fair. In addition to these, this year's fair also feature three-day long medical and dental camp.

Theatre

Dorponney Shorotshoshi

CULTURE DESK

AFTER a long wait, Desh Natok is back once more, bringing yet another marvelous performance Dorponney Shorotshoshi. The play will be staged at the Mohila Samiti today. Written by Manoj Mitra, the play has been directed by the eminent actor Aly Zaker. According to the director, Dorponney Shorotshoshi portrays a very straight forward and a general idea reflecting the society. It shows the role of women in theatre. 'To us--actors-- the play holds special meanings and messages as well, defining our love for the theatre', says Aly Zaker. The president of Desh Natok, Shamsul Alam Bakul speaks of the group's effort in trying to make this play hit the city crowd and thanks both Manoj Mitra and Aly



Desh Natok takes to stage after long pause with its new production Dorponney Shorotshoshi.

Zaker. The actors in the play include Shamsul Alam Bakul, Ishrath Nishat, Ehsanul Aziz Babu, Dilip Chakrabarti, Nasir Uddin Sheikh, Bonnya Mirza, Ashok Bepari, Rana Chowdhury, Mamun Chowdhury and many more.

TV review

Musical instances on BTV

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

ON a weary evening, when one switches on the television half-heartedly, it's definitely worth the arduous day to find a couple of musical shows to watch on TV. After a long time last Tuesday, BTV had probably screened two of the most entertaining shows on Nazrul songs and dance performances, portraying the entertainers of the country. The musical show, Dolon Champa, had a bunch of upcoming singers singing the compositions of Nazrul. Amongst them were Shahidul Islam, Shailla Abrin (Elora), Mousumi Chatterjee, Mohammad Shah Nawaz Dilu, Bulbul Akhtar and Idris Ali. The first four singers were exceptionally wonderful and definitely carry a lot of promise. Some of the others though did have minor problems with pronouncing few words of the compositions. Mustafa Zaman Abbasi directed the music of this show, which was truly impressive and well polished. Chhandey Anandey came next, a dance show portraying the various seasons of our country. This programme showed some excellent choreography, musical feats and also

costumes. Deepa Khandakar choreographed the dances. The first dance was performed along with a song, sung brilliantly by Sujit Mustafa, which was a lively description of summer. Tumi ele onek diner porey jeno brishti elo depicted the rainy season of Bangladesh. The dance-duo danced elegantly along with the singers' tunes and emotions, however, the costumes did not do much justice to it. Mati toder daak diyechhe, ayre chhutey aay, was also a well-choreographed dance. Under Laila Haq's planning, this show is aired around four times a month, with two on classical dances and two on contemporary dances. Both the shows are undoubtedly well organised and truly entertaining for all to watch and relax at home, however, the authorities should think about airing the shows at a time when people would actually enjoy them, and not at odd hours.



Rokeya Farukh rendering a number at the on-going Folk Festival on its second day that featured regional folk songs of the country.

Film

Lalsalu hits cinema halls

CULTURE DESK

INTERNATIONALLY acclaimed parallel film Lalsalu gets released at the Balaka cinema hall in Dhaka on July 4, says a press release. Directed by Tanvir Mokammel, the film has already been screened at several places over the country in different media. But Balaka wins the credit to screen it at a cinema hall. Based on the classic novel of the same name by Syed Waliullah, Lalsalu earned acclamation in abroad at various film-festivals and theatres in London, Rotterdam (Holland), Cinema Novo (Belgium), Switzerland, Montreal and Vancouver (Canada), South Korea, Rome, Japan, New York, Delhi and Kolkata. The film was also shown at the Wales International Film Festi-

val.

Balaka cinema hall authority has informed that it will run four shows daily at its usual timetable--12pm, 3pm, 6pm and 9pm. Besides there will be a special show at 10am on Fridays. The two-hour long cinema has Raisul Islam Asad playing the protagonist Majid, a religious zealot. The rest of the cast include Munira Yusuf Memi, Chandni, recently deceased Rowshan Jamil, Chitralakha Guha, Aly Zaker, Toukir Ahmed, Masud Ali Khan, Amirul Haque Chowdhury, Tamanna Yasmin Tithi and many more. Anwar Hossain is in the camera, while Uttam Guha has given the Art Direction and Syed Sabab Ali Arju has directed music in the film.



Raisul Islam Asad, Munira Yusuf Memi and Tithi in a scene from Tanvir Mokammel's film Lalsalu.

TV GUIDE

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