

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

September 12-22
Photographer Shehab Uddin holds his first solo exhibition at the Bengal Foundation, House #275/F, Road #27 (old), Dhanmondi. Titled Into the Bird's World (Pakhir Rajey), the exhibit consists of the photographer's extensive artistic work on the diverse species of birds of the country. The show remains open for all from 12p.m. to 8p.m. everyday.

September 12-21
Shilpangan Art Gallery holds the first solo sculpture and painting exhibition titled Form of Nature by artist Rebecca. The exhibition will be open from 10 am to 8 pm everyday.

September 07-October 06
A month long Grand Group Art Exhibition is going on at the Divine Art Gallery, Shopping Arcade of Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel. The show is open for all from 10am to 9 pm everyday.

Nakshi-kantha exhibition

September 17-24
An exhibition of Nakshi Kantha by Neelanjana Ghose, organised by Essentials, is being held at House-30, Road-42, Gulshan- 2. The exhibition will remain open from 10.00am to 8.00pm daily.

Drama Lane

Bangladesh Mahila Samity
4 Natak Soroni, New Baily Rd.

Table with 3 columns: Group, Plays, Date. Includes Shwarabithi Prothom Bakti, Shubachan Rashtra Bonam, etc.

Music

Haimanti Shukla enthralls Dhaka audience

Tonatuni presents the Indian singer's solo performance

HARUN UR RASHID

THE real attraction of the evening on the fourth day of the Tonatuni Festival was a solo performance by Haimanti Shukla, one of India's most celebrated singers. Hundreds of fans thronged at the National Museum auditorium to enjoy the music of



their favourite artiste. Apart from the concert, Tonatuni children also presented a lively dance composition of the popular Bangla nursery rhymes. Minister for Women and children's affair, Khurshid Jahan Haque and eminent artist Mustafa Monwar were present at the event. The evening also marked the

launching of two albums brought out by Tonatuni--Bhorer Doel and Chokh Jurey Barsha. Composed and tuned by Sujeyo Shyam, the former album presents songs performed by Sabina Yasmin, Shakila Zafar and Subir Nandi. The latter contains songs by Arundhoithome Chowdhury and Abida Sultana. Besides, Singer Haimanti Shukla performs in both the albums.

Haimanti Shukla began the soiree with her immensely popular track Ogo brishti amar chokher pata chhuyona. The crowd seemed very exuberant at hearing such a lively performance. Shukla performed another three songs--Thikana na rekhe bhaloi korechho bandhu, a classical Bangla number and another popular number Amar bolar kichhu chhilona.

Shukla was apparently glad to see the huge popularity of her songs among the Bangladeshis. She said that she generally takes her instrumentalists with her, but when I come to Bangladesh, I don't need to bring them along. For the instrumentalists here play so well I don't feel the necessity of my hands at all, she said. Shukla praised Milon Bhattacharya, Firoz Khan, Munir and Doulatur Rahman who accompanied her on the tabla, setar, flute and guitar.

The concert was then paused by the Tonatuni performance. The cheerful children presented a good number of Bangla popular rhymes



that obviously reminds one of the bygone childhood days. Verses like Adur badur chalta badur, Noton noton payragulo, Baburam shapurey, Megher kole rod heshechhey, Chand uthechhe phul phutechhe, Khokon Khokon kore maay, Khoka ghumalo para juralo and many others could well entertain the audience despite their displeasure at the waiting for Shukla's concert.

The costumes especially of those depicting different animals like elephant, horse, crows were brilliant. Director Tamanna Rahman surely deserves praise for such an excellent presentation of the childhood treasures of rhymes and songs. So does Tonatuni for the unique idea of the whole festival.

Classical vocal recital

ELITA KARIM

THE High Commission of India held a classical music night recently at the Russian Culture Centre. Eminent classical artistes Sulochana Brahaspati and Sharayu Kalekar, along with their disciples enlightened the crowd with various forms of classical ragas.

The disciples from both India and Bangladesh began the show with their classical feats. They touched on

several classical ragas and poured out their hearts with the compositions and at one point presented the many elements of life tan, man, dhan. They created a balance between the body, soul and the materialistic elements of human life through their renditions.

Finally, the Ustads took to the stage and presented their compositions. Their ragas spoke of nature, clear spring river and once again the various vital elements of life. Their compositions expressed the ego of the talented and how this ego demolishes the self.

Reception

Selim-al-Deen honoured

CULTURE DESK

Jahangirnagar University family arranged a programme on the 15th of this month to pay respect to Selim-al-Deen for winning the National award for the story of the film Kittonkhola. All the teachers, students, and the employees of the University took part spontaneously in the programme. Many prominent figures of our cultural arena including Mamunur Rashid, Md. Rafiq, Jhuna Chaudhury, Abu Sayeed, and many others were also present on the occasion. Poet Md. Rafiq was in the chair. It is to be mentioned that Kittonkhola has won the maximum awards this year. Selim-al-Deen, in his speech, thanked the director of the film, Abu Sayeed, for adapting his famous play into cinema. Mamunur Rashid also spoke on the occasion. All the speakers in their speeches showed their love and respect for this great writer. At the same time they pointed out that the moral of our nation has been low and is going through a crisis. From this programme, they have invited all the cultural activists of the country to play an active role to get rid of the situation.

After the speeches, several departmental organisations displayed some scenes from dramas written by Selim-al-Deen. Jussi Diana's spontaneous performance as Shakuntala gave an artistic finish to the programme.

Star talk

We accept anything from Hollywood: Naseeruddin

PIALI BANERJEE

On the heels of the release of his first Hollywood film, The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, Naseeruddin Shah grapples with all the issues that have chased him for the better part of his career. Sometimes he deals with them in all earnestness, much like the actor we know. Sometimes his tongue is caught firmly in his cheek, much like the person we know.

Why does Hollywood offer Indian actors only unimportant roles?

They do so because Indian actors happily accept any Hollywood role that comes their way. I've been getting such offers too, over the years. But I waited until I got The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen, where the role demands more than just my being an Indian.

Was your experience with the film pleasant or unpleasant?

It was pleasant enough. They agreed to all my terms and conditions and accepted the fact that there was no way I was going to give an audition. Why should an established actor audition for a director who's only making his second or third film? If they wanted to cast me directly, they were welcome. And they did.

How does it feel to be an extraordinary actor with such ordinary roles?

I can only select from roles which come my way. Besides, it isn't my job to see whether the roles are ordinary or not. It's my job to get involved in my roles and deliver my best.

Why have you abandoned art films?

Ask this question to those directors who used to make art films once upon a time the key phrase here being 'used to'.

Why do you criticise every-

thing, whether it's art films or mainstream cinema?

That's because I'm a born grouse. Airing grouses against everything comes naturally to me.

Why aren't you part of the re-experimentation that's taking place in Bollywood now?

I don't find any of it even remotely interesting. Besides, it's still the same old Bollywood. Giving different name-tags to the same old films don't change the films.

Why have so many of your trysts with Bollywood been so bad?

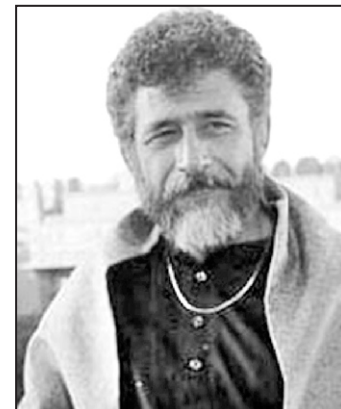
Oh, but I've enjoyed myself thoroughly! Perhaps one day I'll have a festival of all my not-so-memorable films, where the grand finale will be Mujhe Meri Biwi Se Bachao. On second thoughts, even that's not my worst film, I've done worse. Seriously speaking, I have no regrets, it's all part of life.

Why have you never spoken



Tarin with co-artists in a scene from the serial Mohona. Another new mega serial is waiting to be aired on ATN Bangla from September 27. Under the banner of Telereel Limited this 300-episode mega serial has been written and directed by Ananta Hira. It will be telecast on ATN Bangla every Saturday and Sunday at 8.15 pm. The shooting of 39 episodes of this serial has already been completed. The actors of the serial are Humayun Fareedi, Afsana Mimi, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Tarin, Shams Shumon, Nuna Afroz, Razzak, Alamgir, Abdullah Al Mamun, Abul Hayat, Asaduzzaman Noor, Suborna Mustafa, Khaled Khan and some prominent artistes from Kolkata. The theme song of the drama serial has been sung by famous artiste Shubir Nandi and S I Tutul.

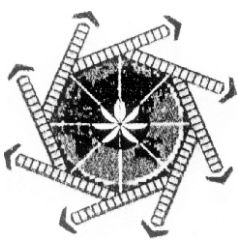
The story of the serial is not a stereotype family drama revolving around an ultra modern restaurant of the posh area of Dhaka City. The owner, manager, waiters, head cook and the regular customers of this posh restaurant are the main characters of this serial.



out on public issues like many of your contemporaries?

I've never considered my opinion or voice important, when it comes to important public issues.

Source: Internet



INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL BANGLADESH

18-25 SEPTEMBER 2003

Film For the People

Aamaar Bhuvan

The Mrinal Sen film takes one from the world of communalism and terrorism to a village where tranquility prevails. It presents a story of a village people who, despite their everyday toils and uncertainties, are very happy with their ordinary life. The life of the villagers has a rhythm and wonderment about it: they have their own desires, they fall in love, they strive to live on, and above all, they want to make the world livable for the younger generation.

The protagonists are two not-very-distantly-related men, and a divorced

woman married again. The film does not have any flashback; nor does it present any drama in the lives of the three. The characters are presented in the frame of the very present moment, which depicts a triangular love-relationship among the three.

The film has a 'beginning', even a 'middle', but no 'ending'. Does that mean the everlasting chase of human life for the truth, even though man knows that life is not infinitive?

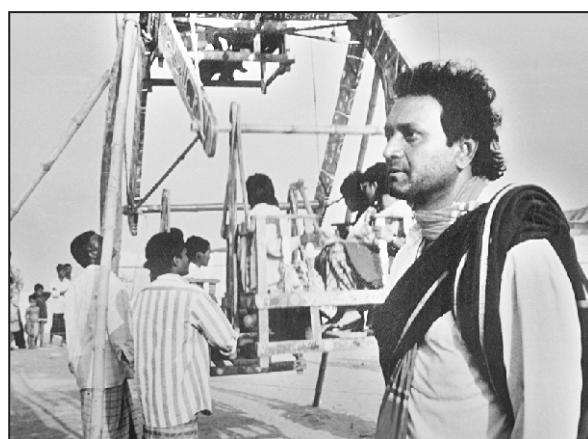
The three main characters are portrayed by Nandita Das, Swaswata Chattopadhyay and Koushik Sen.

AAMAAR BHUVAN



The film Aamaar Bhuvan, to be screened on the opening day presents a story of a village people who, despite their everyday toils and uncertainties, are very happy with their ordinary life.

KITTON KHOLA



Kittonkhola, the best film of 2000, along with thirty other films from Bangladesh will be screened at the festival. Kittonkhola presents the clash and relationship among some people of Bede community and Jatra artistes.

TV GUIDE

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes BTV 07:35 Shuprabhat Bangladesh, 08:00 Morning News, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes CHANNEL-i 07:15 Channel-i News, 09:00 Channel-i News, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes ATN BANGLA 8:00 ATN Bangla Sangbad, 12:00 ATN Bangla Sangbad, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS, PICK OF THE DAY, and various news and entertainment programs.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes STAR GOLD, STAR PLUS, STAR WORLD, and ZEE CINEMA.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes Bol Radha Bol, Qurbani, and other programs.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes With 2 Guys a Girl & a Pizza Place, Knight Rider, etc.

Table with 2 columns: Time, Program Name. Includes TEN SPORTS, MGM, and STAR MOVIES.