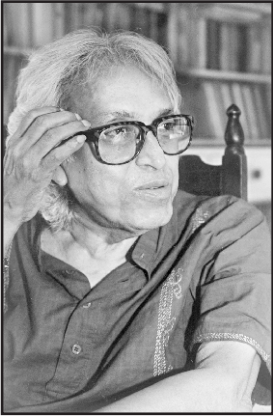


RECOMMENDATIONS



Celebration
October 20
A reception for the eminent poet Shamsur Rahman will be held at the National Museum on October 20, at 6.30pm to mark his 75th birthday. This will be organised by 'Konthoshilon'.

Exhibition
October 16-27
An exhibition titled 'Transformation', a compilation of works by 14 artists from Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi and Bogra, is going on at the La Galerie of Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhaka.

October 17-November 12
Gallery Dhrupad holds a group art exhibition titled 'Rhythm in nature' of sixty renowned artists of Bangladesh at the gallery premises. The show will remain open from 10 am to 9 pm daily.

Korean Contemporary Painting
October 19-25
To celebrate the thirtieth anniversary of the diplomatic relation between Bangladesh and the Republic of Korea, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy has arranged 'Korean Contemporary Painting Exhibition' by Choon Choo Fine Arts Association in Korea at the National Gallery. The exhibition will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm daily (Friday 3pm-7 pm).

Painting
October 10-24
Shilpangan arranged a fifteen-day-long solo painting exhibition of artist Iftikharuddin Ahmed's recent works. The show is open for all from 10 am to 9 pm everyday.

| Drama Lane | | |
|---|-----------------------|------|
| Bangladesh Mahila Samity 4 Natok Soroni, New Baily Rd. | | |
| (Evening show at 7:00 pm Morning show at 11:00 am) | | |
| Group | Plays | Date |
| Dhaka Padatik Ingeet | Desh Natok | 20 |
| | Birosha | 21 |
| Muktaloy | Kabya | 22 |
| | Faand | 22 |
| Natyangan | Azrailer | 23 |
| | Unmochon | 23 |
| Dhaka | Shonar Khachay | 24 |
| | Nandonik | 24 |
| Padatik | Bandi Pakhi | 25 |
| | Shojon Badhria | 25 |
| Nayya | Ghat | 25 |
| | Shangshad | 25 |
| Mahakal | Shikhondi | 26 |
| | Nayya | 26 |
| shomprodai | Katha | 26 |
| | Centre For The Lesson | 27 |
| Asian Theatre | | 27 |
| | | 27 |

Theatre

From poetry to theatre

Gandhar of Kolkata presents Joy Goswami's novel in poetry on stage at the Natyajan Natyotshab

HARUN UR RASHID

Used to recite poetry before coming into acting,' says Bijoylakshmi Barman regarding her attempt into the theatrical performance. 'I was among the *juridal* [chorus] in the team of Shaonli Mitra.' And it was the famed actress and daughter of noted actor-director Shambhu Mitra who played the most active role in introducing Barman on stage. Barman also pays gratitude to Subrata Pal, a member of Shambhu Mitra's theatre group Bahurupi, who has always inspired her to act.

Bijoylakshmi Barman is now in Dhaka participating with her group Gandhar in the ongoing festival organised by the theatre group Natyajjan. Gandhar has staged two shows of its drama *Charduar*, in which Barman plays a major role. In addition, Barman has performed two shows of her solo acting *Jara Brishhite Bhijechhilo*, the theatrical adaptation of poet Joy Goswami's poetical novel of the same name.

Bijoylakshmi Barman's first ever performance on stage in 1985 was a remarkable event. She was doing a role in the play *Dashchakra*, an adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *Enemy of the People*. Besides it was her maiden forte, she performed with the legendary actor of Indian theatre Shambhu Mitra in that drama. Moreover, the show was a funds raiser for the tornado victims of Urir Char in Bangladesh thus achieving a moral value.

Bijoylakshmi Barman later joined Gandhar in 1997. With the group her first production is *Charduar*, a Bangla version of a Marathi drama. Eminent actor-director Meghnad Bhattacharya gave Gandhar the original Marathi play. Barman recalls how the play was then converted into Bangla. 'With a Marathi lady whom we called Tara'di, who had good

knowledge of Bangla, we translated the play in 15 days. Then Meghnad edited the script.'

Later, however, Bijoylakshmi Barman had to remain away from the stage for two years due to some unavoidable circumstances. But when she came back, she did it with confidence and excellence with her solo performance *Jara Brishhite Bhijechhilo*.

The play is a narrative of the story of sufferings and frustrations of a girl. The play presents the girl with an

While others used to look at her with eyes of nasty greed, this 'mute' boy whose name she never knew gave her a kind of tranquil of the mind. The girl had a few other refuges too. She made friends with trees, or a tune of her childhood days. She found solace in the cool of the bathroom, the lone balcony or the terrace. She dreamt about a life free from all these sufferings and embarrassment.

A brief period of emancipation then comes into the girl's life as she goes to live with her maternal aunt's

torment she decides to abandon the life in that family and live that of her own. The sudden win over her situation has been depicted in the narrative of the play quite symbolically. The narration is mostly in the third person except that towards the close of the drama the tone shifts almost unnoticeably to the first person. This shift marks all the changes—the girl's gaining self-confidence and self-respect, her revolt against all suppressing social doctrines, and most importantly her emancipation.

The suggestive stage props used in the play enhanced the symbolic sequences of the story. A few strings tied from ceiling to the floor and throwing light on it create an artistic projection of moonlight on the window. Especially, in the final scene Barman's body language creates an aesthetic rhythm with the lights projected on her, the whole composition giving life to her newly found emancipated self.

Barman's adept control over voice and tone, her facial expressions and, above all, her honest involvement into acting earned her great applause from the audience.

Jara Brishhite Bhijechhilo is Barman's only solo performance so far. She however does not make any differentiation between group acting and solo acting. 'The basic concept of theatre lies in group activity,' she explains. 'The only difference between the two is that in case of solo acting there is only one character. But no one can deny the presence and continuous support of others like the stage designer, light designer, director and everyone in the whole team.'

Bijoylakshmi Barman believes that through theatre it is possible to come close to the ordinary people. She highly values the charitable possibilities of the medium.



Bijoylakshmi Barman's facial expressions and honest involvement in acting earned her great applause from the audience.

ordinary middle class background and wedded into another such household, telling those sad stories. Like all other middle class housewives, she is also accustomed to accept her fate without protest since her early age. The fatherless girl lived with her mother and younger sister in the family of her uncle who used to exploit the helplessness of the three women and always reminded them that they were at his mercy.

In that suffocated life, however, the girl found solace in a young boy.

house. But after her marriage, which takes place very shortly, the girl gets fettered again—by her husband and the in-laws now. Even after ten years of marriage, the girl cannot have a baby because of the husband's impotency, which only adds to her mental torture. The plight gets even more unbearable when she learns from an old friend about her husband's infidelity. But she cannot establish her flawless position in the patriarchal society.

At such a moment of mental

Exhibition

Penchant for peace

Nazia Andaleeb's Japanese exposure

FAYZA HAQ

TALKING of the new elements that she had included in her recent exhibit at Chuwa Gallery, Japan, Nazia Andaleeb Preema says that she was preparing for it for two years. Knowing the open minds of progressive Japanese viewers, she was confident that her abstract work would find praise and enthusiasm. Except for one, all the 25 paintings were new oil on paper. The items in her 4th solo were smaller in size, to match the local demand.

Andaleeb says, "I intentionally introduced some elements from Bangladesh such as the rickshaw or the feeling of the rain as the freshly washed sensation in 'Monsoon rain'. Another had closed space despite the surrounding gold and bronze and this was to depict her feeling of congestion at the time that she was painting. My work in Japan was a progress from what had been seen in Dhaka: I simply progressed from the stage that I had reached earlier. I was naturally more experimental. My style and themes, working with textures and minimizing my figures was continued."

"There were lines with the spatula to represent recurrent feelings or roughly sketched images such as that of a boat or a man seen in motion. Realistic images were there only to relieve the laying on of colours. I had used the contrast of black and white along with warm colours like shades of yellow. The white was there to bring in the Japanese penchant for peace."

Seen at Japan was also "Amar desh" which had splashes of lemon yellow combined with cadmium



yellow, bringing in a passage of a boat through mustard fields. Blue, black and gray stood for land that had been spoilt somewhat and which lent contrast to the bright shades. The up and down play of texture work added rhythm. The visible form in vibrant oranges and red was a sinking sail. "Fulfillment" brought in a buoyant splash of white along with a slice of crescent moon, with hints of warm orange. The "Red city" series brought in the claustrophobic feeling of a Dhaka dweller who was overwhelmed with the cement jungles. There were hints of a house, a tall cracked building and other tiny forms in the composition. The bright colours expressed the need for space and understanding in the crowded metropolis with its mushrooming multistoried buildings.

Andaleeb says that the Bangladesh-Japanese exchange programme has been organised by GS Kabir and his wife, Sanaye Watanbe Kabir, for years now in

Tokyo. The competition was open to all and she had been selected by a board in Japan. Normally the Bangladeshi painters are exhibited in Japan, while Japanese works are shown in Bangladesh.

Talking of her Japan trip, Andaleeb said "The people there appeared very contented with their life and work," Andaleeb remarks. "I spent a wonderful day with Kamizo, a senior artist, who teaches in Lebanon, and although I could not speak Japanese, sign language was adequate."

Dwelling on the artists who had inspired her of late, the artist says, "For the past few years I've been influenced by the French artist Soulages, and before that I liked the works of Mohammed Kibria and Kazi Giasuddin. I want to absorb the best from others and go in my own individual way, creating a style that will stand out as typically mine."

Film

Abaar Aranye, a cross-over production

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

TWO Bengali films directed by internationally-acclaimed Gautam Ghosh and Rituparno Ghosh and a Hindi movie that transports the spirit of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* in a story of the underworld of Bombay are among the most talked about in India's biggest cinematic extravaganza the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) here.

Gautam Ghosh's latest work *Abaar Aranye* (In the Forests Again) featuring Sharmila Tagore, Saumitra Chatterjee and Hindi star Tabu, formed part of the Indian Panorama section of the festival and was eagerly awaited by viewers for more than one reason.

First, the film was well received at the Venice International Festival in September this year. Secondly, this is the first time Tabu acted in a Bengali film and dubbed the Bengali dialogue herself. And finally, the most importantly, it is, as Gautam Ghosh himself says, the director's tribute to maestro Satyajit Ray.

Abaar Aranye is a sequel to Ray's *Aranyer Din Ratri* made in the sixties. But more than that, the sequel represents a journey in time for Gautam Ghosh who had first thought of the making it while shooting a documentary on Manik-da (as Ray was known in film circles).

Many of the characters who appeared in Ray's film return to *Abaar Aranye* like Sharmila, Saumitra and Shamit Bhanja. But times have changed. The young people of *Aranyer Din Ratri* return in Ghosh's film with their spouses and children.

Resuming from where Ray's film ended, Ghosh wanted to explore the passage of time, the trials and tribulations and the experience of an entirely different generation. The characters have changed but the forest has not.

"Life has changed so much for us. Yet, the tribal life in the forest has remained untouched. This shows the presence of various layers in life. While one layer moves



on, the other remains stuck in time," says Ghosh.

The film marked Sharmila Tagore's return to Bengali film after a long time. Who can forget her impressive roles in Ray's earlier films like *Apur Sansar* and *Dev*? It also sees Tabu making her debut in Bengali film.

Tabu's acting in *Abaar Aranye* is perhaps a step forward from appearance in cross-over Hindi films like award-winning *Chandni Bar* directed by Madhur Bhandarkar and *Astitva*.

Tabu says she was excited as much about her role in *Abaar Aranye* as about the fact that it is going to be a sequel to Ray's film. "The character of Amrita she plays in Ghosh's film is a free spirit and has strong beliefs about life much like me," adds the actress.

(To be continued)

Venture

Revival of centuries old Bangla songs

Panchoshor, a newly formed cultural organisation, with the objective of working with different forms of arts like—film, music, recitation, drama and dance, organised a musical programme titled *Shukhin Nishidin Poradhin* to mark its emergence at the German Cultural Centre on October 17, says a press release.

Artistes Sumon Chowdhury, Nasima Shaheen, Farhana Akhter, Sumon Majumdar, Jannat-e-Ferdousy and Mamun Zahid Khan rendered songs at the programme, all of which belong to 'Bangla Nagorik Gaan'—a thematic concept of Bangla songs from the early 19th century till the middle of 20th century.



All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTv
News Headlines(Bangla) at 9:40 am. 12:10 pm. 2:00 p.m. 3:10 pm. 4:00 pm. 7:00 pm.
News(Bangla) at 8:00 am 1:00 pm. 5:00 pm. 8:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm. 10:00 pm.
Late Night News(Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-I
Breakfast News 07:15 am. 9:00am
News(Bangla) at 7:15 pm. 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTv News(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
ATN BANGLA
News(Bangla) at 8:00 am. 12:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm. 11:00 pm.
Telecast of BTv News(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News(Bangla) at 09 a.m. 10:00 a.m. 11:00 am. 1pm. 2:00 pm. 3:00 pm. 4:00pm. 6:00 pm. 8:00 pm.
ntv
News Headlines(Bangla) at 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 pm. 11:00 pm.
TARA BANGLA
NewsHeadline(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm.
Tara News(Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm.
Tara News Bangladesh(Bangla) at 9:30 pm.
BBC World
Every hour on the hour

BTv
07:35 Shuprabhat Bangladesh Programme from Archive
08:25 Onnyo Bhuban: Wrestling
12:15 Shangbadpatrer Pata Theke
01:05 Priyo Shilpi Priyo Gaan
01:30 Hajar Bachhar Dhorey
02:05 Cartoon Show: Captain Planet
02:30 Onu Paromanu Drama Serial: Chhaya Manobi Lekhapora
04:05 Open University School TV Debate Contest
05:05 News for Children Shamokalin Aurthoneeti
06:10 Dolonchampa
06:35 Ritter Taley Taley
07:05 Shur Ananda
07:30 Drama Serial: Shat Rajar Dhon
08:30 Contemporary Drama
09:30 Drama Serial: Shindhu Hindol
10:30 **CHANNEL-I**
09:45 TritiyoMatra Chithi Pelam
11:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
11:30 Shangbadpatrey Bangladesh
02:00 Feature Film: Shoytan Manush (Dolly Zahur/Humayun Fareedy)

05:35 Jonopoder Khabor
05:45 Chitra Mela
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Durer Akash
07:55 Drama Serial: Ala-Bhola
08:25 Drama Serial: Pantho Hey
09:35 Film Show: Superman
10:00 Drama: Shesh Roddur
ntv
05:02 Itihashe Ei Diney
05:10 Potrikar Khabar
05:25 Puppet Show: Rintu Raja
06:00 Apnar Jigyasha
06:32 Shubho Shandhya
06:52 Khabar Deshey Deshey
08:00 Drama Serial: Ebong Ami
08:35 Arshi Nagar
09:10 Natoker Gaan
09:47 Drama Serial: Swapno Jatra Gallery
10:22 Din Darpan
11:30 Century
11:35 Cine Gaan
HBO
10:15 Sabrina Down
10:15 Under
12:00 Dinner with Friends
12:00 The Best Man
4:45 The Thirteenth Floor
6:45 The Matrix
9:30 Proof of Life
12:15 Revenge of the Ninja
STAR MOVIES
8:45 Future Sport
10:15 Mary Reilly
12:00 Fly Away Home

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS
HBO: 9:30 pm: Proof of Life.
Action/Drama/Thriller; Meg Ryan, Russell Crowe. In a mountainous South American country, drug-dealing rebels kidnap Peter Bowman, a US engineer who works for an oil company's subsidiary. The company calls in a negotiator, Terry Thorne, an Aussie ex-soldier based in London. When the subsidiary goes bankrupt, the oil company washes its hands of the matter and pulls Thorne. Bowman's wife Alice begs him to stay. She and Peter's sister cobble together some money, Thorne talks ransom terms with the cash-strapped rebels, and Peter, chained high in the mountains, is sustained by a photo of Alice.
STAR MOVIES: 5:30 pm: Anaconda. Thriller/Horror; Jennifer Lopez, Ice Cube, Jon Voight. A film crew headed by anthropologist Steve Cale and director Terri Flores journey through a river to find a mysterious Indian tribe and shoot a documentary on them. They save a guy called Paul Sarone from a sinking boat. He offers to help in their search for the tribe, but he is actually a snake-hunter looking for legendary anaconda snake, and when Cale is bitten by some tropical insect, Sarone takes over the boat.
1:45 Cocoon
3:45 It Could Happen To You
5:30 Anaconda
7:00 Prelude To A Kiss
8:45 Brotherhood Of The Wolf
MGM
9:00 Salvador
11:30 Brain Damage
2:00 Bay Boy
4:30 Everyone Says I Love You
7:00 The Dublin Murders

PICK OF THE DAY
Life is Beautiful
On MGM at 9:30 pm
Genre: Comedy/Romance/Drama/War
Roberto Benigni, Nicoletta Braschi, Giorgio Cantarini
In 1930s Italy, a carefree Jewish book keeper starts a fairy tale courting and marrying a lovely woman. They have a son and live happily together until German forces occupy Italy. To hold his family together and help his son survive the horrors of a Concentration Camp, Guido imagines that the Holocaust is a game and that the grand prize for winning is a tank.
1:30 report/Sport Today
2:00 Top Gear
2:00 BBC News
2:30 Hardtalk
3:30 Extra Time
4:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
5:30 HardTalk
6:15 World Business Report/Sport Today
7:30 Sci Shack/Wild Moves/Virt World
9:30 HardTalk
10:30 World Business Report/Click Online

5:05 Tanha
6:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain
6:30 Fox Kids
7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
8:30 Krishna Arjun
9:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay
9:30 Des Mein Nikla Hoga Chand
10:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kahiin To Hoga
STAR WORLD
12:30 World's Wildest Police Videos
1:30 The Pretender
2:28 Star Asia Travel
2:30 Oprah Winfrey
3:30 Bold And Beautiful
4:30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch
5:00 Two Guys And A Girl
5:30 Knight Rider
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement
7:30 Friends
8:00 Just Shoot Me
8:30 That '70s Show
9:00 Dharma & Greg
9:30 Yes Dear
10:00 Becker
10:30 Third Watch
11:28 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Baywatch
STAR GOLD
9:00 Ek Nari Ek Brahmachari
12:30 Aftatoon
4:30 Laawaris
6:30 Vijeta

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
12:30 Insects From Hell
1:00 Monkey Business
1:30 Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures
2:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
2:30 Built For The Kill
3:30 Kill Zone
4:30 The Vietnam's Unseen War
5:30 Animal Edens
6:00 Mission Wild
6:30 Dogs With Jobs
7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife S3
7:30 Insects From Hell
8:00 Monkey Business
8:30 Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures
9:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
9:30 Built For The Kill
10:30 Koala Quandary
11:30 Truth Files
DISCOVERY
12:30 Great Romances of the 20th Century: Aristotle Onassis & Maria Callas
1:00 Wedding Story Laura & Rich
1:30 Body Basics Break throughs
2:30 New Detectives
3:30 Silent Witness
4:30 Wild Discovery Land of the Giant Bats
5:00 I Love Music... Popular Mechanics for Kids Life Savers
5:30 Globe Trekker Costa Rica and Nicaragua

6:30 Journeys to the Ends of the Earth Swahili Sinbads
7:30 Wild Discovery In the Depths of the Forest
8:30 Classic Discovery Dungeons of Alcatraz History in Colour Darkest Hour
10:30 World's Best World's Best : Castles and Palaces
11:30 FBI Files Cracking the Cartel
STAR SPORTS
8:30 Spanish Football League 2003/04 (R)
10:30 Champions Tour Golf Greater Hickory Classic Final Round(T)
1:00 English Premier Football League 2003/04 Arsenal Vs Chelsea (R)
3:00 The Golf Club 2003 (R)
3:30 Irb Rugby World Cup 2003 Scotland Vs Usa (L)
5:30 Motorcycle Programming 2003 Endurance Championship Rome Italy (T)
6:00 Series Spain Final(S)
8:00 Sportsline Hindi (L)
8:30 New Zealand Tour Of India Best Of The Day India Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 5 Highlights(S)
10:30 Sportsline Hindi (R)