

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

December 13-20
A photo exhibition titled Britto, images of map photographers, is going on at La-Galerie (54 Kemal Attarturk Avenue, Banani, Dhaka). The exhibition is open for all from 10am to 8pm everyday.

December 19-31
The Alliance Francaise has organised a photography exhibition titled 'Intimate diaries of Twin Nationalities' by Anwar Hossain starting from December 19 at 6:00 pm. The display will remain open for all from 5 pm to 9 pm everyday.

December 12-22
A painting exhibition of artist Abdul Muqtadir is going on at the Gallery Chittrak from 10 am to 8 pm everyday.

December 19-26
Shilpangan has arranged a 8-day-long art and craft exhibition in association with the Craft Dept of the Institute of Fine Arts. The show will remain open for all from 10 am to 9 pm everyday.

Int'l Short Film

Festival: Seminars

December 20-21
As part of the 8th international short film and independent film festival, Dhaka-2003, the 5th Alamgir Kabir Memorial Lecture will be held on December 20, at the Poet Sufia Kamal Auditorium, National Museum, Shahbag, Dhaka at 4pm. and the national seminar will be held on December 21, at 4pm at the same venue.

Crystal Fair

December 17-25
The Russian Cultural Centre is currently holding a nine-day long Russian Crystal Fair. This exhibition will remain open everyday for all from 11:00 am to 7:00 pm. Venue: Exhibition Hall of the Ryssian Cultural Centre House 510, Road 7 Dhanmondi



Indian author Mahasweta Devi shows the medal of the French award 'Officier Des Arts et des Lettres', during an award ceremony in Kolkata on December 17. Mahasweta Devi is the first Indian author to receive the award which is one of the highest and most prestigious French civilian awards given to an internationally renowned scholar every year in recognition of his/her rich contribution in literary and other fields.

Cinema

Centenary tribute to Yasujiro Ozu

A filmmaker whose films show the rest of the world what it is like being Japanese

SABBIR CHOWDHURY

A KIRA Kurosawa is known all over the world as the 'trade-mark' Japanese filmmaker, and wherever Japanese cinema is mentioned, Kurosawa's name comes first as he is the most popular and accessible of all the Japanese filmmakers abroad. But, Yasujiro Ozu is the filmmaker whose films represent the essential 'Japaneseness'.



Filmmaker Yasujiro Ozu (1903-1963) looking through the camera (in 1952)

for me there was no such thing as a teacher. I have relied entirely on my own strength."

In a career spanning 36 years from 1927 to 1962, Ozu made 54 films of which only 36 now exist. Ozu's films usually deal with 'eternal, timeless truths' of human nature. They examine the basic struggles that we all face in life: the cycles of birth and death, the transition from childhood to adulthood, and the tension between tradition and modernity. He once said that he had only one theme to deal with in his films - the Japanese

return home. In Equinox Flower (Higan-Bana, 1958), we see a daughter who marries for love, against the will of her father, who believes that it is the one who should choose a bridegroom for her, in the Japanese tradition of arranged marriages. This film offers a scathing criticism of the father, and as such, the whole Japanese social system that he belongs to. It looks genuinely at the social transformation in Japanese society, when old norms were breaking down, and new ones were taking their place. Much of the force of Equinox Flower derives from Ozu's deep understanding of such situations.

Samma no Aji (An Autumn Afternoon, 1962) was influenced by the death of his mother during filming. Ozu, a bachelor all through his life, had lived with his mother. The film is a serene meditation on ageing and loneliness. Having arranged the marriage of his only daughter, a widower becomes painfully aware of his advanced age and his isolation. Solace is sought in alcohol and drunken comradeship. This film by Ozu was to be his 'swan song'. He died of cancer, a year after its making, on his birthday, on 12th December in 1963.

Many contemporary filmmakers admire and often incorporate his methods in their films. The list includes such stalwarts in the contemporary world cinema like Wim Wenders (Germany), Jim Jarmusch (USA), Hou Hsiao-Hsien



A still from the film Toky Monogatari (Tokyo Story, 1953)

as director (and only period piece) in 1927. In his early life as a filmmaker, he was fond of American films and among his early favourites were the films by Ernst Lubitsch. While working at the Shochiku Studios, he saw a lot of Japanese films. But later on, as he was formulating his own style, the early influences faded off. For his style, he said, "I formulated my own directing style in my own head, proceeding without any unnecessary imitation of others ...

family and its dissolution. The titles of his films often emphasise the changing of seasons, a symbolic backdrop for the evolving transitions of human experience. Seen together, Ozu's work amounts to one of the most profound visions of family life in the history of cinema.

His camera hardly moves and for indoor setting, it is always placed in the same position: at about two feet above the floor level, the viewpoint of the Japanese



A still from the film Higan-Bana (Equinox Flower, 1958)

and film connoisseurs around the world along with Citizen Kane by Orson Welles, The Rules of the Game by Jean Renoir, The Passion of Joan of Arc by Carl Dreyer and Vertigo by Alfred Hitchcock. Tokyo Story is a sad, simple story of generation conflict where the visit of the elderly parents to their busy, self-absorbed children in Tokyo is met with indifference. This ingratitude only serves to reveal permanent emotional differences, which the parents gracefully accept and then

(Taiwan) and Adoor Gopalakrishnan (India). As the most Japanese of all filmmakers, Ozu occupies a position in the world cinema as a unique filmmaker, a filmmaker liked and appreciated by the filmmakers.

We pay our tribute to Yasujiro Ozu, one of the greatest filmmakers of all time, on his birth centenary.

Sabbir Chowdhury, a film activist, teaches in the Department of English at Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka.

Victory Day celebrations

ntv Victory Day concert

Novelty in observance

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

THE slogan of the concert was 'In joy of victory we celebrate'. No doubt, a complete slogan for a concert on the Victory Day!

For the first time in the history of satellite channels in Bangladesh, ntv organised an open air concert to celebrate the victory day in front of National Parliament, and telecast it almost immediately--it was telecast 'as live' since, the organiser said, it was transmitted one hour late due to technical problems. 'Ntv wants to reach next to the audience and share the enthusiasm of celebrating the nation's great achievement,' said Shehab Sumon and Monwar Shahdat Darpan, the producers of the event, on behalf of the ntv authority.

When Souls, one of the popular bands in Bangladesh, took to the stage first, the venue was already filled up with an enormous audience for the majestic celebration. Then came Dalchhut and performed five or six of their popular numbers like Gari cholena,



Maksud O Dhaka performed their songs on Bangladesh



Hasan of popular band Swadhinota performing a number at the ntv Victory Day concert

Bioscope, Shada moyla rongila paly. Swadhinota started with its hit number Bangladeshi and went on with several other popular numbers.

bers. When Maksud O Dhaka came on stage, it had already started drizzling but the nature just failed to affect the enthusiasm. Maksud started with the number Bangladesh and performed many popular numbers chiefly on the country. Maksud's turn ended with his most famous track Melay jairey.

Maksud said he had a dream to perform his favourite number Ganatantra in front of the parliament. He was apparently delighted and conveyed his gratefulness to the ntv authority for providing him with such opportunity. He however took the chance to place the heartiest demand of the new generation to the ntv authority for arranging such concerts every year on occasions like the Pohela Baishakh and the likes.

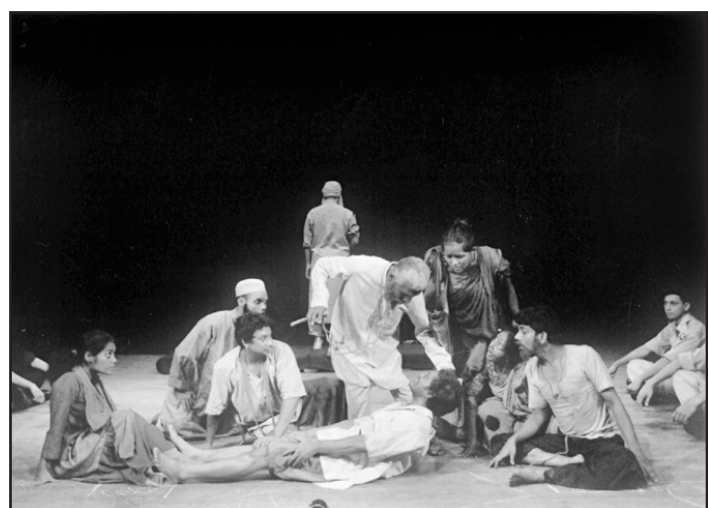
Most probably the concert was one of the rare ones that came to an end without any sort of disorder. The performers continually reminded the audience of its responsibility of upholding a good image of the country; for, the programme reached all over the world crossing the boundary of Bangladesh.

The ntv authority promised they would arrange such events regularly to celebrate our national festivals.

Shomoy stages 'Bhager Manush'

CULTURE DESK

THEATRE group Shomoy staged two shows of its latest production Bhager Manush at the public library auditorium to observe the Victory Day. To express his view the chief of the group Aktaruzzaman said, 'I think the cultural workers of the country should try to instill the feelings of patriotism within the common people. A play has the power to deliver such messages among the mob. And the play Bhager Manush has got that tone which can make people conscious about their duties and that is why we celebrated the day in this way.' The group will stage the play two more times on December 25 at the Mahila Samity Mancha and on December 29 at Chittagong.



A scene from the play

Event

8th international short film festival begins

ERSHAD KAMOL

ANGLADESH Short Film Forum has arranged a 9-day long 8th edition of the International Short and Independent Film Festival from 18th to 26th of this month. The opening was held at the Central Public Library at 4p.m. on December 18. Eminent author and academicians of the

country Sarder Fazlul Karim, the chief guest, inaugurated the festival by hoisting the National Flag in the Public Library premises.

The opening ceremony started with a tribute to the recently deceased film personalities Salauddin, Sheikh Niamat Ali, Tarek Shahriar, Gulam Mustafa and Rowshan Jamil by observing one-minute silence. Hasnat Abdul

Hye, chairman of the organising committee, was in the chair. Pulak Gupta, the acting president of the organisation, delivered the welcome speech. Aminul Islam, festival director, presented the schedule of the arrangement. Sarder Fazlul Karim opened the logo of the festival. Pioneer filmmaker and journalist Obaed-Ul Haque was honoured with Hira Lal Sen Smriti Padak and a token

amount of Tk.25,000. Besides the Public Library Auditorium, the audience can also watch four short films at the National Museum and the German Cultural Centre. 152 films from participating 30 countries will be screened at the festival, of them 42 are made by Bangladeshi directors. Tickets are available at the venues before showtimes.

Channel click

New series programme 'Ganotantra'

CULTURE DESK

CENTRE for Development Communication in collaboration with the British Council is making a interview based programme for Channel i. A total of 18 episodes will be shot for this programme titled Ganotantra in three years from 2003 to 2005. The director of the programme Mohammad Jahangir has interviewed many

MPs and politicians of England, India and Sri Lanka. The interviews for the programme for the year 2003 have already been recorded.

The discussion episodes of the Bangladeshi politicians, MPs and intellectuals will be shot from next January.

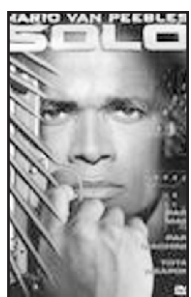
The programme for the year 2003 will include the following topics: The main characteristics of democracy in the view of different

people; the process of nominating an MP for the main political party; the duty and role of an MP; how will an MP represent his constituency; the practice of inner democracy of a political party and how to ensure the inner democracy of a party.

To identify the topics of the next year's programme an informal discussion took place at the British Council on Thursday at 4:30 pm.

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 7:30 pm Solo. Genre: Action/Sci-Fi; Mario Van Peebles, Barry Corbin, William Sadler. Mario Van Peebles stars as an android killing weapon designed by the military and utilized to enter into a Latin American war to destroy the rebels - natives fighting simply to maintain their freedom. Contrary to his programming, he develops an affinity for the villagers and decides to help them fight back. This lets his creators bring him back and ultimately leads to one of them being given more powerful circuitry to defeat him.



STAR MOVIES: 11:00 pm Three Amigos! Comedy/Western; Chevy Chase, Steve Martin, Martin Short. When silent film stars Lucky Day, Dusty Bottoms and Ned Nederlander get fired, they take a job offer from Mexico: Doing a show with El Guapo, supposedly the most famous actor there. Travelling there in good hope for good money, they arrive only to learn soon that El Guapo is not an actor, but a cruel gang leader suppressing people. He abducts the mayor's beautiful daughter Carmen (to be his wife) in revenge for the people's cry for help.

PICK OF THE DAY



Sphere On Star Movies at 8:45 pm Genre: Sci-Fi/Thriller Dustin Hoffman, Sharon Stone, Samuel L. Jackson In the middle of the South Pacific, a thousand feet below the surface of the water, a huge vessel rests on the ocean floor. Rushed to the scene is a group of American scientists who descend to the depths of the sea to investigate this astonishing discovery. What they find defies their imaginations and mocks their attempts at logical explanation. It is a massive spaceship, undamaged from its fall from the sky-and at least three hundred years old.

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 a.m. 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. 9:00 am. 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. and 8:00 pm. Ntv News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 pm. 10:30 pm. TARA BANGLA News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm. Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm. BBC World Every hour on the hour

BTV 07:35 Suprobat Bangladesh 08:30 Natun Kuri 2003 12:15 Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke 01:05 E Shoptaher Notoke 02:05 Shur O Chhanda 03:05 Nibedon 04:05 Moner Kotha 04:30 Ei Dhaka Shei Dhaka 05:05 Nabo Anande Jago 06:10 Wrestling 07:00 Share Market, Weather Forecast Shata Phul Phithey Dao 07:30 Film Show: Fortune Hunter 08:30 Dekha Adekha 09:00 Drama: Shona Shona Rod 10:30 Ananda Jhama 11:00 Shur Lohori CHANNEL-i 09:45 Trilio Matra 12:00 Chhithi Pelam 12:30 Ebgong Cinemar Gan 02:00 Feature Film: Lal Benarashi (Rezina, Alamgir) 06:10 Music Plus 06:45 Gilette World Sports 07:50 Drama Serial: Cihnera Pata 08:25 Vim Jhatpat Ranna Chatpat Parishkar 09:35 Drama Serial: Bashabash 10:00 Drama Serial: Bandhubarehu ATN BANGLA 10:15 Talk show: Annodristee 10:50 Drama serial: Baba Uro Cola Sastrang Shapla Shaluk 12:40 Uro Cola Sastrang Shapla Shaluk 3:45

5:50 Islamee Sawal O Jawab 6:20 Talk show: Annodristee 7:40 Serial: Thunder Stone 8:50 Mega serial: Lal Neel Bagune 9:25 Mega serial: Baba Special prog of 8th International Film Festival: Mukth Chinter Chalochetro Musical competition prog: Shes Akkhor ntv 05:02 Ithasher Ei Diney 05:10 Potrikar Khabor 05:30 Aprar Jigyasha 06:00 Dastan-E-Hatem Tai 06:32 Shubho Shondhya 06:52 Shoptaher Khabor 08:00 Drama Serial: Tin Purush 08:35 Tele Film: Bhalobasha Dot Com 11:00 Din Darpan 12:05 Shangshkriti Ei Shoptaho HBO 10:30 Gattaca 12:45 Mission: Impossible II 3:15 Darkman 5:15 Twister 7:30 Solo 9:30 The Grinch 11:45 Tales From The Crypt 03: Mourin' Mess 12:30 The Story of US 2:30 Twister STAR MOVIES 9:00 Rambo Ii 10:45 Invincible 12:15 Addicted To Love 1:45 Lost Battalion 3:15 In His Life: The John

Lennon Story 4:40 Julius Caesar 7:00 Bowling 8:45 Sphere 11:00 Three Amigos! 12:40 Amanda And The Alien ZEE CINEMA 10:30 Style (Sharmar Joshi, Sahil Khan, Riya Sen) 1:30 Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam (Ajay Devgan, Aishwarya Rai, Salman Khan) 5:30 Waah Tera Kya Kehna (Govinda, Raveena Tandon) 9:30 Gadar: Ek Prem Katha (Sunny Deol, Amisha Patel) STAR WORLD 2:30 Robocorp 3:00 X - Men 4:00 The Kumars At No. 42 4:30 Cops 4:30 World's Wildest Police Videos 5:30 Knight Rider 6:30 The X Files 7:30 Xena: Warrior Princess

8:30 Tna Wrestling 9:30 Mutant X 10:30 Adventure Inc 11:30 Baywatch Hawaii STAR PLUS 3:30 Aamne Saamne 6:30 Samnewali Khidki 7:00 Yatra 7:30 Khichdi 8:00 Jaadu 8:30 Vikraal Aur Gabraal 9:30 Charwalli Uparwalli 10:30 Khullia Sim Sim 11:30 Mamlia Gadbab Hai 12:00 Kahani Jurm Ki

1:30 National Geographic Special Truth Files 2:30 Mission Wild 3:30 Return To The Wild 4:00 Ng Explorer 5:30 Meerkat Madness 6:00 Tomorrow's World 6:30 Dogs With Jobs 7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife S3 7:30 Earth Report 8:00 Earthpulse 8:30 Sipadan: Secrets Of The Turtle 9:30 Taming The Tigers 10:30 Self-Portrait 11:30 Swamp Tigers DISCOVERY CHANNEL 12:30 Discovery Wings A Celebration of Flight Stealth Secrets 1:30 Friday Spotlight Moscow Siege 2:30 Friday Spotlight The Roots of Conflict 3:30 History Weekends Spartans at the Gates of Fire 4:30 History Weekends Neferiti Revealed History Weekends Death at Midnight 6:30 Discovery Showcase Understanding Future Wars 7:30 Discover India Swimming Elephants Six Degrees/Sync or Swim 11:30 Sex Appeal The Science of Sex ANIMAL PLANET 1:00 Saturday Wild Encounters Alligator Hole 1:30 Saturday Wild Encounters Hokkaido Garden of the Gods

2:30 Wild Encounters City Slickers 3:30 Croc Files Birds of a Feather 4:00 Croc Files Back to Nature 4:30 Shark Gordon Hammerheads 5:00 Extreme Contact Into the Deep Blue 5:30 Blue Planet The Blue Planet 6:30 Nick's Quest Shark 7:00 O'Shea Back to the Jungle 7:30 Croc Hunter Diaries Crowded House 8:00 Croc Hunter Diaries Off the Record 8:30 Saturday Wild Encounters Osprey The Fish Hawks 9:00 Saturday Wild Encounters Rainbow Warriors 9:30 Saturday Wild Encounters Deadly Viper 10:30 Wild Encounters Shadows of the Sun Life of Birds Mastery of Flight STAR SPORTS 6:00 Sportsline (R) 6:30 Pakistan Tour Of New Zealand National Bank Series Hamilton New Zealand New Zealand Vs Pakistan 1st Test Day 2 (L) 12:00 English Premier League Preview (R) 12:30 Rugby World Cup 2003 (T) 1:30 Gillette World Sports Special Gillette World Sports (T) 2:00 Nba Inside Stuff (R)

2:30 Skins Game The Skins Game 2003 California Ca Usa Day Two(T) 4:30 Cricket Gold (R) 7:30 New Zealand Vs Pakistan 1st T Test Day 2 Highlights(S) 8:55 English Premier Football League 2003/04 (L) 11:00 English Premier Football League 2003/04 (S) ESPN 8:00 Hitz (R) 8:30 Australia Cricket 1:00 Australia Vs India Tour Match Hobart, Australia Australia Vs India Day 2 (L) 3:30 English Premier League Preview (T) Nba Basketball Indianapolis In Usa Detroit Pistons Vs Indiana Pacers (S) 6:00 Australia A Vs India Day 2 (R) 12:20 Sportscenter Sportscenter Weekend (T) TEN SPORTS 7:00 MUTV 8:00 Velocity 10:00 England Tour of SL 03 :3rd Test Day 2, H/Ls England Tour of SL 03 :3rd Test Day 3(Live) 7:00 Heat 8:00 Pick of the Week 8:30 ATP Tennis 9:00 Horse Racing Preview Show 11:00 England Tour of SL 03 :3rd Test Day 3, H/Ls Heat 12:00