

Venture

Entering into a realm of unique darkness

Installation-based live show on visual impairment held in the city

AZIZ AMIRUL

A baffled inner conscience repeatedly jolted the psyche of the visually abled visitors and reminded them of social duties towards the incapacitated during participation in brief tours within a make-shift installation and by visually-impaired persons at a recently concluded exhibition at Dhruvad Gallery in the city.

Entitled 'Seeing in the Dark', the weeklong show comprised of sessions conducted by members of Social Assistance and Rehabilitation for the Physically Vulnerable (SARPV-Bangladesh), a world partner of Health Link Worldwide UK. The show was organised with co-sponsorship from British Council and DFID (UK).

With one's stepping into the installed world, the very first entity that engulfed, came in the form of absolute darkness, due to absence of any source of light around. A practically struggling and 'blinded' visitor made way through the pitch-dark paths of the makeshift urban installation with the help of a 'white cane'. Boarding and leaving a rickshaw, one of the easiest tasks otherwise for the visually competent person seemed one of the hardest jobs along with payment of fare. Soon, whistles of an advancing train buzzed in the ears as the guest neared a dummy rail track. Worries turned into uncanny fear as the person slowly crossed the tracks with wobbling feet. While following the ground trail, the visitor reached a city park. A bubbling nature all around with chirping of birds and children's laughter provided an ideal mood to the visitor's thoughts who took a corner seat. Soon the person received



Organisers of the exhibition

a shudder in the soul overhearing a piece of conversation between two visually impaired girls, one who was narrating her sad tale of being physically molested by her very own uncle yet found no justice from the conservative society ruled by fundamental principles and self-declared ethics.

To bring a quick end to this seemingly terrible episode of temporary make-believe visual impairment, the visiting guest advanced towards a market place. It seemed to be an increasingly complex task to buy some daily amenities from the installed department-cum-kitchen store.

watch the wonders of the world.'

Such a least publicised exhibition would hardly reveal problems and demands of the physically impaired before the conventional society, one that provides basic facilities only to the well-to-do citizens free of any physical disability, felt Jibon William Gomes, the chief coordinator of the show. 'We could fully match incompetence with any physically-abled person provided we were given the right environment and facilities. It is not our fate that turned us impaired, rather it is the man-made environment that is greatly responsible,' Jibon added.

Golam Mawla, a graduating student in agriculture, complained in an aggrieved tone of his initial failure to get admission in the faculty despite receiving good grades in the preliminary tests. 'In the eyes of the commoner I am a social burden and my only fault is that I suffer from partial paralysis as a result of childhood illness.'

Most of the members of SARPV-Bangladesh felt that it is not for them that they suffer from impairment but the flaw lies in the traditional imperfections of our society dominated by superstition, viciousness and hatred.

'Today, through this exhibition, we feel much relieved to be able to let the able-bodied feel our inner-most pang and emotional upheaval,' said an organising member who believed that the show's uniqueness was in the fact that it had nothing to show visually rather let the healthy visitor feel through one's inner eyes the life-style of a visually-impaired person.

The author is a free lance writer

Theatre

Siddhidata a mere comedy

ERSHAD KAMOL

LOKO Natya Dal presented their current production *Siddhidata* as part of the programme arranged by IIT Bangladesh Centre at the National Theatre Stage recently. Dramatist Mohit Chatterjee's comedy has little message, it is only for the entertainment of the audience. The play has two major characters a guru and his disciple. In the play many humorous incidents take place when these two persons meet the other characters.

To lend depth in the play, Muhit Chatterjee has used many Hindu mythological allusions. Hindu deities Ganesha, Yamraj and Boshontasena appear as the characters in the play.

In spite of a good effort by Liakat Ali Lucky at handling the comedy, there has been exaggeration in the enactment of some of the comic



scenes by certain artistes. Ali Ahmed Mukul's set is suitable for this kind of comedy. Thandhu Rayhan's light design

was up to the mark. Yasmin Ali's background music selection helped the director to create the sequences.

Events



Indian High Commissioner Veena Sikri visited the Muktiyuddho Jadugar recently. (L-R) Dr. Sarwar Ali, trustee of the museum, Asaduzzaman Noor (MP) and Neeta Bhushan of the High Commission were also present.

10-day long drama festival

ERSHAD KAMOL

Nagorik Natyangan will be organising a 10-day long drama festival from December 27 to January 5 at the Public Library Auditorium. On December 27, Professor Zillur Rahman Siddiqui will inaugurate the festival at 4pm. at the Public Library Auditorium. Two theatrical groups from Kolkata--*Dandik* and *Vobishuat* and another group from Agortola will take part in the programme. Six Bangladeshi groups including the host *Nagorik Natyangan* will stage their productions. Each day, before the show the workers of *Nagorik Natyangan* will present 'Bangla Natoker Gaan'. The group will honour some drama activists and will also hold a seminar at the Stamford University Auditorium at Siddheshwari.

Dance

Folk dances from Jammu & Kashmir

SABRINA KARIM MURSHED

THE audience became enchanted when sweet voice and melodious tune mingled in the air. They were mesmerised with the rhythm of gorgeous presentation by the dancers.

It was an evening of 'Folk dance of Jammu and Kashmir' organised by High Commission of India in association with Indian Council for Cultural Relations on Sunday in the city.

A visiting Indian cultural troupe led by Randhir Kumar that consist twelve performers staged their first performance in Bangladesh.

The name of Jammu and Kashmir may evoke the idea of insurgency, but the artistes could succeed in creating an atmosphere that made the audience to rethink that Kashmir was not named as 'Heaven on Earth' in vein. When one of the singers presented a song describing how fog befall on the



Artistes from Jammu & Kashmir performing folk dance

vast valley of Kashmir, it seemed that music crosses all bars of language and culture.

The first dance item was "Rouf"

which the audience enjoyed a lot. It is always performed in the accompaniment of pleasant song and on festive occasion, particularly on

evenings of Ramzan and Eid days. Group of dancers created a sensuous charm about it with their simple footwork.

"Hafiz Nagma" was another dance item that earned appreciation from the audience. It is based on classical music of Kashmir-Sufiyana Kalam and has its own Raga known as "Muqam". The lead dancer in this dance form is known as Hafiza who also acts as a narrator.

The dancers also depicted social issues through their performance. Their dance titled "Chatni Timbru Di" portrayed the distress of a bride in her in-laws' house. However, it also shows protest against oppression.

Santoor recital was another fascinating performance of the evening. Santoor, a hundred-string instrument was primarily used to accompany the Sufiyana singers. But now contemporary musicians are using it as one of the important instruments of Indian classical music.

Cultural tour



A cultural team to tour UK On an invitation from the J B F UK Ltd., a cultural team from Bangladesh will tour the UK this month, says a press release. Music director of BTV Mirza Monu will lead the twelve member delegates. The troupe will perform at two different venues of Birmingham and Newham.

TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 9:30 pm. The 6th Day. Genre: Action / Sci-Fi / Thriller. **Arnold Schwarzenegger, Michael Rapaport, Tony Goldwyn.** A helicopter pilot survives a near-fatal accident and returns to his home - to find that he's been replaced by an exact duplicate of himself, a clone. When the clone's creators find out the pilot didn't die in the crash, the hunt is on. In the world of the very near future, cattle, fish, and even the family pet can be cloned. But cloning humans is illegal -



HBO: 12:00 am (25 Dec). Stranger Inside. Genre: Drama. **Yolonda Ross, Davenia McFadden.** Treasure Lee cherishes little in life. Tossed between juvenile placements and county holding cells, she's no stranger to the inside of a prison cell. But her life is about to change for this woman in chains. She learns from a friend that her mother Brownie, who abandoned her is doing life in a maximum-security state prison.

PICK OF THE DAY



Small Soldiers
On STAR MOVIES at 7:00 pm.
Genre: Action / Sci-Fi / Adventure / Comedy
Kirsten Dunst, Gregory Smith, Jay Mohr.
In the small suburban town of Winslow Corners, Ohio, life is quiet, people are friendly, and action figures are only toys. Then again, dont judge an action figure by its box. Meet the Commodo Elite action figures with an attitude. To them, everything else is just a toy...

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 pm, 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-1
Breakfast News 07:15 am, 9:00 am
News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Teletext of BTB 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.
Teletext of BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 09 a.m, 10:00 a.m, 11:00 a.m, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm, and 8:00 pm.
N tv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:02 pm, 6:30 pm, 9:45 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
TARA BANGLA
News Headline (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 Suprabhat Bangladesh
08:25 Documentary
09:15 Anya Bhubon: Wild Nature
12:15 Sangbad Potrer Pata Theko
01:05 Programmes from BTV archive
02:05 Computer show
02:30 Folk musical show
03:35 Robindro Shongheet
04:05 Open University
04:30 Jibon Dhara
05:05 Shilpo o shahityo
05:55 Contemporary Economics
06:10 Mati o Manush
06:35 Programmes from Chittagong
07:05 Barta Probaho
07:30 Film Show: Mortal Combat
08:30 Drama Serial: Ahankar
09:00 Drama Serial: Mukhosh
10:35 Islamic Show
11:00 Magazine News
CHANNEL-i
07:30 Classical music
08:00 Musical show Shongbad potrey Bangladesh
09:30 Tritio Matra
09:45 Chitthi Pelam
12:30 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:00 Share Teen Tala
02:00 Feature Film: Dushmon
05:35 Jonopoder Khabar
05:45 Boi ebong boi
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Yami Chhaya Jhankar
07:50 Magazine show
08:25 Drama Serial: Kichu Megh Kichu Brishty
09:35 Drama Serial:

Rangdhonu Rang
Drama Serial: Jugalbordi
ntv
05:02 Ithasher Ei Diney
05:10 Potikar Khabor
05:30 Apnar Jigyasha Century
06:32 Shubho Shondhya
06:52 Ei Shomoy
08:00 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe
08:35 Surer Jalsha
09:47 Drama Serial: Chena chena lage
11:00 Din Darpan
12:05 Drama
ATN BANGLA
10:15 Annodristee
10:50 Magazine prog: Ek Dui Teen
12:40 Uro Cola Saat Rang
1:20 Bengali feature film :
4:20 Musical prog.
5:10 Viewers opinion prog. Motamot
5:50 Islamic prog. Istamee Sawal O Jawab
6:25 Talk show : Annodristee Gondoraz Samsung
7:40 Cine Aaha
8:15 Drama serial: Thetoo Jibhon
8:40 Drama serial: Nayeka Sangbad
9:25 Drama serial : Danob
10:30 Talk show: Face to Face
12:20 Bengali feature film : Amar Bow
HBO
7:00 The Screaming Room : Hannibal the Cannibal
7:30 How Man
9:45 Moll Max Beyond Thunderdome

12:00 Twelve Monkeys
2:30 Days of Thunder
4:45 The Screaming Room
5:15 Witchblade
7:15 Twister
9:30 The 6th Day
12:00 Stranger Inside
1:45 Twelve Monkeys
STAR MOVIES
9:45 City Hall
11:45 My Fellow Americans
1:30 Always
3:30 Bye Bye Love
5:30 Addicted To Love
7:00 Small Soldiers
8:50 Black Knight
10:30 Bloody Murder II
11:55 Rent Control
ZEE CINEMA
10:30 Gardish (Jackie Shroff, Dimple Kapadia)
1:30 Maharaja (Govinda, Manisha Koirala)
5:30 Officer (Sunil Shetty, Raveena Tandon)
9:30 Padosan (Sanu Dutt, Saira Banu, Kishore Kumar, Mehmood)

STAR GOLD
8:30 Aap Aye Bahaar Aye Ziddi
12:30 Gaane Bhi Do Yaaron
4:30 Biwi No. 1
8:30 Sararosh
STAR PLUS
3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
4:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
4:30 Kahaani To Hoga
5:00 Film Topper - 301 Series
5:05 Meri Saheli
5:55 Taaza Hits
6 :00Hum Saath Aath Hain
6:30 Fox Kids
7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
8:30 Sonpari
9:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay
9:30 Sanjivani - A Medical Boon
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
11:00 Kahaani To Hoga
11:30 Bahui Thi
11:30 Kahaani To Hoga
12:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz

STAR WORLD
2:30 Oprah Winfrey
3:30 Bold And Beautiful
4:30 Sabrina The Teenage Witch
5:00 2 Guys A Girl & A Pizza Place
5:30 Knight Rider
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement
7:30 Friends
8:00 Just Shoot Me
8:30 Kenny Loggins December
9:30 Ally Mc Beal
10:30 Two Guys And A Girl
11:00 Titus
11:28 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Baywatch
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
11:00 \$100 Taxi Ride
11:30 Dogs With Jobs
12:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife S3
12:30 Baboon's Tale
1:30 Battle Of X Planes
2:30 Battle Of X Planes
3:30 The Greatest Flight
4:30 Spies That Fly
5:30 Return To The Wild
6:00 Sea Stories
6:30 Dogs With Jobs
7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife S3
7:30 Animal Inventors
8:30 Cheating Death (Aka Dangerous)
9:30 Sea Hunters
10:30 Extreme Detectives
11:30 Out There
12:00 Chasing Time
DISCOVERY
12:30 It's a Woman's World
1:30 Gladatrix : Savage Sister

1:30 Beauty & Love The Painless Dentist
2:30 New Detectives Absent Witness
3:30 Wild Discovery Lions & Tigers
4:30 Going Wild with Jeff Crown North Cascades Mystery Hunters
5:00 Discovery Wings - A
5:30 Celebration of Flight
6:30 Extreme Machines : 21st Century Flight
7:30 Wild Discovery Night in the Savannah
8:30 Extreme Engineering
9:30 Subways in America
10:30 Extreme Machines Rocketeers
11:30 Challenge Humboldt's Tales from the Americas
12:00 Coloured Lives on Screen
ANIMAL PLANET
12:30 Animal Planet Reveals Klondike & Snow
1:30 Animal Planet Reveals Polar Bears : Life on the Field of Bones
2:30 Wild Encounters My Brother, The Cheetah
3:30 Emergency Vets Look Before You Leap
4:00 Animal Doctor Snake Rescue, Dog Rescue, Big Cats Need Insect Repellent
4:30 Wild Rescue
5:00 Breed All About It Bernese Mountain Dog Vets in Practice
6:00 Monkey Business
7:00 Planet's Funniest
7:30 Amazing Animal Videos
8:30 Wild Encounters My Brother, The Cheetah
9:30 Animal Planet Reveals Ostriches : Flightless Wonders

9:30 Animal Planet Reveals Turkey Secrets
10:30 Best of Animal Planet Stunt Run With Lions
11:30 Natural World on the Path of the Reindeer
STAR SPORTS
12:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04 Southampton Vs Portsmouth (R)
2:30 Watersports Programming Hot Water (T)
3:30 Sports Unlimited (T)
4:30 Futsal Tournament Bangkok Thailand 3rd/4th Placing(T)
6:00 Futsal Tournament Bangkok Thailand Final(T)
7:30 On The Limit 2003 - Junior World Rally Championships Round 8 + Season Review(T)
8:00 Sportsline (L)
8:30 Moto Gp Highlights
9:30 Asian Festival Of Speed Sportsline (R)
10:30 Tennis Classic Archive - 1974 Arthur Ashe Vs Stan Smith Men's Singles Semifinal(T)
12:00 Wrestling Apple Crush (R)
ESPN
11:30 English Premier League Highlights (R)
1:30 Australia A Vs India Day 3 (R)
8:00 Hiz (T)
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:00 Goals! (T)
9:30 English Premier League Highlights (R)
10:30 ESPN Cricket Show (T)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
12:00 Australia Vs India 2nd Test Day 5 (T)