

CULTURAL FEAS

Exhibition



Title: Oitijher Potochitra
Artist: Dukhu Shyam, Rabhani and Rahim
Venue: DOTS, 191/A, Haque Tower, Tejgaon-Gulshan Klink Road
Date: April 6-21 from 11 am to 8 pm

Title: Envoy of Peace from China
Organiser: Embassy of the People's Republic of China
Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh
Date: April 3-15

Title: Kishorer Chokhey Muktiyuddho
Artist: Rasha
Venue: Arka Art Gallery, 1st floor, Banani City Corporation Market
Date: March 31-April 14, 2006
Time: 10am to 8 pm

Title: Pata Chitra
Artist: Shambhu Acharya
Venue: Gallery Kaya, H#20, R#16, Sector 4, Uttara
Date: April 7-16 from 11 am to 8 pm

Title: "Empreintes—Traditional techniques revived through contemporary art"
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: March 30-April 12

Solo exhibition on Potteries (Shora)
Artist: Shukumar Paul
Venue: Art and Soul Gallery House 16, Road 36, Gulshan 2
Date: April 7-16
Time: 11am to 8pm

Print Exhibition
Artist: A Rahman
Venue: Gallery Chittrak House# 21, Road-4, Dhanmondi R/A
Date: April 7-16
Time: 10am-8pm

Film Screening
Title: Film shows to commemorate Satyajit Ray's death anniversary
Organiser: High Commission of India
Venue: Indian Cultural Centre, House No 25, Road No 96, Gulshan-2
Date: April 23-25

Movie: Pather Panchali (April 23)
 Kanchan Jangha (April 24)
 Parash Pathar (April 25)
 Complimentary passes available at the Indian High Commission and the Indian Cultural Centre

Munmun Ahmed Grooming youngsters in Kathak

KAVITA CHARANJI

VENTURING into Kathak dancer Munmun Ahmed's home in Mohammadpur one morning, one sees a dance class in progress. Six young girls from 9 to 15 years old are in the midst of practice. Guided by Munmun, they are learning rhythm, intricate footwork and graceful movements. Some chirpy young girls such as the little Ananya Bhowmick and the older Tahmina Anwar Anika have bagged prizes in recognition of their talent.

Munmun has reason to be elated at such success stories. In her institute, Rewaz Performers' School, she instructs over 60 students (of which three are boys). She has just performed along with the students at the Bangladesh China Friendship Conference Centre.

However, there is a downside. As Munmun says, "Though the guru-shishya parampara, still exists, there has been a transformation. No longer do the shishyas stay in the guru's house or



Munmun (left, last row) with her students (Top), The dancer striking a graceful stance

dedicate themselves solely to their art." At this point, Munmun enlists the opinion of her husband, singer Sujit Mustafa. Says Mustafa: "This is a modern time when computers, cyber cafes, satellite TV channels have become a way of life. Apart from just going to school, children are made to go in for tuition and coaching classes. Consequently, they have very little time for practice or to spend longer hours gaining instruction from the guru."

Munmun's guru is Pandit Birju Maharaj. Like him, she is an exponent of the "Lucknow gharana" of Kathak. As she says, "I learnt the true essence of the guru-shishya parampara when I trained with Panditji at the Delhi Kathak Kendra in 1989. Earlier on I used to be a little intimidated by his stature and feared that communication would be tricky. However, after a few months I realised

that he is very informal with his students and has a simple teaching style."

Currently Munmun is training with Pandit Krishan Mohan Misra, Birju Maharaj's brother.

Munmun's philosophy is to involve the viewers in a performance. "Of utmost importance is the need to touch the heart of the audience," she says. Why Kathak? "Because there is room for spontaneous creation, unlike other dance forms where the composition is of prime importance. In addition, in Kathak there are speedy movements, circles and footwork," says Munmun. Encouraged by the success of her school, she has opened another branch in Uttara.

Hopefully, Munmun will be able to inspire many more youngsters and give them wings to fly as Kathak dancers.



Exhibition Bringing together a broken world

FAYZA HAQ

Rahman, who is having a solo exhibition at Chittrak, says he enjoys print-making as he has studied it, and feels it is time that the medium is popularised in Bangladesh. The theme of his initial works was nature. Over the years he has graduated to depicting man's agonies. "When the world around me is suffering, there is no point in my presenting beautiful pictures," says Rahman.

In one print one sees a fish that

depicts the greedy evildoers of the country who, according to the artist, go about society as leaders but are basically bent on making tidy sums for themselves. In the next picture a scrawny man is seen surrounded by snake-like creatures with human heads; they seem to be screaming. The picture delineates suffering and pain, according to the artist. The man himself does not stop to indulge in evil such as murder. Animals hunt for food but man kills because of inhuman reasons. Human beings are under constant

pressure and that is the subject of one of the prints, where a man is depicted carrying an enormous elephant on his back. The world is full of struggle and strife, as the artist sees it, and man has multitudes of problems to face.

Another image of pain and distortion is *Print 7* with black disfigured faces linked to different sized and shaped feet on a chrome yellow background. Here the artist depicts the torment in captivity during the wars around the world, which come under the series *Lethal Chamber*.

"One finds atrocities in Bosnia, Iraq and Afghanistan where captives are treated in inhuman, mindless manner," says Rahman, and these prints are my way of protesting against them. "I'm an ordinary man and I depict the fate of the masses. I'm not here to depict opulence and pleasure, fine gardens, fruits and birds."

Another image shows a man resting uncomfortably, surrounded by bubbles, red and green, representing different signals in life. The background is red representing pain, suffering and danger. An interesting print shows a creature with the body of a fish and the face of a dog. The strange being is depicted as slowly swallowing up the red and green colours of the Bangladeshi flag that float behind it. The weird beast represents the enemies of the country. This again speaks of rampant evil that is evident in the society.

Yet another print has two figures with bloated bellies and spindly legs. They depict people looking for a savior in their dark and dismal existence. All the rest of the prints in the exhibition speak of pain, despair and insecurity as well.

Rahman divides his time between Italy and Bangladesh. He has had 10 solos and 20 group exhibitions in France, Italy and Japan.

The exhibition will remain open till April 16.



An artwork by Rahman

The grand finale of Surf Excel Talent Contest '06 held

KHALID-BIN-HABIB

The grand finale of inter-school creativity contest titled *Surf Excel Protibhar Loraj '06*, organised by the Unilever Bangladesh Ltd, was held at the National Women's Sports Complex, Dhaka on April 7. Nearly 200 reputed schools from Bogra, Dinajpur, Jessore, Rajshahi, Chittagong, Khulna, Sylhet, Comilla, Mymensingh and Dhaka participated in the contest, and 15 regional champions fought for the ultimate crown in the grand finale. BAF Shaheen English Medium School became the champion in the widely popular creative extravaganza. SFX Green Herald International School and UCEP School, Shegunbagicha became first and second runner up respectively.

15 teams comprising seven students each, representing the schools, took part in the finale between 9:30am and 1:00pm. The contest included decoration with grains, face painting, make and act, relay race, crawl and find, block building and basketball game, ring and pull, mud building, paint dad and many other fun stuffs. All the students along with their teachers and guardians took part in the event.

The speakers at the contest jointly said that such programmes would help the guardians and teachers to nurture resourcefulness in the children as outdoor activities



Winners of the Surf Excel Talent Contest '06

help children to become creative by self-understanding. Every child in the world is naturally gifted with talent in some form. The event aims to exert a powerful motivating influence upon the children to be creative and can hone their skills. The concept, "Dirt is Good" recognises the importance of children expressing themselves in different ways. Such events would also help to convince parents and teachers that increasing interpersonal skills is an essential part in the overall development of children.

The brand and development director of Unilever Bangladesh Ltd,

Naushad Karim Chowdhury distributed prizes among the winners. Senior brand manager of Surf Excel, Shamarrukh Fakhrudin, eminent artist Hashem Khan, director of the Institute of Fine Arts, Professor Farida Zaman, popular writer Emdadul Huque Milon and assistant professor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), Architect Sheikh Ahsan Ullah Majumder attended the prize giving ceremony as well.



Cultural organisation Prateeti recently held a programme celebrating the season of Boshonto (spring). Besides songs rendered by artistes of Prateeti, dancers of Nrityanchal performed at the event as well.

Being Cyrus receives warm response from audience and critics

Film buffs in India are flocking to see *Being Cyrus*. A maiden venture of director Homi Adajania, the gripping film gives insights into the Parsi community. This moving work stars Naseeruddin Shah as Dinshaw Sethna, a retired sculptor and his wife (Katy) is enacted by Dimple Kapadia. The duo live in a dilapidated house in Panchgani. The couple's life is changed forever when Dinshaw opens his door to a stranger called Cyrus (Saif Ali Khan) ostensibly to assist him in his pottery school.

The Machiavellian Cyrus divides his time between two dysfunctional units -- Dinshaw and Katy's home and an old building in Mumbai inhabited by Dinshaw's aged father Fardoonjee Sethna (Honey Chhaya), his brother Farokh (Boman Irani) and young wife Tina (Simone Singh).



Saif Ali Khan and Dimple Kapadia in a scene from the film

Being Cyrus offers the audience a welcome respite from a surfeit of vulgar songs and unimaginative fight scenes. The critics have given plaudits to Adajania for excellence

in his first film, which has raised expectations about other new works in the offing.

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

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 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 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) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
 News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.
 Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
 News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11pm.
 News (English) 8:20am, 7:00pm
 Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

CHANNEL-1
 News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.
 Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
 News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30pm, 7:30pm.
 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

CHANNEL 1

09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
 09:45 Public Reaction
 09:50 Trithyo Matra
 11:05 Grameen Phone Na Bola Kotha (Live)
 Mukto Bazar
 11:30 Aj Dupurey O Citicell Tarokakothon
 12:30 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
 01:05 Shaat Rang
 02:40 Dhaka Guide
 03:20 Cholochchitra Shangeetmala
 05:30 Music Plus
 06:00 Drama Serial: Dui Prohor
 06:20 Drama Serial: Karkot
 07:50 Swapnoloker
 08:20 Drama Serial: Ekush Er Por
 09:35 Hindoye Mati O Manush
 10:00 Drama Serial: Karkot Britto
 11:05 Drama Serial: Hortoner Bibi Char Deyaler Kaboy
 11:35 Bangla Feature Film: Dushshahosh
 03:45 Shurer Madhuri
 04:20 Cholo Gaan
 05:10 Iskul Bela
 05:45 Islami Sawal O Jobab

(live)
 06:20 PuraKirtir Bangladesh
 08:00 Drama Serial: Jol Porey Pata Norey
 08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shabuj Opera
 09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neel Beguni
 09:30 Drama Serial: Ek Jonomey
 10:35 Citycell Shusthya Thakun (live)
ntv
 09:00 Drama Serial: Kachher Manush
 09:30 Horlics Genius
 10:05 Magic Magic
 10:30 Dhakar Cinema
 01:05 Muktarangon
 05:15 Din Darpan
 05:20 Alokpat
 06:20 Shubho Shondha
 06:50 Amra Ekhon Unish Kuri
 07:20 TeleQuiz
 08:25 BBC Programme
 09:50 Drama Serial: Ramizer Ayna Dindarpan
Rtv
 09:00 Human Nature
 09:30 Japilo Jibon
 10:00 Aj Potrikae
 10:30 Children's Program
 12:05 Look at me
 01:00 Nikah Gaon
 02:30 Alok Dhara

PICK OF THE DAY



BBC World presents The World Debate
 On ntv at 8:30 pm
 Young Bangladeshis discuss how democracy is working with a panel including government, opposition and experts.
 Hosted by: Stephen Sackur



Society
 On Channel 1 at 09:35
 Drama Serial
 Cast: Tonny Diyes, Bijori, Partho Barua

03:30 Bangla Feature Film: Dunia
 06:35 Just Band
 08:00 Ontorongo Alap
 08:50 R Music
 10:50 Biraj Bou
Channel 1
 10:00 Cartoon
 10:30 Taka Ana Pai
 11:15 Bangla Feature Film
 03:30 Drama - Kedets
 04:00 Dui Do Guney Panch
 04:30 Music Station
 05:00 Ae dine Sei khone
 06:30 Top News
 07:00 Bagan Bilash

08:30 Drama: Society
 09:30 Fame Gurukul Concert
 11:00 Chokh Mele Dekhi
Banglavision
 09:00 Cartoon
 09:30 Drama Serial: Sheidin Chotro Mash
 10:00 Talk Show: Amar Ami
 10:30 Drama Serial: Projapoti Din
 12:00 Media Bhubon
 02:30 Saturday Cinema
 05:00 Jibondhara
 05:00 Ebong Classer Bairey
 06:40 Diner Sheshe y
 08:05 Drama Serial: Krishno
 08:40 Pokkho
 Travel Show: Desher Pathoy
 09:15 Drama Serial: Toboo Bhalobashi
 09:50 Magazine Programme: Shaat Shotero
HBO
 10:30 Uncle buck
 12:30 Rome 07: Pharsalus
 1:45 Woods
 02:30 Hood Rat
 05:15 Sin
 07:30 Kull the Conqueror
 09:30 The Forgotten
 11:30 The Matrix Revolutions

02:30 Shanno Ki Shaadi
 03:00 Kora Kagaz
 05:30 Sshhhhh...Koi Hai...
 06:30 Lilo & Stitch
 07:00 Goof Troop
 07:30 Karishma Ka Karishma
 08:00 Pardey Ke Peechey
 08:30 Kaboom
 09:30 Jodee Kamaal Ki
 10:30 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
 11:00 Shanno Ki Shaadi
 11:30 Tu Tu Main Main
STAR WORLD
 10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
 12:30 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal
 01:00 Travel Asia
 01:30 My Wife And Kids
 02:00 King Of Queens
 02:30 Monk
 03:30 Malcolm In The Middle
 04:00 The Drew Carey Show
 04:30 Smallville
 05:30 Desperate Housewives
 06:30 North Shore
 07:30 The Collector
 08:30 Tna Xplosion
 09:30 Ghost Hunters
 10:30 Little Britain
 11:00 Absolute Power
STAR MOVIES
 10:15 Far From Home: The Adventures Of Yellow Dog
 11:45 Lazarus Child The Welcome To Mooseport
 01:25 Brown Sugar
 03:15 Hope Floats
 05:05 Octopussy
 09:10 On Her Majesty's Secret Service
 11:35 The Hand That Rocks The Cradle
STAR PLUS
 01:00 Star Bestsellers Plus

03:00 The Football Quiz Kick-Off Round 2(R)
 04:00 Hitz (R)
 04:25 Sportscenter Week In Review (R)
 04:55 Sportscenter Sportscenter Weekend (T)
 05:00 Epl Saturday
 05:40 English Premier Football League 2005/06 London England
 07:55 English Premier Football League 2005/06 Portsmouth England Portsmouth Outh Vs Blackburn Rovers (L)
 10:00 Epl Saturday
 10:10 English Premier Football League 2005/06 Wigan Athletic Vs Birmingham City (L)
STAR SPORTS
 08:30 Pride Fc Archives (R)
 10:30 Tna Impact (R)
 11:30 Asian Tour Magazine Show Asian Tour Weekly 2006 (T)
 12:00 Asian World Cup Qualifiers World Cup Qualifiers (Asian)
 01:30 Cricket Classics Sehwag's Best (R)

02:00 Cricket Classics Great Finishes (R)
 02:30 Football Asia (T)
 03:00 Augusta Masters The Masters 2006 Day Two Highlights(T)
 04:00 Augusta Masters The Masters 2006 Augusta Ga USA Day Two(R)
 07:00 Augusta Masters The Masters 2006 Day Two Highlights(R)
 07:30 Cricket Classics Sehwag's Best (R)
 07:48 English Premier Football League 2005/06 Charlton Athletic Vs Everton (L)
 10:00 English Premier Football League 2005/06 Sunderland Vs Fulham (S)
 12:00 Formula One Highlights 2006 Foster's Australian Grand Prix(T)
TEN SPORTS
 09:00 WWE: Velocity
 09:30 Gillette World of Sports
 10:00 Winning Post
 10:00 Barca TV
 02:00 Trans World Sports
 02:45 Rally World
 07:30 Moto GP : Grand Prix Of Qatar
 08:30 WWE: Experience
 09:00 Martini World Cup
 11:00 Moto GP : Grand Prix Of Qatar H/Ls
 12:00 WWE: Experience
 02:00 Sri Lanka v Pakistan: 2nd Test Day 5 Highlights