

A life devoted to Nazrul songs

Feroza Begum honoured

KARIM WAHEED

Mon-e porey aaj shey kon jonomey bidaye shondhyabela Ami daraye rohinu eparye Tumi oparey bhashaley bhela...

When one hears these verses, one voice comes to mind. Feroza Begum had established herself as the "uncrowned queen" of Nazrul songs over half a century ago and the appeal of her vocals remains undiminished.

Citibank, NA Bangladesh honoured the living legend for her contribution to our music on April 21 at Radisson Water Garden Hotel. Noted personalities, including Nazrul exponent Professor Rafiqul Islam, artists Ferdausi Rahman, Shaheen Samad, Sadya Afreen Mallick, Shakila Zafar, governor of Bangladesh Bank, Dr Salehuddin Ahmed, former finance minister AMA Muhit and former governor of Bangladesh Bank, Dr Farashuddin Ahmed to name a few, attended the event.

Dr Salehuddin Ahmed handed a crest to Feroza Begum on behalf of Citibank NA. Chief executive officer of the bank, Mamun Rashid presented a portrait of the artiste.

Reminiscing on her past, the veteran artiste said, "I was an ordinary student at school but I was determined to do something



Feroza Begum performing at the programme

PHOTO: NASIR ALI MAMUN

extraordinary in my lifetime." That "je ne sais quoi" soon became evident. During the '40s, in her early teens, she started singing for All India Radio and soon attained the adulation of music lovers.

Adhunik songs composed by Kamol Das Gupta and rendered by her were immensely popular.

However, at the peak of popularity, Feroza Begum decided to take a chance on a genre of songs that

was not particularly all the rage in that period. Her first record of Nazrul songs was a phenomenal success. With her unique style of rendition, not only did her career as singer soar; she added a new

dimension to the genre and popularised it.

According to the artiste, "The first time I heard *Ami chaand nohi, abhishap* (a Nazrul song), I was taken back by the passion of the poet. As I delved more into Nazrul's poetry and songs I became infatuated with his work and I knew I had to develop an audience for the songs."

A live performance by Feroza Begum was the highlight of the evening. The artiste started with a rendition of *Mon-e porey aaj shey kon jonomey*, followed by *Ami chaand nohi abhishap*. Each and every word came alive; the intense emotions exuded in the songs seemed to take over the senses of the audience.

The artiste also rendered a *ghazal*, *Chhalo chhalo nayan-e more paney cheyo na* and the songs from her first record of Nazrul songs that became instant hits: *Duur dwipobashini* and *Mom-ero putul momir dusher meye*. The evening ended with Feroza Begum singing *Gobheer nishitheg ghum bhengey jai, ke jano amarey dakey*.

Hours after her renditions, memories of the tunes linger on. Here's hoping music aficionados will be fortunate to hear the legendary artiste sing more.

Shefali Ghosh in a critical state

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

'Queen of Regional Songs', folk singer Shefali Ghosh, who suffered a cerebral hemorrhage, is undergoing treatment in Kolkata, India.

Embarking on her musical career at the age of seven, Shefali Ghosh gained tremendous popularity for the 'dramatic presentation' of regional songs of Chittagong.

Shefali's songs, such as *O shama rengune na jaiyo*, *Orey shampawala*, *Jodi shundor ekhkan mukh patam* and others depict the history, tradition and culture of the people of Chittagong. *Malika banur deshe rey*, a song by Shefali, has become an integral part of wedding celebrations in rural Bangladesh. Shefali and co-singer Shyamshundar Baishnab created ripples in the '70s in the music scene.

A singer of *Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra*, Shefali has been centre stage in many historical moments of the country. She rendered songs during the inauguration of the television centres at Rampura, Dhaka and Chittagong.

A popular singer of Bangladesh Television and radio, Shefali has received several awards in her glorious music career. Among these are Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Award in 2003, Lifetime Achievement Award 2002 for music from Bangla Academy, *Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra Shabd Shainik* Award in 1990 and others. Moreover, in 1998, Bangla Academy published a collection of 396 regional songs by her. She has also rendered songs at the Royal Albert Hall in London.

In addition, Shefali has done playback for many films like *Malika Banu*, *Madhumita*, *Bashundhara* and others. Glamour International, a London based



Shefali Ghosh

FILE PHOTO

production company, has released two of her albums in UK. Moreover, Milfa Limited had released her LP in 1978 in UK. More than 60 albums of her regional songs have hit the market.

According to family sources a substantial amount is required for Shefali's treatment. Contributions to this end are much needed.

CULTURAL FEAST

Musical Soiree

Title: 5-day folk musical soiree
Organiser: Department of Music and Dance, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: Plaza, National Art Gallery
Date: April 18-22 at 7 pm

Programme
April 22: Majibhandari Songs

Exhibition

Title: The UFAPILM POSTERS, 1918-1943
Venue: Goethe Institut Dhaka
Date: April 13-26

Title: First light
Photojournalist: GMB Akash
Organiser: The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Venue: Bengal Shilpalaya, House 275/f, Road 27, Dhanmondi
Date: April 17-27
Time: 12 noon-8 pm

Title: Chinno Patar Sajai Toroni
Artist: Rokeya Sultana
Organiser: Alliance Francaise
Venue: 26, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: April 13-26
Time: Sunday-Friday: 9 am-12 pm and 5-8 pm
Saturday: 5-8 pm

Discussion

Title: Meet the directors
Organiser: Theatrewala
Venue: Mahila Samity Stage
Date: April 28 at 9:30 pm

Bhawaiya: Folk tunes of the North resonate in Dhaka

ERSHAD KAMOL

With its roots in Rangpur and Cooch Behar of India, *Bhawaiya*, a genre of North Bengal folk songs, usually revolves around love and spirituality. The locals present the dialect and tune with accuracy. This view was reflected on the fourth day of a five-day folk musical soiree organised by Department of Production of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA).

With their unique melody, singers of the Rangpur District Shilpakala Academy such as Ranjit Kumar Das, Shefali Rani Roy, Bhupati Bhushan Barma, Pallabi Sarkar

Maloti, Rowshan Ara Soheli and others attracted the urban audience. And their rendition of the folk genre was much more spontaneous than that of the singers from Dhaka and other districts.

Thirteen singers from Rangpur and 20 singers from the other districts rendered *Bhawaiya* at the Plaza of the National Art Gallery at BSA on April 21.

Bhawaiya is classified into two styles: one presentation is in melancholy notes, while the other has a *chatka* or skipping tone. The first type is emotional in theme and usually about a young woman's tender feelings of love and separa-



Rowshan Ara Soheli (Top) and Ranjit Kumar Das sing at the folk music programme

tion. The fast paced *chatka* is comic and light. It is about expectations and ambitions, about conflicts between husband and wife as well as about the ups and downs of family life. Singers at the musical soiree rendered light *chatka* more than melodious *Bhawaiya*.

Bhawaiya songs presented at the soiree are *Fande pariya бага kande re*, *Oki gariyal bhai*, *Dhiko dhiko moishal re*, *Je jan premer bhav jane na* and others. Other songs presented at the programme included *Aji Kattush ki*

kuttush Koriya, *Mui Bajalo Mor*, *Aaisho mor kala chan*, *Rongpuria chengra bondhure*, *Bapui changra re* and many *chatka* songs.

Such initiatives taken by BSA to promote the endangered folk musical form of *Bhawaiya*, was widely appreciated. In the process, upcoming *Bhawaiya* singers at the district level will get much needed encouragement to refine their musical skills.

Srishti O Srom: A dazzling mural

FAYZA HAQ

Two of Hamiduzzaman Khan's magnificent creations were inaugurated in the city at Summit Centre recently. Speaking at the function Jahanara Abedin, wife of master artist, Zainul Abedin, said that she knew the artist since his youth, when he had the serious accident that led him to go overseas, where he was inspired to become a sculptor.

The metal mural on display reflects people at work, with the sun in the background as the driving force. It is done in mixed media, in silver, copper and brass. "This mural can be seen from the various floors of the multistoried building and adds to the cultural

richness of the lives of the people who work in the institution.

This took me five months to execute while I planned it for seven years, working at my studio in Badda. The work was done a bit at a time, piecemeal, and then welded together. Screws also hold the sheets in place. The name of the mural is *Srishti O Srom* and it is six by 18 feet. The huge stone bears the image of a bird in flight and is made of Carrara marble. It is a symbol of peace and sits at the entrance as a welcoming bird," says Hamiduzzaman.

Hamiduzzaman has done about 50 large metal creations in Tangail Cantonment, Mymensingh, Sylhet and Dhaka Cantonment, among others. At present he is concentrat-

ing on stainless steel sheets and pipes. Sometimes he combines glass with metal. These sculpture pieces are done along the walls of buildings or on lawns. He graduated in painting but he felt that as sculpture can be displayed outside it has direct contact with viewers.

"I begin with a sketch, than a model and next proceed on to the material. It is costly and from the religious point of view one has to go in for abstractions. Since painting was my basic training, I paint in between and this helps me to relax," says Hamiduzzaman.

Chadha to direct Travolta and Lopez in Dallas

British director Gurinder Chadha announced Friday that she would direct John Travolta and Jennifer Lopez in a big-screen version of 80s TV show *Dallas*.

The *Bend it Like Beckham* director said she had signed a deal with 20th Century Fox to direct the film, which will star Travolta as villainous oil magnate JR Ewing and Lopez as his wife Sue Ellen.

In a statement, Chadha said her appointment meant that the sort of South Asian-themed British films that made her name had "huge credibility and respect in Hollywood."

Chadha, who gave Jane Austen a Bollywood twist in last year's *Bride and Prejudice*, is also involved with adapting another TV hit, 60s sitcom *I Dream of Jeannie*. She said that film "is still



John Travolta



Jennifer Lopez

in the pipeline, but there is still some way to go on the script."

Filming on *Dallas* is due to start in October, with the movie slated

for a late 2007 release.

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) 11:30 pm.

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

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

ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (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
09:05 *Shashwato Jibon*
09:15 Live broadcast of the one-day cricket match between Bangladesh and Australia
05:05 National TV Debate
06:10 *Geetanjali*
06:35 *Mati O Manush*
07:05 Special programme on lyricist Lokman
08:45 *Hossain*
09:25 Drama Serial: *Rangdhanu*
10:25 *Teknaf Thekey Tetulia*

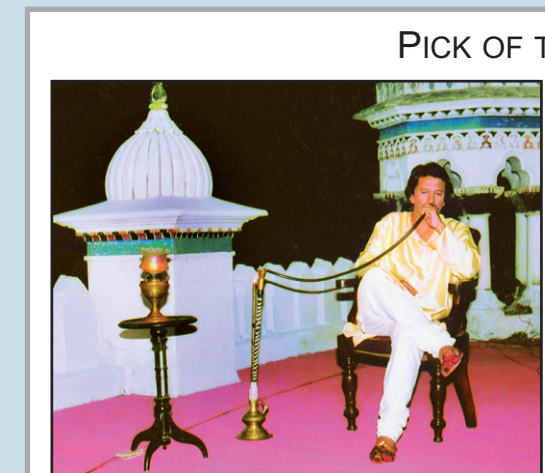
CHANNEL i
09:45 *Public Reaction*
09:50 *Triliyo Matra*
11:05 *Tele Prescription (Live)*
12:30 *Aj Dupurey O Citycell Tarokathon (Live)*
01:05 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:30 *Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh*
01:45 *Public Reaction*
02:40 Selected play by Humayun Ahmed: *Khwabnagar (Part 1)*
04:05 *Bashundhara Amader Gaan*
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 *Chitri Pelam*
06:00 *Gauraber Shomachar*
09:35 *Jibon Jekhaney Jamon*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Bela Obelar Golpo*
12:00 *Ajkeer Shongbad Potro*

ATN BANGLA
10:30 *Onyodishti*
11:35 *Gandharaj Samsung*

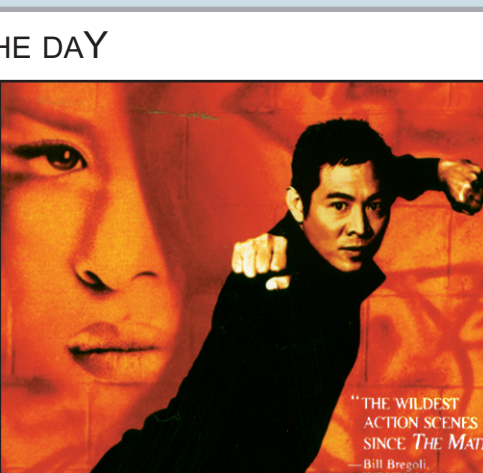
12:15 *Cine Aha*
12:50 *Adibashi Jonopod*
01:30 *Smitir Monikothae*
02:30 *Shornali Shadkhalo*
03:10 Drama Serial: *Nirob Koshto*
03:45 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokhu Nai*
04:20 *Shapla Shaluk*
04:45 Music Box
04:45 *Ispahani Pure Snax*
05:10 Quiz Time
05:10 *Obishowronio*
05:45 *Islami Sawal O Jobab*
06:25 *Three Stooges*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Jol*
08:30 *Porey Pata Norey*
08:30 Drama Serial: *The New Shabuj Opera*
09:00 Drama Serial: *Nirey Taar Neel Dheu*
09:30 Drama Serial: *Ek Akasher Swapno*
10:40 Business This Week

CHANNEL 1
08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 *Bangla Film*
10:30 *Bagan Bilash*
03:00 *Smallville*
04:00 Drama Serial: *Dui Dugoney Paanch Concert*
04:30 *Chokh Meley Dekhi*
05:00 *Ae Diney Shei Khoney*
06:00 *Padmorag*
07:00 Drama Serial: *Society*
08:30 Drama Serial: *Expression*
11:00 *Pression*
01:30 *Music Station*

Rtv
09:30 *Gopshop*
10:30 *Just Band*



Nawab Faizunnesa
On Rtv at 01:00pm
Drama Serial:
Cast: Gazi Rakayet, Mukti



Romeo Must Die
On HBO at 08:30 pm
Genre: Action
Cast: Jet Li, Aaliyah

11:00 R Music
12:00 Drama Serial: *High Tension*
01:00 Drama Serial: *Nawab Faizunnesa*
02:30 *Shoto Proshno*
03:30 *Human Nature*
04:15 *Look at me*
05:30 *Rokatu*
06:30 *Rtv Exclusive*
06:35 *Amar Desh*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Agantuk*
08:50 Drama Serial: *Briddashram*
10:50 *Travel Show: Prithibir Pothay Pothay*

8:30 *For Richer or Poorer*
10:45 *The Brady Bunch in The White House*
12:30 *Queen of the Damned*
02:30 *Superbabies: Baby Geniuses 2*
04:15 *Passionada*
06:30 *Daddy Day Care*
08:30 *Romeo Must Die*
10:45 *Alive*
1:15 *Glass Trap*
03:15 *No Way Up*
5:00 *Lucy*

STAR MOVIES
07:55 *Phantom Below*
09:30 *Gattaca*
11:10 *Moonraker*
01:20 *One Tree Seabiscuit*

10:00 *Rendezvous With Simi Garewal*
10:30 *Desperate Housewives*
10:30 **DISCOVERY**
10:30 *Feast India*
11:00 *Yatra-Indian Travels*
11:30 *Adventure Crazy*
12:00 *Great Cars*
12:30 *Ten Years Younger*
01:30 *Wild Discovery*
02:30 *Crime Stories*
03:30 *Seven Wonders Of the Industrial World*
05:30 *Discovery Wings*
06:30 *Impossible Heists*
08:30 *Discovery's Biggest Shows*
10:30 *Bird Month Special*
11:30 *Mummy Autopsy*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:30 *Air Crash Investigation*
09:30 *Dogs With Jobs*
10:00 *Dogs With Jobs*
10:30 *Backyard Science*
10:45 *Doc Eureka*
11:00 *Serious: Arctic*
11:30 *Backyard Science*
11:45 *Doc Eureka*
12:00 *Serious: Arctic*
12:30 *Wildlife Diary*
01:00 *Wildlife Diary*
01:30 *Dangerous Encounters*
02:30 *Dangerous Encounters*
03:30 *Hunter Hunted*
04:30 *Going To More Extremes*
05:30 *Great Indian Railway Pt.2*
06:30 *Danger Virus*
07:30 *The Living Edens*
08:30 *Strange Days On Planet Earth*
09:30 *Strange Days On Planet Earth*
10:30 *Amazing Moments*
11:30 *Wild Sex*

STAR WORLD
09:30 *Hogan's Heroes*
10:00 *Get Smart*
01:30 *Lost*
02:30 *The O.C.*
03:30 *The Apprentice*
04:30 *Grey's Anatomy*
05:30 *Hollywood Shootouts*
06:30 *Baywatch Hawaii*
07:30 *Malcolm In The Middle*
08:00 *Parkinson*
09:00 *Oprah Winfrey Show*

10:30 *Moto Gp Highlights*
10:30 *Motogp World Championship 2006*
11:30 *H/Ls Qatar Qatar Grand Prix Of Qatar(R)*
12:30 *Football Extra Malaysia Airlines Football Extra (S)*
12:30 *Atp Masters Series Monte-Carlo Monte Carlo Monaco Men's Singles Semi Finals #1(S)*
02:00 *Atp Masters Series Monte-Carlo Monte Carlo Monaco Men's Singles Semi Finals #2(S)*
03:30 *Football Asia Football Extra Malaysia Airlines Race Day San Marino Italy San Marino Grand Prix(L)*
04:00 *Formula One 2006 Formula One World Championship San Marin Italy San Marino Grand Prix(L)*
05:00 *Air Crash Investigation*
06:00 *Formula One 2006 Formula One World Championship San Marin Italy San Marino Grand Prix(L)*
07:30 *Chequered Flag Chequered Flag Formula One San Marino Grand Prix(L)*
08:00 *Fa Cup Fa Cup 2005/06 Semi-Final 2(L)*
10:30 *Australia Tour Of Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs Australia 1st Odi Highlights (S)*
12:00 *Hdti (T)*

ESPN
09:15 *Australia Tour Of Bangladesh Bangladesh Vs Australia 1st Odi 1st Session (L)*
01:00 *icc Cricket World (R)*
01:30 *Australia Tour Of*

Bangladesh
Bangladesh Vs Australia 1st Odi 2nd Session(L)
05:00 *Uefa Champions League Magazine Shows Uefa Champions League Magazine Show (T)*
05:30 *Super Centuries (R)*
05:55 *Sportscenter Sportscenter Weekend (T)*
06:00 *Super Sunday (L)*
06:25 *English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2005/06 (L)*
08:30 *Super Sunday (L)O*
8:55 *English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2005/06 (L)*
11:00 *Final Score (L)*
11:30 *Cricket Classics Caribbean Kings England Vs West Indies (R)*

TEN SPORTS
08:00 *WWE: Experience*
12:30 *Hockey World Cup: Finals*
01:00 *XYLUS : Ep 1*
02:00 *Trans World Sports Golf H/Ls*
03:30 *Volvo Race*
05:30 *Hockey World Cup: Finals Highlights*
06:30 *WWE:Heat*
07:30 *Legends*
08:30 *Trans World Sports*
10:30 *Hockey World Cup: Finals Highlights*
11:00 *Rally World*