

# Keyboard replacing acoustic instruments

In conversation with Alauddin Miah



Alauddin Miah on the violin

FAYZA HAQ

**A**LAUDDIN Miah played the tabla and flute as a school student. After his SSC he developed a fascination for the violin. At the Pakistan Art Council, at that time, Sadeq Ali taught a lot of instruments, including the violin and Alauddin learnt his violin skills from him; his peers were Najma Huq and Shubol Dutt. He later registered with the radio in 1966 and after the Liberation War provided the musical notes for several film songs. Right now he provides music for songs on TV and radio.

Speaking about the standard of musical compositions, he comments, "At one time the music in our production was very rich. They used several instruments such as the violin, guitar, tabla, sitar and flute. Now the film producers want to wrap up the work with as little expenditure as possible. Presently the music is more or less provided by just a keyboard and a rhythm box. The soul of the music is destroyed as a consequence and it appears as if the music is repetitive and monotonous. As the acoustic instruments are not being used, their prevalence is fast fading out. In India, meanwhile, along with the keyboard, other acoustic instruments are being used.

"We have no music association to protest against the new trend. Nobody takes the initiative to protest against the newfangled way of producing music in our country. The

words as well as the tunes of the days gone by far surpassed the ones that are being churned out today." Alauddin cannot pinpoint the reason behind the lack of beauty and depth in present compositions but he feels that the earlier composers were perhaps more educated and motivated.

Alauddin, who teaches violin at the Bulbul Lalitkala Academy (at Dhanmondi and Waisghat) and College of Development Alternative (CODA), feels that violin will not die down in Bangladesh as students come here to learn from various origins. "My students who've been studying for eight to 10 years now perform regularly on stage at the Shilpakala Academy and Bishwa Shahitya Kendra. Some are enlisted with the radio and TV. Films today are not using the violin so much. However, it's being used in music albums to some extent."

The violin, Alauddin says, comes from places like India, China, Germany, Italy and other parts of Europe. It has to be made from seasoned oak wood. Recalling the well-known violinists in our country, Alauddin names Mansur Ali, Yunus Ali, Mumtaz Miah, Phatik Dutt and Shubol Dutt from yesteryears. Today Giasuddin Mia, Sirajuddin, Shamsuddin and Sunil Kumar Das are among the professionally established violin players. Alauddin has performed in India, Pakistan, China, Hong Kong and Thailand.

# Ohe Tanchak

## An adaptation of Moliere's Le Tartuffe



A scene from the play Ohe Tanchak

ERSHAD KAMOL

The 17th French theatre theoretician, writer, director and actor, Moliere is one of the masters of satire. Moliere's satires are not meant to generate juvenile humour. Influenced by the Italian 'Comedia Dell'arte' concept, Moliere established the 'neo-Classical French comedy' technique to mock the fall of morality through witty dialogues. His 'Comedy of Morals' is designed to ridicule and correct the vices such as hypocrisy, pride, avarice and nepotism.

In 1664, Moliere wrote his most controversial, and perhaps his greatest play, *Le Tartuffe*. A brilliant satire of religious hypocrisy, the play was less than enthusiastically received by the powerful clergy.

Over the years, many Bangladeshi theatre groups have presented Moliere's adapted plays on stage. However, in most cases, they have failed to maintain the essence of a witty approach to the 'Comedy of Morals' concept.

*Ohe Tanchak*, a current produc-

tion of Theatre (Natak Sarani), is no exception to this observation.

The enthusiastic and bold performance of the actors is a very important element to make a 'Comedy of Morals' (dealing with social issues), interesting to the audience. And with exception of the performance of Rezaul Ikram in the role of Kutubul Alam Nizampuri, the 'religious hypocrite', none of the actors managed to put their heart into their performance. In his short appearance Ranjit Saha was impressive.

The story line of adaptor-director Momotazuddin Ahmed's play *Ohe Tanchak* is very simple: A con man by the name of Kutubul Alam Nizampuri pretends to be a holyman and deceives Abdul Quader Dhali and his family. During the adaptation Momotazuddin Ahmed has created a world minus a touch of reality of the contemporary social milieu of Bangladesh, except generalisations such as 'misuse of religion for political interest', 'rehabilitation of Pakistani collaborators' and others through the dialogue and soliloquy of the characters.

However, Moliere's original play was banned twice because of its authentic presentation of reality through the comedy.

As the director of the play Momotazuddin Ahmed has repeated many 'directorial compositions' of his earlier hit production *Shat Ghatir Kanakori*. The 'magic door' technique and symbolic colour effects have been used to avoid vulgar scenes. Popular Hindi film songs have been used as the play-back.

Abdul Mannan's set is very simple -- just a few 'stools' on the right corner and a ladder on the left corner of the empty stage. Thandu Raihan's use of light settings and symbolic colour is very traditional and in most of the cases not up to the mark.

Theatre staged *Ohe Tanchak* at Mahila Samity Stage on April 28.

### CULTURAL FEAS



#### Solo Exhibition

**Title:** First Solo Exhibition Of Experimental Ceramics  
**Venue:** Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts

**Date:** April 21-30, 2006  
**Time:** 10am-6pm

#### Exhibition

**Title:** Art exhibition  
**Organiser:** Liberation War Museum  
**Venue:** Liberation War Museum hall  
**Date:** April 21-30  
**Time:** 10 am-8 pm

#### Art Exhibition

**Title:** Existence  
**Artist:** H. Shahadat  
**Venue:** La Galerie of Alliance de Dacca  
**Date:** April 28 - May 12  
**Time:** 11am-9pm

### Mini screen

## Creating the ambiance for Sisimpur

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Saidul Haque Juisse, the set-designer of *Sisimpur*, says that *Sesame Street* authorities came from New York to observe its Bangladeshi version in Dhaka. They had done some research before coming to Bangladesh. They had also done a seminar on the issues they'd be facing here. They did not want to recreate the Dhaka scenario but rather a small town. Juisse than visited several small cities like Mymensingh, Jamalpur, Dhamrai and Manikganj, documenting scenes. He also had memories of his childhood days in a small town to

fall back on.

The film crew wanted a banyan tree with a large base of roots where people could gather and talk. "It is in 'Bakultala' or 'Botomul' where people come together, as we know," says Juisse. The buildings themselves, says Juisse, are a combination of Mughal and British designs interlaced with indigenous shapes and designs. There is a *mudir dokan* (tea-stall), which is made of tinshed. There is also a mud hut, a replica of village homes. Apart from these are a two-storied house and some more modern homes. The tradition of having trees with the houses has been maintained.



Sets of *Sisimpur* designed by Juisse

"The readymade leaves did not suit us. We had to do some research and make these leaves with local materials. We printed paper, coloured them and turned them into leaves. The set is a permanent one and will work for years. The children viewing it will identify with it immediately. They know the different houses in which each of the characters, like Halum, Shiku, Tuktki and Khalamoni live. Some of the characters are puppets and some are live characters. The programme began a year ago. The work took many

months. Modifications are often made. Sometimes as much as 40 workers laboured on this set of 75 feet by 55 feet. This is kept in Film Development Corporation (FDC), while the acting is performed and presented on TV," says Juisse.

Asked to mention some aspects of his experience with the *Sisimpur* set designing, Juisse says that when he initially went in to work he was given some incorrect facts and figures about the area to be covered and this had created some initial problems. But this was eventually overcome.

## Farrell and Foxx try Miami Vice

Hollywood stars Colin Farrell and Jamie Foxx are playing the lead roles in a film remake of 1980s hit show *Miami Vice*.

Irish actor Farrell will play Sonny Crockett, the part played by Don Johnson in the police drama. Foxx, nominated for an Oscar for his role in *Ray*, is to fill the role of Ricardo Tubbs, Crockett's sidekick.

The project is being written and directed by Michael Mann, an executive producer on the TV show, which ran from 1984-89, said makers Universal Studios.

Shooting for the movie is well under way and the movie is expected to release in July 2006.



Jamie Foxx and Colin Farrell in a scene from the movie

## 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, 9:00am, 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.

### 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

### BTV

09:05 Musical Programme  
09:25 *Shawwato Jibon*  
09:35 Open University  
10:00 Satellite Programme  
12:15 *Songbad Potrer Pata Thake*  
12:30 *Shashtho Totto*  
01:00 *Krira Diganto*  
01:30 *Protrashar Alo*  
03:05 *Bashuri*  
03:30 *Shokal Belar Pakhe*  
04:00 *Apon Bhumi*  
05:05 National TV Debate  
06:10 *Gitanjali*  
06:35 *Anada Dhara*  
07:00 *Mali O Manush*  
07:30 *Sapto Shur*  
08:45 Drama Serial: *Rang Dhonu*  
09:25 Drama Serial: *Shapno Shonar Gaon*  
10:25 *Teknal Theke Tetulia*  
10:30 *Subamo Oit*

### CHANNEL i

09:45 *Public Reaction*  
09:50 *Triloyo 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 Drama  
03:30 *Citycell Medha Bikash*  
04:05 *Bashundhara Amader Gaan*  
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*  
05:30 *Special Programme*  
06:00 *Gauruber Shomachar*  
07:50 *Lets Move*  
09:35 *Surgjodoyer Deshe Banglar Joy Gaan*  
10:00 Drama Serial: *Bela Obelar Golpo*

### 12:00 Agkeer Songbad Potro

### ATN BANGLA

10:30 *Onyodrishti*  
11:05 Drama Serial: *Ek Jonome*  
11:35 *Gandharaj Samsung Cine Aha*  
12:15 *Adibashi Jonopod*  
12:50 *Smitriti Monikothae*  
01:30 *Shormali Shadakalo*  
02:30 Drama Serial: *Nirob Koshto*  
03:10 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokkhu Nai*  
03:45 *Shapla Shaluk*  
04:20 Music Box  
04:45 *Ispahani Pure Snax Quiz Time*  
05:10 *Atn Music*  
05:45 *Islami Sawal O Jobab*  
06:25 *Three Stooges*  
08:00 Drama Serial: *Jol 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*

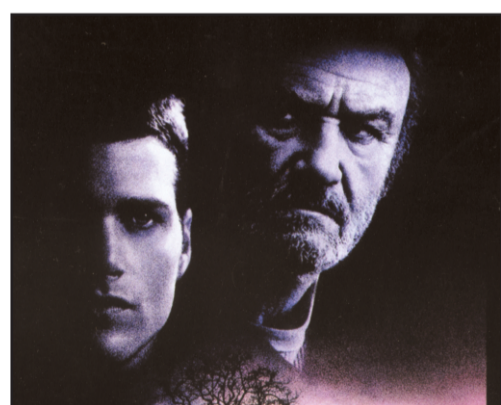
### Rtv

09:00 Human Nature  
09:30 *Antorongo Alap*  
10:00 *Aj Potrekay*  
10:30 Just Band  
10:30 Islamic Programme  
03:30 Air Combat  
04:00 Music Music  
04:15 *Look At Me*  
04:45 Human Nature  
05:00 Cartoon  
07:00 *Ajker Bangladesh*  
06:30 *Rtv Exclusive*  
06:35 *Amar Desh*  
08:00 Drama Serial: *Aguntuk*  
08:50 Drama: *Bidrashtom*

### PICK OF THE DAY



**Lets Move**  
On Channel i at 07:50pm  
Game show hosted by Farzana Brownia  
Tonight's guest: Khaled Mahmud Shujon



**The Chamber**  
On HBO at 08:30 pm  
Genre: Drama  
Cast: Gene Hackman, Chris O'Donnell

### 10:50: CHANNEL 1

08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh Cartoon*  
10:00 *Bangla Film Bagan Bilash*  
03:00 *Smallville*  
03:30 Drama Serial: *Society*  
04:00 *Padmorag Dugoney Paanch*  
04:30 Concert  
05:00 *Chokh Meley Dekhi*  
07:00 *Padmorag*  
08:30 Drama Serial: *Society*  
09:00 Drama Serial: *Tebhaga*  
11:00 Expression  
01:30 Music Station

### BANGLAVISION

08:30 *Shubho Shokal*  
09:00 *Cartoon*  
10:00 *Deshor Pothey*  
10:30 Drama Serial: *Tobuo Bhalobashi*  
12:00 Drama Serial: *Gharchhara*  
02:30 Drama Serial: *Krishnopokkho*  
04:00 *Shat Shoteri*  
04:30 *Cartoon*  
05:00 *Cine Beat*  
05:30 *Ashley Pashey*  
06:40 *Diner Sheshey*  
08:05 Drama Serial: *Album*  
08:40 *Ki Jadu Bangla Ganey*  
09:15 Drama Serial: *Shohorer Shesh Bari*

### HBO

10:00 *Jaws III*  
12:00 *Cape Fear*  
02:30 *Blade*  
05:00 *Threshold*  
06:45 *Scooby-Doo*  
08:30 *The Chamber*  
10:45 *Troy*

### STAR MOVIES

09:30 *A Murder Of Crows*  
11:15 *Never Say Never Again*  
01:30 *Hidalgo*  
03:45 *Hunt For Justice*  
05:25 *Solo*  
07:00 *Johnson Family Vacation*  
08:40 *Mortal Thoughts*

### STAR PLUS

10:30 *Yatra*  
11:00 *Mano Ya Na Mano*  
11:30 *Chali Ka Naam*  
12:30 *Antakshiri*  
01:00 *Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Dhoom*  
01:30 *Musafir Hoon Yaaron*  
02:30 *Mirch Masala*  
03:00 *Shanno Ki Shaadi*  
03:30 *Pardey Ke Peechey*  
04:00 *Maal Hai To Taal Hai*  
04:00 *Loc-Life Out Of Control*  
05:30 *Lilo & Stitch*  
06:00 *The Little Mermaid*  
06:30 *Shaadi No.1*  
09:30 *Saibaba*  
10:30 *Baa Bahoo Aur Baby*

### 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 Prime Time*  
10:00 *Rendezvous With Simi Garewal*  
11:00 *Desperate Housewives*

### DISCOVERY

09:30 *Discover India*  
10:30 *Feast India*  
11:00 *Yatra-Indian Travels*  
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

09:30 *Dogs With Jobs*  
10:45 *Doc Eureka*  
11:00 *Serious: Arctic*  
11:30 *Backyard Science*  
12:30 *Wildlife Diary*  
01:30 *Dangerous Encounters*  
02:30 *National Geographic's Hunter Hunted*  
03:30 *Going To More*  
04:30 *Extremes*  
05:30 *Fat Plague*

### ESPAN

07:30 *The Living Edens*  
08:30 *Extraterrestrial*  
10:30 *Amazing Moments*  
11:00 *Icc Cricket World (R)*  
11:30 *Cricket Classics Caribbean Kings England Vs West Indies (S)*  
12:30 *Sportscenter Week In Review (R)*  
01:00 *New Zealand Tour Of South Africa, South Africa Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 3 Highlights(R)*  
01:58 *New Zealand Tour Of South Africa Castle, South Africa Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 4 1st Session(L)*  
04:00 *Cricket Classics India Down Under, India Vs England World C'ship Of Cricket (Group Stage) (R)*  
04:30 *New Zealand Tour Of South Africa Castle, South Africa Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 4 2nd & 3rd Session(L)*  
09:00 *Sportscenter Weekend (T)*  
09:05 *Australia Cricket Down Under - India's Tour Of Australia 2003/04 Part II(R)*  
09:30 *Cricket Classics Caribbean Kings England Vs West Indies (T)*  
11:30 *Spanish Football League (S)*

### STAR SPORTS

08:30 *Ecb International Cricket*

### TEN SPORTS

10:00 *The Natwest Series India Vs Sri Lanka 6th Odi High Lights(R)*  
10:00 *Ecb International Cricket The Natwest Series England Vs Sri Lanka 7th Odi Highlights(R)*  
11:30 *Malaysia Airlines Football Extra (S)*  
12:30 *Formula One Highlights 2006 San Marino Grand Prix(T)*  
02:57 *Fim World Motorcycle Championship Motogp World Championship 2006 Istanbul Turkey Grand Prix Of Turkey(L)*  
07:00 *Football Asia (T)*  
07:30 *Formula One Highlights 2006 San Marino Grand Prix(R)*  
08:55 *English Premier Football League 2005/06 (L)*  
11:30 *Ecb International Cricket The Natwest Series India Vs Sri Lanka 9th Odi Highlights (R)*  
09:30 *Winning Post*  
11:30 *Volvo Race Zimbabwe- 1st ODI Highlights*  
12:30 *Trans World Sports*  
01:30 *Golf HLs*  
01:45 *Volvo Race*  
02:45 *WWE:Heat*  
07:30 *Moto GP : GRAND PRIX OF TURKEY*  
11:00 *West Indies v Zimbabwe- 2nd ODI, 1st Session*