CULTURAL FEAST

Classical Music and Dance Programme
Organiser: Production Department of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: June 18-20

Book Fair
Title: Barshar Boi Mela
Venue: Bashundhara City Shopping Mall
Date: June 15-30

26th anniversary of Benuka Institute of Fine Arts
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy
Date: June 19
Time: 5:45pm

Film Screening
Title: Festival of films co-produced by the South Funds of France
Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society In association with Alliance Francaise of Dhaka
Venue: Alliance Francaise of Dhaka, Rd# 3, Dhanmondi

Date: June 19
Film: Shanghai Triad (China)
Director: Zhang Yimou
Time: 5:00pm

Cinema
Organiser: Alliance Francaise of Dhaka
Venue: Alliance Francaise of Dhaka, Rd# 3, Dhanmondi
Film: Jeanne d'Arc
Date: June 23
Time: 10:30am and 6:00pm

Children Theatre Festival '06
Organiser: People's Theatre Association
Venue: Central Konchikancha Auditorium
Date: June 19 from 4:30- 8:30 pm

Troupes	Play
Redolent Model School	Uttaradhikar
Medhabikash Kindergarten	Joggi Chhele
People's Repertory Theatre	Chhotto Shona O Biraler Bhromon Kahini
Ishti Kutum	Totakahini
Bangla Shishu Natyam	Indur Raja

Date: June 20 from 4:30-8:30

Troupes	Play
Amra Notun	Maa O Madokchakro
Theatre Circle	Nakshi Kanthar
Little Unite	Maath
Kishore Theater	Haan
Shrishti Theater	71 Er Ghatok

Lalon Festival '06

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy's endeavour falls short

ERSHAD KAMOL

The four-day Lalon Festival '06 ended on June 17. The Department of Music and Dance of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy (BSA) arranged the festival at the Plaza of Department of Fine Arts at its premises.

"Over 100 of prominent and upcoming singers such as Farida Parveen, Pagla Bablu, Sameer Baul and others were invited to the festival from different corners of the country as well as institutions such as Department of Theatre and Music, University of Dhaka, and Music College. Another attraction of the festival was the presentation of research papers on Lalon by Dr Tapan Bagchi, Mohsin Hossain and Asafudaullah," asserted Abul Kalam Shafi Ahmed (Shafi Kamal), the director of the Department of Music and Dance of BSA.

However, the arrangement raised question amongst the viewers.

Jamaluddin Bulu, one of the viewers who attended the festival, said, "Like millions of Lalon lovers I came here to listen to the renditions of the *mohajans* (devotees) from the *akhra* (den) of Kushtia. I'm concerned about the distortion of Lalon songs, which UNESCO has acclaimed as part of 'Masterpiece of the Oral and Intangible Heritage of Humanity'. My aim was to discover the difference between Lalon songs presented by the *mohajans* and that of the renowned musicians who render songs for the urban ear. But, I'm frustrated when I see so many upcoming urban singers in the festival who are not attuned to Lalon music."

Shafi Kamal said, "One has to realise the ambience of a festival. It was not a musical soiree on Lalon songs, in which only selected prominent singers participate. Because of some unavoidable political crisis many of the invited Lalon devotees from Kushtia could not attend. To increase the number of the singers for a festival we had to compromise. That's why we invited even the singers of other folk genres who sing Lalon songs. Moreover, our aim is to encourage younger singers."

However, on condition of anonymity, a prominent folk singer who also sings Lalon songs, said, "In my long music career I've never seen Shilpakala do justice to its role as a promoter of the arts. It is evident that at the end of the fiscal year several departments of BSA arrange 'eye wash' festivals to 'utilise' the annual budget (except Department of Fine Arts). Despite being a recognised Lalon as well as folk singer, I was not invited."

The principal objectives of BSA are to represent the cultural heritage of Bangladesh and foster the arts. The activities of the academy include extending patronage to artists, conducting research, arranging art exhibitions and festivals of music and dance at national and international levels. It is imperative that BSA lives up to expectations.

Artistes (top and bottom) performing on the last day of the festival

Album launch

Shurer Uttorshuri: A musical treat on Father's Day

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Keeping 'Fathers Day' in mind, Impress Audio Vision has released a unique album titled *Shurer Uttorshuri*. What is so unique about the album is that it features songs composed and performed by the offspring of legendary figures in Bangla music. In their own right, the artistes themselves have carved a niche in the music industry.

Impress Audio Vision organised a launching ceremony of the album on June 17 at its head office in Dhaka. Renowned vocalist Syed Abdul Hadi launched the music album and said that it was a proud moment for the parents of the talented singers. He complimented Rumana Azad (daughter of noted musician Azad Rahman) for taking up such an initiative and hoped that Bangla music would once again attain its once thriving position. Veteran singer Bashir Ahmed complimented the singers and wished them success on their new venture.

Those who performed in the album are Khan Ataur Rahman's son Agun, Barin Majumdar's son Bappa Majumdar, Mahmudunnabi's daughters Fahmida and Samina Nabi, Bashir Ahmed's daughter and son Humaira and Raja Bashir and last but not the least Azad Rahman's daughter's Nafisa and Rubaba Azad.

In Fahmida Nabi's words, "All of us have grown up together and have close ties. There used to be so many musical soirees during those times and it was an amazing feeling for us. We wanted to recreate that magic through this album." However, she mentioned that this group should not be mistaken to be exclusively for artiste's offspring. "Anyone with a good musical background and talent can be a part of it."

Agun enthusiastically says, "We are one big family. It's a first time experience for me." He also feels that "people with a cultured background should sing more often instead of instead of individuals with no musical knowledge whatsoever." The Bashir siblings mentioned that they were proud to be a part of something great. They requested their fans to pray for the whole team so that they could continue the endeavour.

This definitely is one commendable initiative taken up by Impress Audio Vision. The production house is soon bringing out another album titled *Shomogro Bangladesh 5 ton* comprising folk songs from all regions of the country.

Cover jacket of the album

Seventh Children's Theatre Festival '06

Gopal Bhar's shenanigans delight the audience

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

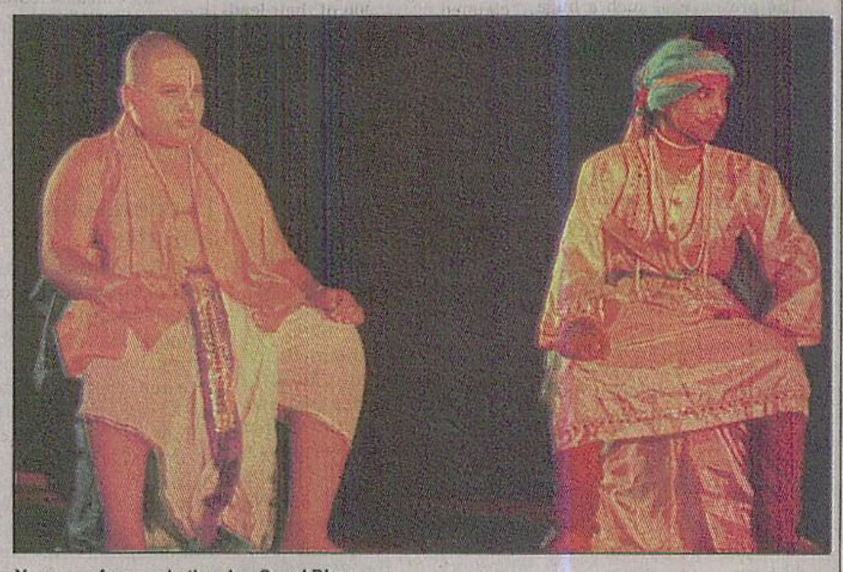
On the sixth day of the ongoing Seventh Children's Theatre Festival, Chander Haat Children's Theatre from Faridpur staged *Gopal Bhar*. The central figure is a proverbial comic character and the subject of many familiar anecdotes and jokes.

Several stories of Gopal Bhar were staged. Particularly well received by the audience was that in which Gopal managed to trick the king.

In one story the king's men show up at Gopal's house and hand him a letter from the king. Gopal though very clever, has no formal education and is unable to read the letter. The next day the king's men come and say that the king has fired him from his job because he has disobeyed a direct order from the king. Then he said he didn't receive any order. From this point the plot unravels until the denouement when Gopal gets his job back --and a reward.

"Young actors from the organisation staged a performance so refreshing that it seemed as if Gopal Bhar himself was on stage," said Abdun Noor Tushar, renowned TV anchor.

Every member of the organisation received a certificate from Tushar after the show.



Young performers in the play *Gopal Bhar*

Cell phone cinematographers make feature debut

AP, *Rome*

The theme may be familiar but the technique is new: A standard cell phone camera to shoot an entire feature-length documentary on love and eroticism.

Italian filmmakers used a Nokia N90, a higher-end cell phone sold around the world, to produce the 93-minute *Nuovi Comizi D'Amore* (*New Love Meetings*), which they say is the first feature film to be entirely shot with such a tool.

"With the widespread availability of cell phones equipped with cameras, anybody could do this," documentary co-director Marcello Mencarini said. "If you want to say something nowadays, thanks to the new media, you can."In news gathering, early footage is often shot with a cell phone, and, in the case of major events, authorities and news outlets have been known to call on amateurs to come through with video. When it comes to movies, though, cell phone cameras present limitations, such as the difficulty to film in darkness or the lack of high-quality microphones.

As a result, the movie mostly features close-ups, and the image, while overall clear when seen on a computer, is slightly shaky. Mencarini said the movie could be viewed on big screens, though "it wouldn't be high-definition." The movie's directors said no post-production manipulation was made on the image.

Low costs and greater flexibility were among the reasons why Mencarini and co-director Barbara Seghezzi decided to use a cell phone camera.

The approach offers the advantage of being intimate, leading people to open up a little more easily directors say. In a documentary about love and eroticism, that doesn't hurt.

For two months last year, the directors interviewed some 700 people across Italy -- at bars, open markets and on the beach. About 100 of them ended up in the movie.

The phone had enough memory for about an hour of footage, and scenes were transferred to a computer approximately every two days, Mencarini said.

Directors Marcello Mencarini (R) and Barbara Seghezzi hold up a cellphone to film their movie, *Nuovi Comizi D'Amore*

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.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am.1:00pm.3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 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) at5:30pm.7:20pm.
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
07:15 *Shaswato Jibon*
09:05 Open University
10:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 *Sangbad Potrer Peta Thake*
12:30 *Shastho Tatthya*
01:05 *Lal Golap*
02:15 *Sisimpur*
03:05 Childrens Quiz Show
03:30 *Nritter Tale Tale*
04:00 *Dolon Chapa*
04:30 *Prottashar Alo*
05:05 World Cup 2006 highlight
06:35 *Apon Bhumi*
07:00 *Abohoman Bangla*
08:35 *Protidin Bangladesh*
09:25 Drama Serial: *Anondo Sangbad*
10:25 *Teknaf Theke Tetulia*

CHANNEL-i
09:30 *Shangbad Potrey Bangladesh*
09:45 *Public Reaction*
09:50 *Tritiyomatra*
11:05 Education Programme (Live)
12:30 *Asaj Dupurey*
01:10 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama
05:30 *Banijjo O Orthoniti*
06:00 Star Gate SG One
06:25 Business Show
06:45 *Bishwa Cup Special*
07:50 Drama Serial: *Nil Jyotsnay*
08:20 Drama Serial: *Shimana*
09:35 Drama Serial: *Sampuma Rangeen*
12:00 *Ajker Shangbadpotro*

ntv
09:30 *Ogroz*
10:00 *Grammen Phone Shironam*
10:05 Zoo Adventure
10:30 *Dhakar Cinema*
01:05 *Muktangon*
02:35 Drama Serial: *Ramizer Asina*
03:15 Glamour World
03:50 Drama Serial: *Biborno Bhalobasha*
04:25 *Bhinnya Swader Khobor*
05:20 *Apnar Jiggyasha*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:50 *Khoborer Shondhane*
07:20 Tele Quiz
08:25 Drama serial: *Labonya Probha*
09:10 Music Express
09:50 Drama Serial: *Biborno Bhalobasha*
11:25 *Dindarpan*

ATN BANGLA
10:30 *Annodrishti*
11:05 Drama: *Ek Jonome*
11:35 Three Stooges
12:15 Drama: *Oi Aashe*
01:25 *Cholochitrer Golpo*
02:30 Drama serial: *Nirob Koshto*
03:10 Drama Serial: *O Amar Chokkhu Nai*
03:45 *Shustho Thakun*
04:20 *Chotoder Prithibi*
04:45 Daily World Cup
05:45 *Islami Sawaal O Jobab* (live)
06:20 BSB Education Zone
08:00 Drama Serial: *Shukhnagar Apartment*
08:40 ATN Taroka
10:35 *Kothamala*

Rtv
10:00 *Aj Potrekay*
11:00 *Briddhasram*
12:05 *Agantuk*
01:00 Human Nature
02:00 *Aj Potrekay*
02:30 Islami Programme
03:30 Technology Today
04:00 Tagore Song
05:30 Football Carnival
06:00 *Ajker Bangladesh*
06:30 Rtv Exclusive
06:40 Band Show
08:00 Drama Serial: *Agantuk*
08:50 Drama Serial: *Rater Galpo*
10:45 Rtv Exclusive
10:50 Musical Programme

CHANNEL 1
08:40 *Shuprobhat Bangladesh*
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Film
02:00 *Bishwa Jurey*
03:00 *Goalmele Germany*
03:30 Drama Serial: Society
04:00 Drama
05:15 Small Ville
06:00 *Saaj Bela*
06:30 Top News
06:45 *Jonotar Ishtihar*
07:00 *Shuk Tara*
08:15 Drama Serial: *Nokol Poshak*
09:00 *Rodey Jabo*
11:00 *Goalmele Germany*

HBO
09:15 Last Action Hero
12:00 ED
02:00 Austin Powers in Goldmember
04:00 The Karate Dog
05:45 Leave It Beaver
07:30 Resident Evil: Apocalypse
09:30 A Civil Action
11:45 Once Upon a Time in Mexico
1:45 Rambo III

STAR MOVIES
09:05 Bulletproof
10:50 Patriot, The
02:00 Soul Plane
03:45 Blue In The Face
05:35 My Favorite Martian
07:35 Species III
09:30 Avp: Alien Vs. Predator
11:35 Happy Texas

STAR WORLD
07:30 Seinfeld
08:00 Hollywood Squares
08:30 Whose Line Is It Anyway?
09:00 The Drew Carey Show
09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 The Apprentice
11:30 Charmed
12:30 Lost
01:30 Desperate Housewives
02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
04:30 General Hospital
05:30 Ed
06:25 Sports Update
06:30 The Simpsons
07:00 King Of Queens
07:30 Friends
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 My Wife And Kids
09:00 Still Standing
09:30 Yes Dear
10:00 Frasier
10:30 For Better Or Worse
11:25 Sports Update
11:30 Seinfeld

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:00 WWS
08:30 Super Croc
09:30 Nat Geo Junior
10:30 Night On The Wild
12:00 Go Wild With Hutch
12:30 Secret China
01:30 No Borders
03:00 Chasing Time
03:30 The Living Edens
04:30 Nat Geo Junior
06:00 Croc Chronicles
06:30 Nat Geo Wild
07:30 Storm Stories
08:30 Travell Nat Geo Style
10:30 Nat Geo Investigales
11:30 Night On The Wild

STAR SPORTS
08:00 ICC Cricket World
08:30 Bull Riding
09:30 Max Power
10:30 U.S. Open Golf Championship
11:30 Asian Festival Of Speed
12:00 Ace
12:30 Cricket Classics
01:00 Malaysian Field Hockey
02:30 Super Centuries
03:00 Malaysian Field Hockey
04:30 Bull Riding
05:30 Formula One Highlights
06:30 Pride Fc Archives
07:30 Pride Fc Archives
08:30 Sri Lanka Tour Of England
10:00 Sportscenter India
10:01 Cricket Classics
10:30 Bull Riding
11:30 Sportscenter India
11:31 Fim World Motorcycle Championshi

ESPN
08:30 News Special
08:40 Cricket Classics
09:00 FIFA World Cup Programming
10:20 Cricket Classics
11:20 News Special
11:30 Motorsport Asia
12:00 Team India Programming
01:30 Nba Action
02:00 Nba Finals
04:30 FIFA World Cup Programming
05:50 News Special
06:00 Germany 2006
06:50 FIFA World Cup (Switzerland Vs Togo)
09:00 Germany 2006
09:15 Sportscenter
09:45 Germany 2006
09:50 FIFA World Cup (Saudi Arabia Vs Ukraine)
12:50 FIFA World Cup (Spain Vs Tunisia)

TEN SPORTS
08:30 Total Rugby
09:00 World of Athletics
09:30 Martini
11:30 West Indies v India: 2nd Test Day 5 Highlights
12:30 Trans World Sports
01:30 Legends
02:30 Trans World Sports
03:30 French Tennis Highlights : Day 15
04:00 World Strongman Cup
04:30 Chevrolet Cricket Show
06:30 WWE: Raw
08:00 Moto GP : Grand Prix Premi De Catalunya Hlls
10:00 West Indies v India: 4th ODI Highlights

PICK OF THE DAY

Kotha Mala
On ATN Bangla at 10:35pm
Talk Show
Host: Mustafa Nurul Islam

FIFA World Cup 2006
On ESPN at 09:50pm
Group H: Saudi Arabia Vs Ukraine
Live from Hamburg