

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition



Artist: Laila Sharmin
Title: Truth, Beauty and Me
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts
Date: July 19-28

Children's Art Competition and Exhibition

Title: 4th International Children-Art Biennale Bangladesh-2006
Venue: Ziaur Rahman Auditorium, Bangladesh Shishu Academy
Date: July 11-25
Time: 11:00am to 6:30pm

Painting Exhibition

Artist: Abdus Sattar
Title: Portrait Painting
Venue: Saju Art Gallery, F/40-41, D.C.C. North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan
Date: starts July 22
Time: 9:30am to 8:30pm (Friday closed)

Dance-Drama

Title: Shapmochon
Organiser: Rabirag
Venue: Shishu Academy Auditorium
Date: July 28
Time: 7:00pm

Theatre

Play: Raja-Rani
Troupe: Konthashilin
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: July 23
Time: 7:00pm

Film Screening

Title: Cyrano
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dacca
Date: July 28
Time: 10:30am and 6:00pm

Title: The Hours
Organiser: Ananya Film Club
Venue: Noton House, 10/14 Ikbal Road
Date: July 29
Time: 5:00pm

Contemporary Art

Artists: M F Hussain, Jogen Chowdhury, Sanat Kar, Niren Sen and others
Title: Contemporary Indian Art
Venue: Shilpangan, Road 3, House 13/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Date: July 14-28
Time: 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm

Poetry recitation

Pablo Neruda: The universal poet

KAVITA CHARANJI

MEXICAN restaurant El Toro came alive over the weekend. Instead of the usual gourmets was a group of dedicated poetry reciters who devoted themselves to the works of famous late Chilean poet Pablo Neruda. It was an opportune time-- on July 12 was Neruda's 102nd birth anniversary. The function was organised jointly by Meghdut Abriti Sangsad and the Honorary Consulate of Chile.

The memorable evening kicked off with a recitation of 'Tonight I can write (from Viente poemas de amor y una cancion desesperada or Twenty poems of love and a song of despair, dated 1924). The English and Bangla versions of this poem were effectively rendered by Syed Mutaqillah and Mosud Mannan (currently director general in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and chief organiser, Meghdut) respectively. The controversial Viente collection, with its erotic overtones, has been translated into many languages. Over the decades, the work would rake in book lovers and prove to be his best-known work.

One only had to hear the excellent voice modulation and diction to realise how deeply the reciters had internalised the well-loved 'Tonight I can write'. The evocative verse goes as: 'Tonight I can write the saddest lines. Write, for example, 'The night is



starry
And the stars are blue and shiver in the distance.
...I no longer love her, that's certain, but maybe I love her.
Love is so short, forgetting is so long...
Though this be the last pain that she makes me suffer
And these the last verses I write for her."

In addition to such love poems, Neruda is also known for his surrealist poems, historical epics and political manifestos.

Another of his poems that featured in the evening of recitation was Arte Poetica in Spanish by Razima Selim and in Bangla by Mannan. Other reciters who held the stage were Aminur Rashid, Naeem Mahbub and Kamrul Hasan.

After the recitations, Carlos Eduardo Mena K, vice minister for economy, Chile gave a laudatory speech on Neruda. To quote him, "Neruda was and is a great poet of all times. He was also a humanist and one of the human beings who discover their mission in this life. His poetry is a song to life in the most simple and profound sense."

Winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature, Neruda's poetry truly cuts across all cultures. According to three members of Meghdut, Razima Selim, Kamrul Hasan and Nuzhat Mannan (all academicians), Neruda's revolutionary poetry mirrors the struggles against oppression of downtrodden people all around the world. "This evening showed how diverse cul-

tures can have a meeting point and how hearts can meet as well," said Nuzhat.

Technical support for the function was provided by Morshed Mannan, Nuzhat, Arnab and Ifit. Among the distinguished guests was renowned poet Asad Chowdhury who paid tribute to the brilliant Neruda. "We in Bangladesh identify ourselves not only with Chilean poets but also Mexican and Cuban bards. Neruda is a universal poet and not just Spanish," asserted Chowdhury.

All in all, an evening to remember for its great ambience, superb music and of course the moving recitation by poetry enthusiasts.



An image of the poet (Top), Mosud Mannan (L) and Razima Selim reciting poems of Neruda at the function



Golden Jubilee Film Audience Award '06

Celebrating excellence in Bangladeshi cinema

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

In celebration of 50 years of Bangladeshi cinema, the Bangladesh Film Audience Forum held the Golden Jubilee Film Audience Award 2006 on July 21 at the plenary hall of Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. LGRD minister Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, MP handed over the awards while Musaddek Ali, MP was the special guest at the occasion.

The Forum gave seven awards for each decade of Bangla films. They also handed over awards for

last year. A list of the award winners:

For the 50's: Best Film: Jago Hua Saveri, Best Director: Fateh Lohani, Best Actor: Khan Ataur Rahman, Best Actress: Sumita Devi, Best Singer (Male): Shohrab Hossain, Best Singer (Female): Mahbuba Rahman and Best Music Director: Shubol Das.

For the 60's: Best Film: Kancher Deyal, Best Director: Zahir Raihan, Best Actor: Anwar Hossain, Best Actress: Kabori, Best Singer (Male): Abdul Alim, Best Singer (Female): Ferdousi Rahman, Best Music Director: Khan Ataur Rahman.

For the 70's: Best Film: Jibon

Theke Neya, Best Director: Alamgir Kabir, Best Actor: Razaque, Best Actress: Bobita, Best Singer (Male): Mahmudunnabi, Best Singer (Female): Sabina Yasmin and Best Music Director: Satya Shaha.

For the 80's: Best Film: Shubhoda, Best Director: Amjad Hossain, Best Actor: Faruk, Best Actress: Shabana, Best Singer (Male): Abdul Jabbar, Best Singer (Female): Runa Laila and Best Music Director: Alauddin Ali.

For the 90's: Best Film: Padma Nadir Majhi, Best Director: Chashi Nazrul Islam, Best Actor: Raisal Islam Asad, Best Actress:

Moushumi, Best Singer (Male): Andrew Kishor, Best Singer (Female): Kanakchapa and Best Music Director: Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul.

For 2005: Best Film: Shasti, Best Director: Shuchanda, Best Actor: Manna, Best Actress: Purnima, Best Singer (Male): Asif, Best Singer (Female): Samina Chowdhury and Best Music Director: Emon Shaha. 14 other awards were also given in different categories.

Special honorary awards were given to Subhash Dutta, Kazi Zahir, Bashir Ahmed, ATM Shamsuzzaman and Anwara.

Award-winners hoped that the programme would encourage promising filmmakers and help create a more professional film culture in Bangladesh.

The award giving ceremony was followed by a lively cultural programme. The function began with a dance. Subsequently, prominent artists of Bangladesh, Abdul Jabbar, Monir Khan, Kanakchapa, Asif, Agun and Abida Sultana took the stage and rendered popular songs.



Kabori, Chashi Nazrul Islam and Samina Chowdhury -- three of the award winners

Theatre

'Bela Shesher Galpo': A realistic approach to political turmoil



A scene from the play

ERSHAD KAMOL

With the silhouette effect of a leader giving a speech on the cyclorama and background music of a procession, designer Asim Das successfully created the ambience of a 'hallucination' to represent the psyche of the main character Animesh (Avijit Sengupta). The protagonist has been expelled from a political party for his protest against the dysfunctional leadership. This is the opening scene of Avijit's social drama Bela Shesher Galpo, which features the contemporary political turmoil of Bangladesh.

Throughout the play (with the exception of two flashback sequences) Avijit enacts the role of a victim who is brutally attacked by the political goons -- all in a wheel chair. His perfor-

mance as a physically challenged person was less declamatory. However in the flashback scenes, Avijit performed boldly and spontaneously, especially in a sequence when he decides to separate from his fiancé Mita (Sabira Sultana Bina) because of ethical clashes.

Though his middle class parents cannot arrange proper treatment for Animesh, his sister Ananya (Deepta Rakkhit) sacrifices herself for him. The most startling sequence is when Ananya narrates how she became a call girl. Deepta's voice modulation and body language were credible. Sujit Das in the role of the father also provided a good performance. However, in the major part his performance was not credible. The other artists need to put their best foot forward to effectively present the political satire to the audience.

As the director of Bela Shesher Galpo, Avijit's approach is realistic. He has created the required tension and has maintained the momentum of the play. However, the transition in the flashback sequences was not smooth and failed to hold the interest of the audience. The question that cropped up was whether the flashback sequences could have been avoided. Moreover, the presentation of dance and music in the flashback sequence (when Animesh leaves Mita) appeared unnecessary.

Designer Asim Das's approach is also simple and realistic. However, a few of the set elements such as a painting at the back-stage have no utility. Bela Shesher Galpo was staged by Nandimukh at the Experimental Theatre Stage on July 21.

'Close Up1' auditions in Comilla Four get 'yes' cards

A CORRESPONDENT, Comilla

Four aspiring singers got 'yes' cards at the selection round of the country-wide Close Up 1 talent search programme that ended in Comilla on Thursday.

Over 1400 participants from different parts of Comilla, Noakhali, Feni, Brahmanbaria, Chandpur and Laxmipur took part in the three-day programme that began at the Q-places Community Center last Tuesday. Twenty participants were chosen for the selection round held at Comilla Shilpakala Academy.

The judges of the audition round included Sujeo Shyam, Selim Ashraf, Jalal Ahmed, Pranab Ghosh, Anisur Rahman Tanu, Basudev Ghosh, Monowar Hossain Tutul, Piyaru Khan, Partho Barua and Anup Bhattacharya. The selection round judges were Kumar Biswajit, Fahmda Nabi and Ahmed Imtiaz Bulbul.

Shila Das from Feni, Delowar Hossain from Laxmipur and Idris Miah Poran from Brahmanbaria received 'yes' cards from the

judges.



Shazia Sultana Putul and (L-R) Putul, Delowar and Shila at the selection round

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, 12:15am. 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 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 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) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm. Tara News (English) at 9:30 pm. BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

BTV

09:05 Open University
10:00 Satellite Broadcast
12:15 Shongbadpotrer Pata Thekey
12:30 Shastho Tatho
01:00 Judo
01:30 Prottyashar Alo
02:15 Protidin Computer
02:40 Educational Programme
03:05 Banshori
03:30 Tomi Miar Kichen
04:00 Cine Magazine
04:30 Anandodhara
05:05 National TV Debate
07:00 Mati O Manush
07:30 Drama Serial
08:35 Protidin Bangladesh
08:45 Drama Serial: Rangdhonu
09:25 Drama Serial: Swapno Shonar Gaon
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia
CHANNEL i
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Gramephone Tritiyo Matra
11:05 Tele Prescription (Live)
11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush
12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell
Tarokakothon

01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shangbadpotrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 A Selected play of Humayun Ahmed
04:05 Bashundhora Amader Gaan
04:25 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Chithi Pelam
06:00 Music Plus
06:20 Shamoiki
07:50 Hello Minister
10:00 Drama Serial: Bela Obelar Golpo
12:00 Ajker Shangbadpatro
ATN BANGLA
10:30 Anyodrishti
12:15 Adibashi Jonopod
12:50 Smitrit Monikothay
01:30 Shornali Shadakalo
02:30 Film: Bangla
05:45 Islami Sawal O Jobab (Live)
06:20 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Khola Duar
08:30 Drama Serial: The New Shobuj Opera
09:00 Drama Serial: Nire Tar Neel Dheu
09:30 Drama Serial: Olot Palot
10:40 Business This Week
CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhat

PICK OF THE DAY
Agontuk On Rtv at 08:00pm Drama Serial Cast: Zahid Hasan, Tania, Hillol
Beverly Hills Cop On HBO at 08:30pm Genre: Action/Adventure Cast: Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold
TV Guide listing for Rtv, Bangladesh, and other channels.

08:00 Drama Serial: Agontuk
08:50 Wide Angle
09:20 Concert
10:45 Rtv Exclusive
10:50 Travel Show
BANGLAVISION
08:35 Shubho Shokal
09:05 Cartoon
09:30 Drama Serial: Krishnapokkho
10:00 Bangla Feature Film
10:30 Sheidin Chaitro Mash
03:00 Amar Ami
03:30 Drama Serial: Shukher Kanta
04:00 Shomoy Ashomoy
04:30 Projapoti Din
05:00 Cartoon
05:30 Shada Kalo
06:30 Diner Sheshey
08:05 Apnar Agami
09:20 Drama Serial: Shohorer Shesh Bari
09:50 Ki Jado Bangla Gaane
HBO
09:30 Tales from the Crypt
30: Well Cooked Hams

09:45 Helter Skelter
12:30 Freddy Vs Jason
02:30 Shaun of the Dead
04:30 Dark Skies: The Awakening
06:30 Maximum Risk
08:30 Beverly Hills Cop
10:30 Carnival 16: Old Cherry Blossom Road
11:45 Final destination 2
01:30 Return of the Living Dead Part II
STAR MOVIES
08:40 Paycheck
11:00 Garfield The Movie
12:45 The Girl Next Door
02:55 Elektra
04:55 Anger Management
07:00 Submerged
09:00 K-9: P.I.
09:30 The Medallion
11:20 Piccadilly Jim
STAR WORLD
08:30 Billboard Us Countdown
09:30 Hogan's Heroes
10:00 Get Smart
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
12:30 Desperate Housewives
01:30 Born To Run
02:30 One Tree Hill
03:30 Andrea Bocelli
04:30 Boston Legal
05:30 Hollywood Shootouts
06:00 Travel Asia

06:30 Baywatch Hawaii
07:30 The Simpsons
08:00 Wonderfalls
09:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal
10:30 Desperate Housewives
11:30 Lost
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:30 The Living Edens
09:30 Cheetahs: The Deadly Race
10:30 Dogs With Jobs
12:00 Nat Geo Junior Expeditions to the Edge
01:30 Explorations
02:30 Nat Geo Wild
03:30 The Living Edens
04:30 Nat Geo Reveals
05:30 Nat Geo Reveals
06:30 Wild Safari
07:00 Wild Orphans
07:30 Day Of The Jackal
08:30 Megacities
10:30 Hognzilla
11:30 Elephant Rage
ESPN
08:00 Great American Events
09:00 Awards
11:00 Icc Cricket World
11:30 Cricket Classics
12:30 Cricket Classics
01:30 Sportscenter Week

In Review
02:00 Tour De France
02:30 Team India Programming
04:00 The Open Championships
STAR SPORTS
08:30 Australia Tour Of South Africa
12:30 Formula One Highlights
02:00 Moto Gp Highlights
03:00 Icc Cricket World
03:30 Australia Tour Of England
09:30 Australia Tour Of England
11:00 Hitz
11:30 Horseshow Jumping
TEN SPORTS
09:00 WWE: Experience
11:00 Tour De France: Stage 19
01:30 Winning Post
03:30 Sahara Hockey Champ Trophy (MEN):Aus v Pak
04:30 Le Mans Series: Nurburging
05:30 WWE:Heat
09:45 Tour De France: Stage 20
11:45 Sahara Hockey Champ Trophy (MEN):Arg v Spain