

CULTURAL FEAST

In conversation with Kazi Hablu Bengali soul, Latin beats

Musical Soiree

Title: Bulbul
Organiser: Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad
Date: July 25
Venue: Nazrul Institute, Road no-28, Dhanmondi
Time: 6:00pm

European Film Session

Organisers: Rainbow Film Society, Dhaka Film Society and Jahangirnagar Film Society
July 25: 4:00pm Luna Papa 6:00pm The Red and White
July 26: 4:00pm The Odyssey 7:15pm Hi, Tereska
Venue: Russian Cultural Centre

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

Dance-Drama

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

Film Screening

Title: Ontorjatra
Venue: British Council Auditorium
Date: Running 2nd week from July 17
Time: 5:00pm and 7:00pm (except Sundays)

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 Indian Art

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

Exhibition

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



Kazi Hablu

MAHMUDA AFROZ

RHYTHMS have always attracted me. I developed a special fascination for the African beat when I watched the movie Tarzan. One of the less talked about fields in Bangladesh, Hablu is indisputably one of the best Latin percussionists we have today.

A "typical" percussion section would be hard, if not impossible, to define, but a more or less full sound can be obtained with congas, bongos, timbales, maracas, guiros, gourds, shakers, and cowbells.

Hablu had basic training in tabla. "It is very

important to have a proper education on the grammar and taal of an instrument. There is mathematics involved in learning any instrument and it's vital to know it," explains Hablu. Being a Bangladeshi child in the '60s, he didn't have any of the Latin percussion instruments to practice on. He watched innumerable movies, picked up the beat in his head and then practiced the same on the table and tin pots of his house.

He got his first instrument when he joined Azam Khan on the conga. "I played confidently, even though it was the first time in my life," reminisces Hablu. "My competitor was the water pump in our flat. I would try to keep up with the

rhythm of the water pump which helped me increase my speed."

Hablu has worked with some of the best names in the national as well as international arena. He was Runa Laila's personal percussionist for 22 years and has travelled to over 40 countries. He has performed in places like the Royal Albert Hall (Britain), Shane Auditorium (where the Oscars are held in Los Angeles) and Lincoln Centre. He has played with Junoon, Zakir Hussain, Remo Fernandez and many other international artists.

Explains this multi-talented instrumentalist, "I play my best when I have the right singers and fellow instrumentalists around me. I am nothing on my own unless I have their support."

Hablu believes music is a spiritual matter. There is a direct relation between Allah and music. "One is born with talent and can not acquire it" and hence he feels that artists should not be proud or snobbish for what Allah has especially bestowed upon them. Rather they should just be thankful to him.

Hablu is also one of the country's best music directors. While he has composed music for many movies and serials he modestly talks about others who have contributed in this field. "In our country we have had many great talents like Feroza Begum, Ferdousi Rahman, Abdul Jabbar, Shahnaz Rahmatullah, Runa Laila, James, Happy Akhand, Lucky Akhand, Ayub Bachchu and Nakib Khan. They are the real talents of our country," he maintains.

While there are many young talented singers and musicians in the country, Hablu surmises that, somehow these young talents fall into the trap of the over commercialisation of the music industry. The youngsters want to reach the top without hard work. He feels that that leads to cheap fame. "To be talented is a rare gift and you have to work hard to stay at the top," says Hablu.

Kazi Hablu currently hosts a show on BTV. Titled Prothom Ontara, the show features old and contemporary songs. The show is aired every third Sunday of the month, at 10:30 pm.

Humayun Ahmed's 'Noi Number Bipad Sanket' launched



Humayun Ahmed (R) and Faridur Reza Sagor, managing director Impress Telefilm(L) at the event

Noted author Humayun Ahmed's latest comedy film Noi Number Bipad Sanket was launched on July 22, according to a press release.

Produced under the banner of Impress Telefilm, shooting for the film will begin from August 1. The film will be shot in Dhaka and Gazipur. Tania, Elora Gauhar, Swadhin Khasru, Jayanto Chattopadhyay are supposed to play the lead roles. Si Tutul is the music director of the film. All songs,

except one Rabindra sangeet, have been written by Humayun Ahmed.

Synopsis: Rahmat is an affluent middle-aged man who lives in his ancestral house in a village. However both his daughters, who are married, live in the city with their families. Rahmat tries to get his daughters to visit him in the village. One fine day, the daughters receive the news of their father's death and rush to the village.

Master chef Tommy Miah ventures into TV production

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Internationally acclaimed Chef Tommy Miah is well known in Bangladesh for his exclusive cuisines. Now he is making a new appearance in the country as an entrant in the media business. In a press conference at Heritage Restaurant in Gulshan on July 22, Tommy Miah made a statement to this effect.

The media house 'tommymiah.com' will be making TV plays, mega serials and a variety of TV programmes.

A small cultural event was organised before the press conference. A folk group, Kushtia Bauls performed spiritual Lalon songs,

beginning with the song Elahi Alamin go Allah Badsha Alampona Tumi.

There was a treat for the guests. After the press conference everyone feasted on delectable cuisines prepared by Tommy Miah.

The master chef is upbeat about his new venture.

Popular actress Diti, renowned movie director Mohammad Hannan and many other media personalities were present at the event. They extended good wishes to the chef in his latest endeavour.

'tommymiah.com' will be making its debut with a 13-episode TV serial featuring Tommy's own story. Media Impression is the media partner of 'tommymiah.com'.



Tommy Miah (L) at the press conference

Discussion and cultural programme Generating awareness on autism



A young one performs at the programme

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

HANS (Hello's Association Of Neophyte Students) organised a cultural programme on autistic children recently. The event was held at the Planning and Development Commission in Dhaka.

The programme was organised to raise awareness on autism and related issues. Hans invited four schools for autistic children -- AWF, SWID Bangladesh, SWAC, and Kallyani at a single stage.

The chairman of HANS, Meer Sohrabul Hossain said, "We have invited these schools today so that we can share information on each other's activities. Autism is a national problem and all the

schools should work together on this issue."

Very few people have a clear knowledge of autism. It is a brain-based developmental disorder, which affects the normal functioning of a human being. Children with autism have difficulties in communication and social interaction.

An autistic person some times possesses extraordinary talent in mathematics. At the programme there was an autistic child named Shihab who has the rare ability to tell the day of any given date between 1960-2050.

Special guests of the event -- Professor of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology and noted writer Md Zafar Iqbal, author

Imadul Haque Milon and others -- tested Shihab and each time he was correct.

The cultural event featured performances by students of all four schools. They performed songs, dances and poetry recitations.

After the cultural event an open discussion was held on autism. Representatives from invited schools answered questions of the audience. The discussion mainly featured on how parents can effectively take care of autistic children.

After the discussion, the special guests handed prizes to the performers of the schools.

Movie Watch 'Corporate': Money, power and politics

When leading industrialist houses vie for a piece of the PSU (public sector unit) pie, it is a battle for profit. Principles are abandoned, manipulative tactics take over and inhabitants of the corporate world get down and dirty. It is these citizens that Madhur Bhandarkar's Corporate takes an unsettling look at.

Corporate does not involve you immediately. Unless you are the kind who religiously reads financial news, follows the stock markets or studies economics, it will take some time before you grasp the lingo.

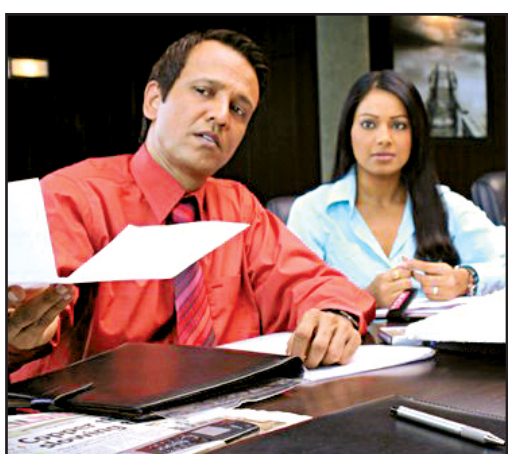
Over the years, with theme-oriented films like Chandni Bar, Satta and Page 3, Bhandarkar has developed a characteristic style. He picks a section of society, and then hunts down everything that is directly or indirectly responsible for its supposed deterioration.

Here, corporate rivalry between Vinay Sehgal (Rajat Kapoor) and Dharmesh Marwah (Raj Babbar), managing directors of their respective companies, forms the crux of the plot.

Marwah is a fanatically religious and superstitious guy. Sehgal is a doughnut-eating, gym-going, stylish guy with a soft spot for extra-marital affairs.

Nishigandha Dasgupta (Bipasha Basu) is a top executive in Sehgal's organisation. Nishi is an award-winning go-getter who sports designer suits and casually resorts to deceitful tactics if necessary. Bribing, stealing and spying are all part of a day's work for her. Her love interest is her colleague Ritesh (Kay Kay Menon), who happens to be Sehgal's brother-in-law.

When Sehgal goes ahead with a deal adverse to public interests -- soft drinks containing pesticides -- Nishi develops a sense of till-now-misplaced con-



Kay Kay Menon and Bipasha Basu in the film

science.

A film like Corporate demands strong presence to hold the viewer by the collar. The cast emerges powerful enough to do the needful. Bipasha is consistently impressive. She fits well into her suit and the skin of her character.

Rajat Kapoor's suave dynamism and cool demeanour makes him the perfect candidate to play a Gucci-clad businessman with no ethics. Raj Babbar suitably underplays the eccentric nature of his Marwah.

With its urban premise, intricate dialogue and stark realism, Corporate is a gripping, honest film that should appeal to the thinking audience.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

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 am, 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) 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

08:15 Smritimoy Archives
08:45 Bishwa Prodin
09:05 Open University
10:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 Sangbad Potrer Pata Thake
12:30 Shasho Tatthya
01:00 Laal Golap
02:15 Sisimpur
03:05 Children's Programme
03:35 Ritter Tale Tale
04:00 Dolon Chapa
04:30 Protashar Alo
05:05 National Television School Debate Competition
06:10 Prescription
06:35 Programme from Chittagong Centre
07:00 Ai Desh Ai Shomoy
07:30 Drama Serial
08:35 Protidin Bangladesh
09:25 Drama Serial: Anondo Sangbad
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tetulia
12:30 Shangkbad Potrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Gramsephone Tritiyonatra
11:05 Education Programme (Live)
12:30 Citycell Taroka Kathon (Live)
01:10 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama of Humayun

Ahmed
04:05 Bashundhora
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Banijo O Orthonti
06:00 Star Gate SG One
06:20 Business Show
07:50 Drama Serial: Nil Jyotsnay
08:20 Drama Serial: Shimana
09:35 Drama Serial: Sampurna Rangeen
10:00 Drama Serial: Bishakha Resort
12:00 Ajker Shangkbadpotro
ATN BANGLA
10:30 Annodishti
11:05 Jol Pore Pata Nore
11:35 Ek Jonome
12:15 Anirban
01:25 Cholochitrer Golpo
02:30 Drama serial: Nirab Koshto
03:10 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai
03:45 Shusho Thakun
04:20 Chhotder Prithibi
05:10 Matir Shubash
05:45 Islami Sawaal O Jobab
06:20 BSB Education Zone
08:00 Drama Serial: Shukhnagar Apartment
08:50 Drama: Dui Bashinda
10:35 Kothamala
CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Film

Rtv

09:05 Aj Potrikay
09:30 Prithibir Pathay Pathay
10:00 Sports Week
10:30 Wide Angle

PICK OF THE DAY



Shukhnagar Apartment
On ATN Bangla at 08:00pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Subarna Mustafa, Aupi Karim, Tauquir Ahmed



Blade
On HBO at 09:30pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Wesley Snipes, Stephen Dorff

STAR WORLD

09:30 Curdled
11:25 Iceman Cometh
08:00 Hollywood Squares
08:30 Cheers
09:00 The Drew Carey Show
09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 For The Record
11:30 J.A.G.
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
06:30 The Simpsons
07:00 Cheers
07:30 Friends
08:00 Seinfeld
08:30 The 2006 Miss Universe
10:30 For The Record
11:30 Seinfeld

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

08:00 WWS
08:30 Nat Geo Junior
08:45 Nat Geo Junior
09:00 Nat Geo Junior
09:30 Nat Geo Junior
10:00 Nat Geo Junior
10:30 The Living Edens
11:30 Megastuctures
12:30 Hogzilla
01:30 Elephant Rage
02:30 Monkey Business
03:00 Go Wild With Hutch

STAR MOVIES

09:45 On The Line
11:35 Lethal Seduction
01:25 Crossing Guard, The
03:35 Fish Don't Blink
05:25 Flubber
07:20 Welcome To Mooseport

STAR SPORTS

08:30 Bull Riding
09:30 International Motorsports News
10:30 Diving
10:00 Sbk Superbike
01:30 Iri Racing
04:00 Asian Festival Of Speed

TEN SPORTS

08:00 Gillette World Sport
9:00 WWE:Heat
01:30 Tour De France: Stage 20
02:30 Trans World Sports
04:00 Sahara Hockey Champ Trophy (MEN):Pak v Ger
05:00 Sahara Hockey Champ Trophy (MEN):Aus v Netherlands
07:30 WWE: Raw
08:00 Gamer TV
10:00 Moto GP: US GRAND PRIX H/Ls
11:00 Champ Trophy (MEN) Highlights

ESPN

07:30 Kiana's Flex Appeal