

CULTURAL FEAS

Book Launch



Mosque Architecture in Bangladesh
Author: Dr. Abu Sayeed M. Ahmed
Venue: Goethe-Institute Auditorium, House 10, Road 9 (New), Dhanmondi Dhaka.
Date: November 30
Time: 5 pm

Solo Art Exhibition

Title: Down Memory Lane
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, Bengal Shilpalaya, House no-275/F, Road no-27 (Old), Dhanmondi
Date: November 20-December 3
Time: 12:00pm-8:00pm

Artist: Jaillur Rabbi Tamim
Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dacca, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi
Date: November 24-December 7
Time: Sunday to Friday 9:00am-12:00pm and 5:00pm-9:00pm, Saturday 5:00pm to 8:00pm

Artist: Samiran Chowdhury
Venue: Art & Soul Gallery, Rd No 36, House 16, Gulshan
Date: November 24-December 4
Time: 11:00am-08:00pm

Artist: Hasibur Rahman Kiran
Organiser: Alliance Francaise de Dacca
Venue: La Galerie, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi Dhaka
Date: December 7-13
Time: 9:00am to 12:00pm and 5:00pm-8:00pm
Except Saturday 5:00pm-8:00pm

65th Anniversary of Battle of Moscow

Organisers: Russian Centre for Science and Culture
Programmes: Photo exhibition, film show 'Officers'
Venue: Russian Centre for Science and Culture, Dhaka
Date & Time: November 29 at 5:30 pm

Photography Exhibition

Title: Keokradong Er Pothe Pothey
Organiser: Deepor
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, DU
Date: November 23-29
Time: 11:00am-7:00pm

Theatre

Play: Triptych: Art in Three Acts
Troupe: Dhaka Stage
Venue: American International School, Baridhara, Dhaka
Date & Time: November 29 at 7:30pm, November 30 at 8:15pm, December 1 at 7:30pm

Theatre Adda

Title: Lebedefo Bangla Theatre
Organiser: Prachyanat
Venue: Office of Prachyanat, 22 Dilu Road, Moghbazar, Dhaka
Date & Time: November 27 at 6:30pm

Asaduzzaman Noor and Faiz Zahir bag awards

ERSHAD KAMOL

THIS year's Shaheed Muneir Chowdhury Award and Zakaria Smrity Padak went to Asaduzzaman Noor and Faiz Zahir respectively. The prize-giving programme was held on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Martyr Muneir Chowdhury at Mahila Samity on November 27.

Theatre personality Ferdousi Majumdar announced the names of the winners while Ramendu Majumdar delivered the welcome speech. Professor Hassan Azilul Haque was the chief guest. Professor Kabir Chowdhury chaired the event and M Hamid was the other discussant.

Shaheed Muneir Chowdhury Award was introduced in 1989 in memory of the martyred intellectuals during the Liberation War. The aim is to honour senior theatre activists or organisations of the country for their contribution to theatre.

The Zakaria Smrity Padak was introduced in 1997 to encourage promising theatre activists of the country. The award is instituted in memory of the late pioneering theatre activist Mohammed Zakaria, who made an immense contribution to theatre since 1944.

The Daily Startalked to the awards winners. Asaduzzaman Noor For his bold performance in diverse roles on stage and TV, Asaduzzaman Noor has won wide appreciation. His convincing voice modulation and ability to handle the characters have made his performance unique. Besides acting, Noor has directed and adapted plays. Moreover he is a renowned recitor.

He carried on simultaneously with cultural and political activities as a student. In 1972 he worked as an assistant editor of the theatre magazine titled Theatre. Later he joined Nagorik Natyasampradaya.

Noor's entrance to acting was rather unplanned, as he initially took the stage as a substitute for Abul Hayat. To quote him, "Two days ahead of the play Toilo Sankat, Abul Hayat had a serious accident. As a prompter, I had memorised the dialogues of all of the characters. The director of the play Aly Zaker forced me to take up the role.

For the last three decades Noor has performed in most of the theatre productions of Nagorik Natyasampradaya. His performances in the plays such as Bidogdha Romonikuk, Milepost, Shahjahan, Nurul Diner Sharajibon, Kopiniker Captain, Mohonagori, Godor Protikkhaya, Galileo, Muktdadhara, Snat Manusher Khonje, Mukhush, Khatta Tamasha and others remain notable in mind of the viewers.

Dewan Gazir Kissa and Mohonagori, two Nagorik productions, are adapted and directed by



Asaduzzaman Noor PHOTO: STAR

Noor from the works of German drama legend Bertolt Brecht. Of these plays, Dewan Gazir Kissa is the most staged play of the troupe. Moreover, with Ataur Rahman he jointly adapted Ferenc Molnar's original play Liliumand and titled it Venmpute Behag.

Explaining the reason for adapting Brecht's play, Noor said, "I subscribe to Brecht's ideology that admits the share of the working class in the wealth of the rich."

On his current endeavour Noor said, "I occasionally perform in TV plays and would like to continue. But, because of my involvement with national politics I can't give much time to theatre."

Faiz Zahir Faiz Zahir is a promising theatre talent in Bangladesh. He is a director-actor-designer. From the beginning of his career in 1980, he has been involved with Aranyak Natyadal. "In Aranyak, I basically got the opportunity to apply my knowledge and creativity in art," says Zahir.

Zahir started his career as an actor; then he started set designing, light designing. Eventually he appeared as a director in 1991. His notable works in Aranyak are Blish (as an actor in 1981), Guinea pig (as an actor and assistant designer in 1984), Nankar Pala (as an actor, set and costume designer in 1986), Joyjayanti (as an actor and set designer in 1995), Lebedeff (as an actor and

designer in 1995), a puppet theatre production (as a director and designer in 1998), Mayur Shinghashan (as a set designer in 1999), Shongkranti (set designer in 2000).

Apart from his own theatre group, he also works as a freelancer for several other troupes in different corners of the country. Plays directed by Zahir such as Teerthakar, Che'r Cycle and others have won plaudits.

Zahir went into direction in 1991 with Manush produced by Bangla Theatre, a reparatory company in 1991. He has participated in professional training, workshop and conference in Bangladesh as well as in Germany, Italy, France, USA and others. One of his major works was conducting a workshop in Chuncheon theatre festival, South Korea about 'Learning various ways of expression, using puppets and masks' organised by the AITA/IATA national centre in 2002. He participated in a conference of the United States Institute of Theatre Technology in 2004.

Since 1981 Zahir has worked as an organiser, animator and facilitator in Mukto Natak Dal, an indigenous theatre organisation with a vision and mission to develop theatrical activism at the grassroots and rural level, particularly in Sylhet, Sirajganj, Kishoreganj, Tangail and Manikganj. Zahir said, "I've taken theatre as my profession, which is quite challenging."



Faiz Zahir PHOTO: STAR

Photography exhibition Unadulterated Keokradong



Photographs at the exhibition

KARIM WAHEED

At the ongoing photography exhibition at Zainul Gallery-2, Institute of Fine Arts, images of jade green hills, picturesque indigenous settlements and sparkling cascades soothe the eye.

Titled Keokradong-er Pothey Pothey, the exhibition is a compilation of images by eight young photographers (members of Dipro, a group of trekkers) -- Ismat Jahan, Sakhawat Hossain Hawladar, Atiqur Rahman, Moniruzzaman Samir, Kazi Zahid, Md Sadek Hossain, Md Ashiq Alam and Md Tawhiduzzaman Jitu.

Keokradong at 1230 metres, located in Bandarban district (south-east part of Bangladesh) is believed to be the highest point in the country. The group of photographers started trekking from Lairumpi. Except for their team leader Mir Shamsul Alam Babu, this was the photographers' first trip to Keokradong and that first-time fascination is apparent in the images.

As the lens became their third eye, the hike to Keokradong presented several opportunities, aptly utilised by the photographers for some exciting snapshots.

Moniruzzaman Samir's photographs of the scenic Sangu river and its surroundings display a quintessential lyrical trait. Piles of bamboo floating (being preserved) on a river and an attached sampan might as well be subjects of an oil painting. The fossil of a tree on the river is also interesting.

A photograph of huts on the steps of a hill at Lairumpi

Bawmpara by Atiqur Rahman captures the Adivasi way of life that believes in maintaining a harmony with nature and not defiling it.

The image of a working Marma elderly by Kazi Zahid is a notable portrait; a pair of outlandish, outdated specs and an ethnic smoking pipe made of bamboo add curiosity and character.

Sakhawat Hossain Hawladar's photographs reveal nature at its best. Sunset on Boga lake and tall trees stripped of foliage with a backdrop of crisp blue sky are easy on the eye. Another attention-grabbing shot features an ant's-eye-view of a tree reaching for endlessness, fittingly titled Brikkho Chhuenchhey Akash.

Ismat Jahan has tried to convey a trekker's keenness in her photograph -- a remote creek surrounded by lush greenery and an observer in a distance enjoying the abundance of nature.

Bangladesh, despite being a small country, is blessed with natural diversity. Images like these would do well to project the unadulterated natural beauty of the hill tracts and encourage tourism in the process. The exhibition ends today.



Recreating the magic

BRAC stages 'Hirok Rajar Deshe'

MAHMUDA AFROZ

Granted three wishes by the Bhuter Raja (King of Ghoul), Goopy and Bagha possess magical powers. Soon, they receive an invitation from the King of Hirok, who rules his kingdom with an iron fist,



Students of BRAC University and children perform in Hirok Rajar Deshe PHOTO: STAR

exploiting the poor. The two run into Udayan, a teacher whose school was closed by the king. Since then he has been living in a cave, hiding and plotting to bring justice to the kingdom. Upon finding this out, Goopy and Bagha assist the teacher with his plan and achieve victory.

Thus goes the story of Hirok Rajar Deshe, a political satire written by Upendra Kishore Ray Chowdhury and immortalised on film by his son Satyajit Ray. Taking the challenge to recreate the magic, BRAC University's drama and theatre forum staged a play on November 27 at the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy.

In the words of the director Obaydullah Al Zakir, "We have many shortcomings in the play and there have been problems with the script, set, music and selection of artistes. Replicating Satyajit Ray's work is a gutsy and daunting endeavor in itself. Keeping the movie in mind we have tried to make an exact imitation through our play. It has been a grueling one and a half months but hopefully our hard work will show through the play."

True to his word, the main characters of Goopi, Bagha, King Hirok and the teacher were played by Moin, Ronnie, Tanmay and Piyas with dedication. Their attire, makeup, style of speaking and acting did justice to the movie. The audience broke into appreciative applause after each scene. One of the best scenes was when Goopi and Bagha had to retrieve the keys and the chest of diamonds from where bagh mama (tiger uncle) was sitting. It had the right blend of comedy, suspense and determination and the acting of the two artistes was laudable.

Though there were certain technical hitches, this was made up for by the acting of the young performers.

Movie Watch

'Bobby' earnest but flawed

Bobby, a schoolboy-earnest exercise in nostalgia and tragedy, unfolds entirely at the Ambassador Hotel on June 4, 1968, just prior to the night that Robert F Kennedy was assassinated.

Written and directed by Emilio Estevez, it's a period piece in which the "authentic" details are mostly a matter of makeup and wardrobe and heavily signposted topical allusions. There's Lindsay Lohan in raccoon-eyed '60s mascara, there's Ashton Kutcher as a drug dealer, in a hippie wig, and there are references to Don Drysdale, the Communist menace.

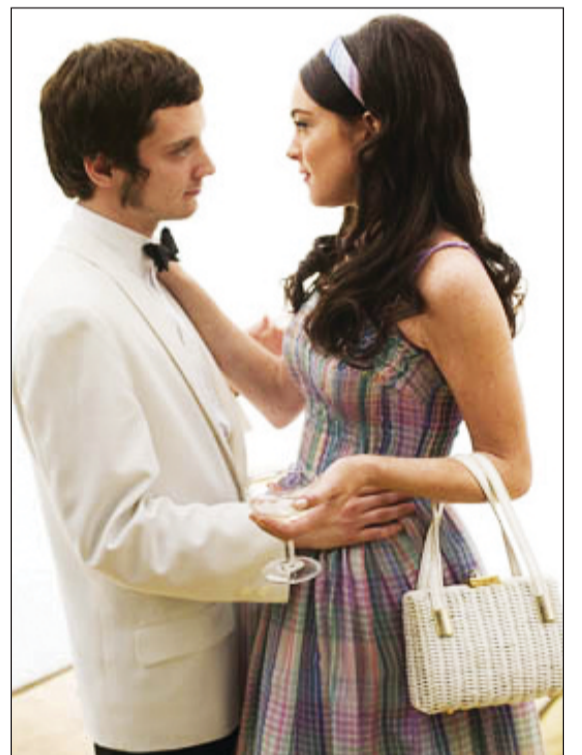
The true skin-deepness of Bobby, however, is its rhythm. The conversation is crisp and fast and almost technologically aware, a mode that plays all too anachronistically contemporary.

Estevez stages a kind of TV-movie Grand Hotel, with snippets of adultery and other dirty laundry (a fading cabaret singer, nicely played by Demi Moore, is a lush).

In the hotel kitchen, there's some colorful verbal jousting between the black and Latino workers, but Estevez, trying to create a mood of cross-wired national anxiety, never really makes the personal political.

He just piggybacks soap opera banality onto what Kennedy's murder meant to America. Bobby coasts along on a dread, and sorrow, it doesn't earn.

Source: Internet



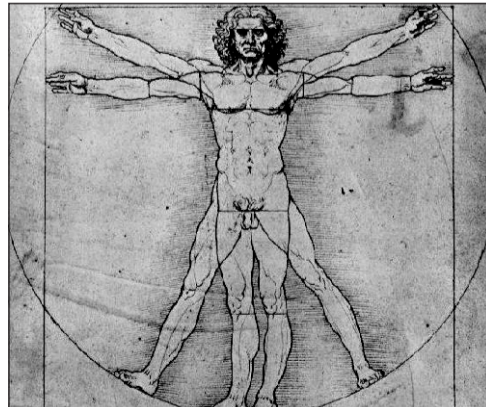
Elijah Wood and Lindsay Lohan in Bobby

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Prithibi Pothey Pothey
On Rtv at 10:50pm
Travel Show
Host: Shakur Majid



Unlocking Da Vinci's Code
On National Geographic Channel at 8:30pm
Insight on the puzzles left by Leonardo Da Vinci

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. (To be telecast on all Bangla channels).

CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 2:00pm, 7:00pm, 9:00pm, 10:30pm, 12:15 am.

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. 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.

CHANNEL 1 News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 12:00pm, 2:30pm, 6:30pm, 7:30pm, 10:00pm, 12:30am

BANGLAVISION News (Bangla) at 8:00am, 2:00pm, 6:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:30pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:00pm News Headlines (English) at 9:05pm

RTV News (Bangla) at 7:00am, 3:00pm, 7:15pm, 10:00pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:30am

BTv 08:30 Open University 09:15 Satellite Broadcast 12:30 Maa O Shishur Kolha 01:00 Shukhi Poribar 01:30 Hijo Tomal 02:15 Sisimpur 02:40 Selected Programme 03:05 Cartoon 03:30 Cricket Shekha 04:00 Esho Computer Shikhi 04:30 Quiz Quiz 05:30 Cartoon 07:00 Mati O Manush 08:35 Protidin Bangladesh 09:25 Drama 10:25 Teknaf Thekey Tetulia

ATN BANGLA 10:30 Anyodrishti 12:15 Cinema Cinema 01:30 Gaane Surey Tarunne 02:30 Musical Programme 03:10 Drama Serial: Bhalo Bashar Rang 04:20 Islamic Programme 05:10 Shobar Jonno 05:45 Islamic Programme 06:20 The Sword of Tipu Sultan 08:00 Drama Serial: Sharabela 08:30 Drama Serial: Shukter Lagiya 09:00 Drama Serial: Bohemian 09:30 Drama Serial: Tushar Rohosyo 10:40 Talk Show: Protidin

CHANNEL-i 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh 09:45 Public Reaction 09:50 Tritiyomatra 11:05 Sports Time (Live) 12:30 Aj Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakothon Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:30 Shangbad Potrey Bangladesh 01:45 Public Reaction 02:40 Selected Drama 04:05 Amader Gaan 04:25 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:30 Special Programme 07:50 Hallo Minister 09:35 Talk Show: Aloy Bhuban Bhora 10:00 Mega Serial: Jog Biog 12:00 Grameenphone Aiker Shangbadpotro

Rtv 09:30 Talk Show: Ei mon Char Deyal 10:30 Akash Ki Choya Jay 11:00 Amar Desh 12:05 Shoto Proshno 03:40 Drama: Lottery 06:00 Aiker Bangladesh 06:35 Drishwa Kalpo 08:00 Drama: Lottery 08:50 Griho Shooli 09:20 Drama Serial: Kagojer Manush 10:45 Rtv Exclusive 10:50 Prithibi Pothey Pothey

CHANNEL 1 08:40 Shuprovat Bangladesh 09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi 10:00 Cartoon 10:30 Bangla Feature Film 02:00 Nongor 03:30 Drama Serial: Daar Kaak 04:00 Rupanter Golpo 04:30 Fusion Biz 05:15 Music Net 06:00 Saaj News 06:30 Top News 06:45 Iltashar Path Dhorey 07:00 Baker Pathey 08:15 Ghughur Basha 09:00 Drama Serial: Kanone Kushum Koli 09:30 Show Case 09:15 Media Bhuban 09:50 Drama Serial: Rupantor

HBO 08:00 Street: Fighter-The Ultimate Battle Mean Girls 10:00 The Bodyguard 02:30 Citizen Cohn 04:45 In the Line of fire 07:15 Against The Ropes 09:30 Final Destination 2 11:15 Deadwood 19: E.B. Was Lift out 12:15 New On the Big Screen In November 12:45 Double Jeopardy STAR MOVIES 09:00 Goldeneye 11:15 Blessed 01:00 Million Dollar Baby

04:30 General Hospital 05:30 Desire: Table For Three 06:30 The Simpsons 07:00 Cheers 07:30 Friends 08:00 Seinfeld 08:30 Ed 09:30 The Imposters 10:30 Grey's Anatomy 11:30 Desire: Table For Three STAR PLUS 08:30 Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr 09:00 V First Day First Show- Starplu 09:05 V Trailers - Star Plus 09:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan 10:00 V Trailers - Star Plus 10:30 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 11:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 11:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa 11:55 V First Day First Show- Starplu 12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus 12:25 Bolly V - Star Plus 12:30 Resham Dankh 01:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay 01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan 02:00 Bhabhi 02:30 Kesar 03:30 Saarthi 03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 04:00 Kahin To Hoga 04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa 05:00 Prithviraj Chauhan 05:30 Antarksh 05:55 V First Day First Show- Starplu 06:30 V Trailers - Star Plus 06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus

06:30 Aladdin 07:00 Timon And Pumbaa 07:25 Bolly V - Star Plus 07:30 Sonpari 07:55 Bolly V - Star Plus 08:00 Karishma Ka Karishma 08:30 Antarksh 09:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay 09:30 Viraasat 10:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Kahin To Hoga 12:00 Paraya Dhan SONY 09:00 Telebrands Tele Shopping 09:30 Charbusters Music 10:00 Music Mantra Music 10:30 Music Beats Music 11:00 Boogie Woogie Dance 11:30 Contd. Contd. 12:00 Kaajjal - Sabkhi Ankhon Mein Basi Drama 12:30 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si Drama 01:00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama 01:30 Vaidehi Drama 02:00 Rishton Ki Dor Drama 02:30 Bigg Boss Reality Based 03:00 Matine - Iqbal Movie 03:30 Contd. Movie 04:00 Contd. Movie 06:30 Music Beats Music 07:00 Music Mantra Music 07:30 Charbusters Music 08:00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama 08:30 Kaajjal - Sabkhi Ankhon Mein Basi Drama 09:00 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si

Drama 09:30 Aisa Des Hai Mera Drama 10:00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama 10:30 Bigg Boss Reality Based 11:00 Vaidehi Drama 11:30 CID Thriller/ Horror DISCOVERY CHANNEL 08:30 Tiger Special 09:30 Honey We're Killing The Kids 10:30 Bringing Home Baby 11:00 Runway Moms 11:30 Deadliest Catch 12:30 Body Basics 01:30 Wild Discovery 02:30 Detective Stories 03:30 Dinosaur Planet 04:30 Tiger Special 05:30 Junkyard Wars 07:30 Wild Discovery 08:30 Deadliest Catch 09:30 I Shouldn't Be Alive 10:30 Speed Week 11:30 Perfect Disaster NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 08:30 Rated W 09:30 Hollywood Science 10:30 Rated W 11:30 Naked Science 12:30 Is It Real? 01:30 Tracks of a Stalker 02:30 Nat Geo Encores 03:00 Totally Wild 03:30 Hollywood Science 04:30 Nat Geo Junior 06:30 Hollywood Science 07:30 Animal Devil 08:30 Unlocking Da Vinci's Code 10:30 Hollywood Science 11:30 Hunter Hunted