

CULTURAL FEAST



Victory Day Celebrations

- Organiser: Liberation War Museum
Venue: Liberation War Museum, Shegun Bagicha
December 10
Lecture on 'Religion and human rights', Music and play
Time: 5:00pm
December 11
Speech on 'Liberation War and the years that followed' by noted journalist Sir Mark Tully, music and dance
Time: 5:00pm
December 12
Discussion on 'Journalism during crises'
Time: 10:00am
December 13
Inauguration of the audio-visual presentation 'Phirey Dekhun Ekattur, Ghurey Darak Bangladesh'
Time: 4:30pm
December 14
Special programme on Martyred Intellectual Day, music by Chhayanan
Time: 5:00pm
December 15
Discussion on 'Narratives of Liberation War by students'
Time: 5:00pm
December 16
Celebration by school students and dance
Time: 10:00am
Staging of the play 'Kotha 71' by Dhaka Padatik
Time: 5:30pm

In conversation with Debashish Ghosh

The spirit of Liberation War in theatre

ERSHAD KAMOL

The legacy of the Liberation War is one of the major features of the plays directed by Debashish Ghosh. Completing his graduation and post graduation in theatre through a scholarship awarded by Rabindrabharati, India, Debashish is active in urban theatre. Besides, his works with his troupe Dhaka Padatik, Debashish has directed theatre performances for several theatre troupes such as Mahakal Natya Sampradaya and Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT).

Katha Ekattur, a play on the Liberation War produced by his troupe Dhaka Padatik, has earned plaudits. Katha Ekattur is not the only theatre performance on Liberation War; Debashish has directed nine theatre performances on the freedom struggle. His productions such as Astitta, Punaruthan and Ekhono Swapno feature the rehabilitation of the Pakistani collaborators of 1971 as well as apathy of the younger generation to the legacy of the Liberation War.

Debashish claims that his directorial approach is different from most of the directors who deal with the same issue. To quote him, "Say for example, Kotha Ekattur realistically features the Liberation War -- from the vantage of 'Operation Search Light' (the master plan of Pakistani Army to annihilate the Bengalis on the eve of March 25) till



A scene from Piyar Chand, directed by Debashish

the 'Victory of Bangladesh'. However, most of the current plays on the Liberation War present a fragmented story of that time and show the anguish and frustration of the freedom fighters in the post-Liberated Bangladesh. "I've portrayed the genocide carried out by the Pakistani Army and their collaborators in the play," says Debashish.



Debashish Ghosh

It intentionally just to portray the reality that some of the offspring of the Liberation War are alienated from the spirit of the Liberation War and have been influenced by the western lifestyle. And the play ends optimistically by awakening the younger generation to the reality and spirit of the War."

Debashish prefers more street theatre performances than urban theatre for a limited audience. So far he has directed many street theatre performances like Piyar Chand, Amio Judhe Jabo, Pratidhuni Shuni and others produced by different organisations as well as for Proshika. He said, "The Pakistani collaborators of '71 have been spreading their 'messages' to the younger generation, thereby the

nation is divided. But, we have failed to present analytical works on Liberation to the masses. As a result the younger generation is not well informed about the Liberation War. To reach the target audience the theatre performances must be balanced and at the same time have clear objectives. That's why plays should not create any enigma or oversimplification of the crisis. Otherwise plays cannot touch the masses."

Debashish has directed three folk based theatre performances. Currently he is directing a play titled Anya Gazir Anya Kissa which will be premiered on December 26 at Mahila Samity Stage. Alok Basu's play is produced by Natyajan.

Theatre festival rescheduled

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Today's scheduled inauguration of the theatre festival arranged by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTFF) has been postponed --for the second time. The organisation had announced a 23-day theatre festival, slated to begin on December 3. Later it was shifted to December 10, simultaneously at two venues of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy to observe the Independence Day.

General Secretary of BGTFF Jhuna Chowdhury said, "Besides theatre troupes from Dhaka, about 20 troupes from outside the city are included in the festival--a difficult proposition in the present circumstances. That's why the dates of the festival has been shifted."

BGTFF in its executive committee meeting held on December 7, has decided to arrange the festival in February 2007.



Atif Aslam (C), the popular Pakistani singer performed at concerts in Dhaka recently. He took the stage at different venues such as Radisson Hotel, Dhaka Club, International Club and the PM lounge.

Mary J Blige leads Grammy nominations list

Mary J Blige, the resilient R&B star whose comeback album showcased her raw emotions and confessional style, scored a leading eight Grammy nominations last Thursday as the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences announced the contenders for its annual awards.

Be Without You, a single from Blige's album The Breakthrough, drew nominations in two big categories, record of the year and song of the year. She also received a nomination for her recording, with the rock band U2, of the band's song One, which they performed on the last Grammy telecast in February.

The 49th annual Grammy awards will be handed out on February 11, which will be broadcast from the Staples Centre in Los Angeles.

Crossover country trio Dixie Chicks received five nominations, including album, record and song of the year.

Source: Internet

TV Watch

Nobel Peace Prize ceremony to be aired live

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Nobel Peace Prize laureate Professor Muhammad Yunus and Grameen Bank board member and borrower Taslima Begum are in the Norwegian capital Oslo to jointly receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

Bangladesh Television (BTV) and Channel i will telecast the event live from Oslo City Hall between 6:00pm and 7:25pm (Bangladesh time) today.

For the first time, the King and Queen of Norway will attend the banquet.

Nrityanchal, a leading dance troupe of Bangladesh, will perform along with Yusuf Islam (formerly known as Cat Stevens), Lionel Ritchie, Simply Red and Monica Yunus, at the Nobel Peace Prize concert tomorrow. The concert will be conducted by filmstars Sharon Stone and Angelica Huston.



Dr Yunus

Impressive paintings by "Berger" contestants

FAYZA HAQ

The recent 11th "Berger" young painters' exhibit at Zainul Gallery was a definite feast for the eyes. Young, competitive and often experimental, the artists have worked in different mediums and themes to add harmony and tranquillity to the present metropolitan existence. Bold and buoyant, varying from realism to impressionism and abstraction, the hard-working and motivated put their colours and lines with dash and dare. Optimistic and driven, the young artists proved that despite their limited experience, they could present good works, given the circumstances and time.

The jury of the competition comprised Hashem Khan, Rafiqun Nabi, Abdus Shakoor Shah, SK Afzal, Md. Unus, Nazlee L Mansoor and KMA Quiyum.

Sanjib Barua, the 1st prize winner, presented a potted plant, on a base of a chopped tree, along with other cut tree trunks in the backdrop. Two fragile butterflies in royal-blue and black, perching on the base of the flower tub, done in pinks, blues, and other earthy colours completes the picture. Trees, said Barua are like humans, around them -- being increasingly made rootless.

About his entr e, the 2nd prize winner, Adhikary commented, "The still life painting is a study only." The reality was reflected through everyday life, like the placing of empty whiskey bottles along with two

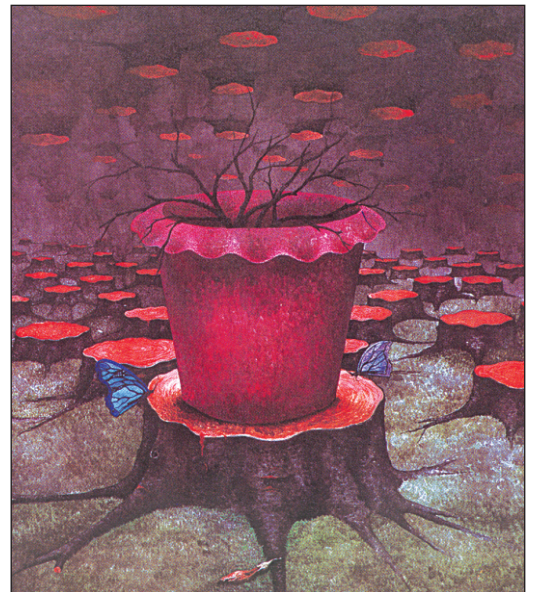
glasses, placed on a chutney-green table cloth. Behind was a sketch of a jar. The delightful play of colours, and the projection of routine life-- measured out with drafts of drinks -- were a feat in realism for one so young.

Hopes and dream were included in Siddiqua's (the 3rd prize winner) translucent abstraction that presented a mind-boggling motif of life past, present and future. It also included hopes, dreams whether fruitful or otherwise. This symbolic expressionistic work, depicted the mad stampede for existence. The empty space represented time while the other fractured forms in ultramarine, gold indigo and the streams, dot and touch of ruby red represented man's constant fate for struggle -- in endeavours past and present.

Chowdhury, the 4th winner, gave a straightforward presentation of his "feelings, frustrations and silent helplessness". It bought in the crucial conflict "between his persona and desires." In his Aattodarshan, a man's limbs, is seen resting willy-nilly on a mosaic floor, of emerald green black, white, and silver. The subject's red lung had folds of amber and burnt-sienna.

The 5th winner, Rana's work, Vertical civilisation presented three basic forms taken from a village landscape. The green of the composition presented the contrast between nature and civilisation, presented in the slowly eroding white.

This year's "Berger" entr es excelled the earlier ones, without an iota of doubt.



Balcony-14 (1st prize winner) by Sanjib Barua



Aattodarshan (4th prize winner) by Md Arifuzzaman Chowdhury

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. (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 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 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
11:15 Asian Games Highlights
12:30 Maa O Shishur Kotha
01:00 Bansori
01:30 Mati o Manush
02:15 Children's Programme
02:40 Shomaroho
03:05 Cartoon: Bed Time Stories
03:30 Educational Programme
04:00 Computer show
04:30 Krira Digonto
05:05 National Television Debate Competition
06:00 Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony (Live)
07:30 International Human Rights Day
08:35 Bijoyer Gourab Gatha
09:05 Drama Serial: Swapno Sonar Gaon
09:30 Bijoyer Gaan
CHANNEL-i
08:05 Tagore Song
08:30 Shokaler Gaan
09:30 Songbadpotre Bangladesh
09:50 Tritiomatra
11:05 Tele Prescription
11:30 Hridoye Mati O

- Manush
12:30 Taroka Kathan
01:05 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shanghabdpotre Bangladesh
02:40 Selected Drama
04:05 Amader Gaan
04:25 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Shopother Gaan
06:00 Nobel Peace Prize Ceremony (live)
07:50 Mega Serial: Bhober Haat
09:35 Jibon Jekhane Jemon
10:00 Mega Serial: Jog Biog
ATN BANGLA
10:30 Onnodrishti Drama
11:05 Serial: Hortoner Bli
11:35 Ek Jonomey
12:15 Musical Programme
01:30 Shornali
02:30 Telefilm: Ekhono Akash Neel
05:10 Drama: Bachar Asha
06:25 Three Stooges
08:00 Drama Serial: Kholo Duar
09:20 Drama Serial: Pichhutan
Rtv

PICK OF THE DAY
Bhober Haat
Mega serial
On Channel-i at 7:50pm
Cast: Humayun Faridee, ATM Shamsuzzaman
Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow
On HBO at 9:30pm
Genre: Action/Adventure
Cast: Jude Law, Gwyneth Paltrow, Angelina Jolie
CHANNEL 1
08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 Bishwa Jurey Shath Din
03:30 Drama Serial: Shunney Bosobash
04:00 Shondhikhone
04:30 Drama Serial: Black and White
CHANNEL 1
08:50 Jugal Bondi
10:45 Rtv Exclusive
08:40 Shuprobhat Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:00 Cartoon
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
02:00 Bishwa Jurey Shath Din
03:30 Drama Serial: Shunney Bosobash
04:00 Shondhikhone
04:30 Drama Serial: Black and White

- 08:30 Saans
09:00 Yatra
09:30 Krishna Kathaiyen
10:30 Instant Khichdi
11:30 Great Indian laughter challenge 2
12:30 Ji Mantriji
01:00 Kyaa Kool Hai Hum
04:00 V First Day First Show-Starplu
04:05 V Trailers - Star Plus
04:30 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
04:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
05:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
05:25 V First Day First Show-Starplu
05:30 Aladdin
06:00 The Emperor's New Groove
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:30 Lucky
07:30 Aek Chabhi Hai Padoss Mein
08:30 Saibaba
09:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
10:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
10:30 Thodi Si Zameen Thoda Sa Aasma Kaboom
11:30 Kaboom
HBO
09:45 Beverly Hills Cop II
11:45 Unforgiven
12:30 Mystery Men
05:00 The Making of Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow
05:15 Troy
08:30 Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow
10:45 New on the Big Screen in December
11:15 Cape Fear
01:45 Beverly Hill Cop II
03:45 Troy
STAR MOVIES
09:00 3 Ninjas Knuckle Up
10:30 Mr. And Mrs. Smith
12:30 Back To The Future
02:30 Rocketeer, The
04:20 Sahara
06:30 Opening Night: Eragon
07:00 Because Of Winn-Dixie
08:50 Fast And The Furious, The
10:45 Adam And Eve
12:15 Never Say Die
STAR WORLD
09:00 According To Jim
09:30 Hogan's Heroes
10:30 Get Smart
10:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
12:30 Criminal Minds
01:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.
02:30 One Tree Hill
03:30 Ncis
04:30 Grey's Anatomy
05:30 Hollywood Shootouts
06:00 Travel Asia
06:30 Commander In Chief
07:30 Malcolm In The Middle
08:00 Desire: Table For Three
09:00 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Garewal
10:30 Criminal Minds
11:30 Law & Order: S.V.U.
DISCOVERY CHANNEL
08:00 Wild Discovery
09:30 Discover India
10:30 Destination India
11:30 Great Moghuls
12:00 How Do They Do It?
12:30 Life In The Undergrowth
01:30 Wild Discovery
02:30 Discovery Marquee
04:30 Wild Discovery
05:30 Finest Hotels In The World
06:00 Mean Machines
06:30 IDEA
07:30 Wild Discovery
08:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows
10:30 Night Safari
11:30 Life On The Edge
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
08:30 The Living Edens
09:30 My Favorite Monkey
10:30 Unwind
11:30 ShowReal Asia
12:30 Hollywood Science
01:30 Disaster At Sea
02:30 Wild Safari
03:00 Tales From Bhattarkanika
03:30 Flying Blind