

CULTURAL FEAST

Paintings and Sculpture Exhibition by Young Artists

Organiser: Dots, Contemporary Art Centre
Venue: 191/A Haque Tower (2nd floor), Tejgaon-Gulshan Link Road, Gulshan
Date: December 20-30
Time: 11:00am to 8:00pm

Asian Film Mela

Organiser: Dhaka Film Society
December 26
2:30pm Fireworks
4:30pm West Beyrouth
6:30pm Waiting for the Clouds
Venue: Alamgir Kabir Chalachchitra Kendra Milanayaton, 62 Science Laboratory Road, Dhaka

Dhaka Art Circle 2006

Artists: Abu Taher, Samarjit Roy Choudhury, Mohammed Mohsin, Syed Enayet Hossain, Anwarul Huq, Rejaul Karim, Biren Shome, Matlub Ali, Swapan Chowdhury, Abdus Shakoor, Chandra Shekhar Dey and Rafi Haque
Venue: Shilpangan, House 26, Road 3, Dhanmondi
Date: December 18-31
Time: 9:00am-12:00pm and 5:00pm-8:00pm, except Saturdays (only 5:00pm-8:00pm)

Indigenous Theatre Festival

Play: Kania
Troupe: Sadori Theatre
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 9
Time: 7:00pm
Play: Tuanya
Troupe: Hor Gayan Dol
Venue: National Theatre Stage, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: January 10
Time: 6:30pm

Ethnic Diversity Council

First theatre festival on ethnic minorities coming up



Scenes from Raarang (Top) and Mangula

ERSHAD KAMOL

A five-day theatre festival titled Ethnic Diversity Council, featuring the diverse cultural heritage of the ethnic minorities spread over different corners of the country, will begin from January 9.

Six theatre performances -- Kania, Tunya, Srikrishna Kirtan,

Hokkanir Dhonpana, Mangula and Raarang -- will be staged by Sadri Theatre, Har Gayan Dal, Manipuri Theatre, Joom Aesthetics Council, Palakar and Aranyak Natya Dai respectively in the festival.

Though Mangula and Raarang are performed by Bengali artists of Dhaka, the plays feature the continuing oppression on ethnic minorities by the ruling Bengalis.

Eminent theatre director-playwright and actor Mamunur

Rashid directs three of the plays to be staged at the festival, of which Raarang is produced by his troupe Aranyak. Kania and Tunya, produced by Sadri Theatre and Har Gayan Dal respectively, are also directed by Mamun. He said, "To give an urban theatre orientation to their traditional performing art forms, I've worked with several groups in the Northern region of the country. Kania is a compilation of traditional performing art forms of 27 ethnic minority groups such as Onrao, Malo and Malpahari living in that region. The language of the production is Sadri, a common language used by these groups. Brindaban Das has written the script. Mannan Hira and Cornelius Hansda have jointly written Tunya, performed by the Santals."

On the reason behind staging

these productions in Dhaka, Mamun said, "Urban people have scant knowledge of the performing art forms of these people. The festival is an opportunity to get acquainted with the multi-cultural heritage of Bangladesh."

Shubhashish Samir has adapted Srikrishna Kirtan from the hymns of legendary 15th century Bengali Vaishnavite poet Chandidas on the Radha-Krishna legend. Six Manipuri artists from the eastern part of the country will stage the dance-drama. Hakkanir Dhonpana, a Joom Aesthetics Council production, will be staged by a group of Chakmas from the Southeast part of the country.

The festival will run at two theatre halls of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy-- National Theatre Stage and Experimental Theatre Stage.



Reception for Abu Sayeed, cast and crew of 'Nirontor'

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A reception was held at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel on December 24 to felicitate Abu Sayeed, director of the award-winning film Nirontor (Forever Flows), the cast and crew. Nirontor recently received the Golden Crow Pheasant Award (Suvama Chakoram) at the 11th International Film Festival of Kerala and a Special Jury Award that included a Silver Peacock (Roupya Mayoora) at the 37th International Film Festival of India.

Managing director of Impress Telefilm Ltd, Faridur Reza Shagor and banglalink PR and communications manager Solaiman Alam attended the event among others.

Faridur Reza Shagor recalled banglalink's enthusiasm to aid Impress Telefilm's endeavours in making quality films. The initiative resulted in some critically acclaimed as well as commercially successful films like Jiboner Golpo, Kabuliwala and more.

Abu Sayeed said, "News of Nirontor winning the Suvama Chakoram at the film festival in Kerala came out on December 16



(L-R) Iliyay Kanchan, Faridur Reza Shagor, Abu Sayeed and Amirul Huq Chowdhury at the reception

and that was a special experience for me on our Victory Day.

"I am elated to see our mainstream films moving forward. But one or two exceptional films every few years are not enough. Progression only happens when the efforts are continuous. I'd request Impress Telefilm and banglalink to continue their endeavours in supporting

quality cinema."

Actor Iliyay Kanchan, one of the cast members of the film, said, "Films don't happen unless there's an audience." He urged everyone to support Bangladeshi cinema by going to theatres more often. The need to have at least one decent movie theatre in every district town in the country was also pointed out.

Theatre Premiere show of 'Anya Gazir Anya Kissa'

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

The premiere show of theatre troupe Natyajan's latest production Anya Gazir Anya Kissa by Alok Basu was staged at the Experimental Theatre Stage on December 24. Anya Gazir Anya Kissa is set against the backdrop of the plague epidemic in Barisal in 1920. The hero of the play is not a legend like those prevalent in the traditional performing art form Gazir Gaan, who saves a community. Rather the 'saviour' of modern dramatist Basu's play is a common man who appears as the rescuer to the plague-affected people.

As the subplot of the play Alok

has featured a universal truth of politics -- manipulating the disaster for the political interest between the two rival parties -- Congress and Muslim League.

Debanshish Ghosh directs Anya Gazir Anya Kissa. Uttam Guho is the art director and M Jasimuddin is the light designer.

Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam inaugurated the show. M Hamid, president of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF), was the chief guest and Jhuna Chowdhury, secretary general of BGTF, was the special guest of the programme. General Secretary of Natyajan, Tabibul Islam Babu delivered the welcome speech.



A still from Natyajan's latest production Anya Gazir Anya Kissa

'Godfather of Soul' James Brown passes away



REUTERS, Atlanta

Singer James Brown, the self-proclaimed "Godfather of Soul," who billed himself as the hardest working man in show business, has died at age 73, CNN reported on yesterday.

Brown had been admitted to Emory Crawford Long Hospital in Atlanta over the weekend for treatment of severe pneumonia, his agent, Frank Copsidas, told CNN.

The singer, also known as "Mr Dynamite" is credited with bringing the word "funk" into mainstream musical vernacular and influencing a new generation of black music that spawned rap and hip-hop.

Brown's hit Say It Loud (I'm Black and I'm Proud) became a civil

rights anthem during the turbulent 1960s and he performed the song at Richard Nixon's inaugural in 1968 -- an act that temporarily hurt his popularity among young blacks.

He had more than 119 charting singles and recorded over 50 albums, was inducted into the Rock 'n Roll Hall of Fame and received a lifetime achievement award from the Grammys in 1992.

Every record he made during 1960-77 reached the top 100. Big hits included Please, Please, Please, Papa's Got a Brand New Bag, I Got You (I Feel Good), Get Up and It's a Man's World.

His 1985 monster hit Living in America, which was featured in the movie Rocky IV, brought him a whole new generation of fans and his first Grammy.

Promising art endeavours at Nandan Mela

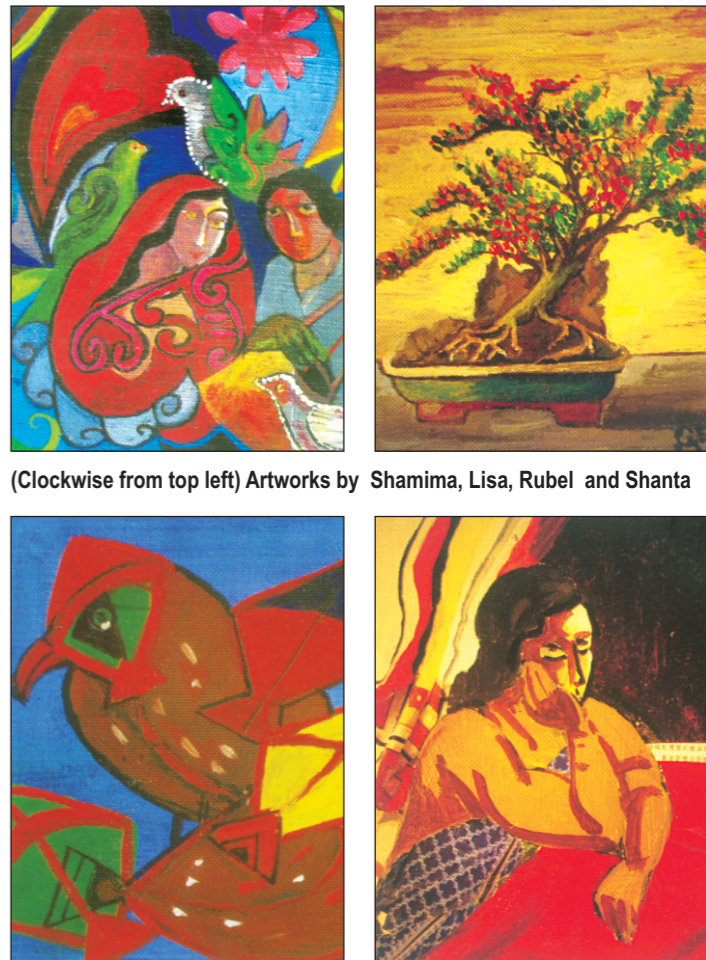
FAYZA HAQ

The Nandan Mela, which was held for two days recently in Dhanmondi, included the works by the students of Swapan Chowdhury. They were done in various mediums and different styles, and contained numerous subjects -- ranging from landscapes to still life and imaginary compositions. The paintings too were in demand by the eager patrons of fine arts. With skill and perseverance, the enterprising painters (of various age groups) had done a good job with their palette paints and brushes.

The idyllic creation by Probha brought in the typical local country scene of clusters emerald tree tops, winding roads, pristine river banks. Delectable shapes of women and children along with the pale blue sky with scurrying puffy clouds completed the creation. Shanta's bird images, juxtaposed with kites, showed maturity, serene vision and know-how of cultural roots. The gorgeous local birds, done in earthy colours of scarlet, burnt-sienna, umber and black. They were flecked with white, and had three kites carefully included in the composition. A royal blue flat backdrop held up the subjects with a dramatic effect.

The swirls and glides of birds, flowers and humans by Shamima was done in a romantic manner of huddling couples with poetic, dreamy eyes, perched parrots, fluffy partridges, and gray doves in shades of gray and brown. Fleshy, mauve flowers, tendrils and other images of clouds, dreams and hopes interlaced the composition of a courting couple.

Lisa's presentation of a bonsai with bars of gold and brown holding up the subject with its vermilion



(Clockwise from top left) Artworks by Shamima, Lisa, Rubel and Shanta

blossoms included details of roots and buds and delighted the lovers of realism in a world of overwhelming abstractions. Similarly the golden dahlias on the stylised earthenware in Raju's still life brought in exotica with dare and dash.

Nazi's floating water lilies in pristine white and flamingo pink, along with the heart shaped thick leaves, were seen against a twilight scene. Nature was also brought in Shamim's presentation of a creeper-covered wall, with the open wooden shutters, containing old, idyllic steel bars.

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

ATN BANGLA

- 10:30 Anyodrishti
12:15 Amar Computer
01:30 Shur Chhobi
02:30 Talk Show
03:10 Drama Serial: O Amar Chokkhu Nai
03:45 Aha Ki Anondo
04:20 Musical Programme
05:10 Aainar Shamney
05:45 Purakirtir Bangladesh
06:20 Aktel Protidin
08:00 Drama Serial: Shokal Shondha
08:40 Drama: Jochhona Nodite Bihongo

CHANNEL-i

- 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
09:45 Public Reaction
09:50 Triloyonatra
11:05 Cricket Online (Live)
12:30 Citycell Tarokakothon
01:05 Ebonga Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh
01:45 Public Reaction
02:40 Selected Drama
04:05 Amader Gaan
04:25 Sharif Melamine
Shangeet Mala
04:50 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:30 Ispahani NCN Round up
06:00 i Speed
06:20 Drama Serial: Ochhena Adhar
07:50 Talkshow: Aktel Sharif Kotha
09:35 Rup Rohoshyoo
11:25 Documentary: Ekti Bijoyer Golpo

12:00 Gramophone Aker Shangbadpotro

ntv

- 08:35 Aker Shokal
09:30 Crime Watch
10:05 Bhinno Swader Khobor
10:30 Music Express
11:00 Cine Gaan
12:05 Drama
01:00 Muktangon
03:15 Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan
03:50 Drama Serial: Ramizer Aaina
04:25 Gallery
05:10 Din Dorpon/Itihasheer Ei Diney
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Frankly Speaking
08:25 Drama Serial: Labonyo Probha Joyitar Joy Jaltra
09:00 Drama Serial: Near
11:25 Din Dorpon

Rtv

- 09:10 Childrens Programme: Neel Akashey Megher Mela
10:00 Amar Desh
10:30 Musical Programme: Na Dekhiam Tarey Utshob
11:20 Aj Potrikay
03:45 Amader Dinlipi
04:20 Band Show: Band 2006
05:10 Media Electric
06:00 Aker Bangladesh
06:35 Musical Programme: Amar Kotha Amar Gaan

08:00 Dance Show: Tomay Niye Utshob Amar

- 08:50 Drama: News 24 X 7
10:45 Rtv Exclusive
08:40 Shuprovat Bangladesh
09:30 Chokh Mele Dekhi
10:30 Bangla Feature Film
01:00 Mot Motantor
03:30 Drama Serial: Daar Kaak
04:00 Gaaner Khata
04:30 Bioscope
05:15 Shukh Tara
06:00 Saaj Bela
06:30 Top News
06:45 Itihasheer Path Dhorey Nongor

CHANNEL 1

- 08:00 Drama Serial: Daar Kaak
09:00 Rupanteror Golpo
09:30 Fusion Biz
10:50 Expression
08:35 Shubho Shokal
09:05 Raat Biraatey
09:30 Shamol Bangla
10:40 Talk Show: Amar Ami
11:05 Public Forum
12:05 Drama Serial: Guest
02:30 Cookery Show
03:05 Drama: Shourobh
04:20 Desher Pathyee
05:00 Cinebit Shada Kalo
05:30 Diner Sheshey
06:30 Khola Money

PICK OF THE DAY



Ekti Bijoyer Golpo

On Channel-i at 11:25pm

Documentary on Professor Muhammad Yunus

Host: Shykh Seraj

09:00 Telebrands Tele Shopping

- 09:30 Charbusters Music
10:00 Music Mantra Music
10:30 Music Beats Music
11:00 Man Mein Hai Vishwas Spiritul
12:00 Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Comedy
12:30 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si
01:00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama
01:30 Kulvaddhu Drama
02:00 Risshton ki Dor Drama
02:30 Bigg Boss Reality Based Matinee Movie - King Uncle Movie
07:00 Music Mantra Music
07:30 Chart Busters Others
08:00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama
08:30 Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Drama
09:00 Kulvaddhu Drama
09:30 Ek Ladki Anjaani Si Drama
10:00 Thodi Khushi Thode Gham Drama
10:30 Bigg Boss Reality Based Vaidehi Drama
11:30 Music Beats Music
12:00 Kaajjal - Sabbki Ankhon Mein Basi Drama

12:00 V Trailers - Star Plus

- 12:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
12:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
01:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay Bandhan
01:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
02:00 Bhabhi
02:30 Kesar
03:00 Saarnhi
03:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
04:00 Kahin To Hoga
04:30 Karam Apnaa Apnaa Thodi Si Zameen Thoda Sa Aasma
05:00 V First Day First Show- Starplu
06:00 V Trailers - Star Plus
06:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
06:30 Aladdin
07:00 The Emperor's New Groove
07:25 Bolly V - Star Plus
07:30 Prithviraj Chauhan
07:55 Bolly V - Star Plus
08:00 Baa Bahoo Aur Baby
08:30 Antarksh
09:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay Viraasat
10:00 Karam Apnaa Apnaa
10:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kahin To Hoga
12:00 Paraya Dhan
11:30 Kahin To Hoga
12:30 Paraya Dhan

03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful

- 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 Andrea Bocelli
09:30 Ghost Whisperer
10:30 Commander In Chief
11:30 Desire: Table For Three
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
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 Andrea Bocelli
09:30 Ghost Whisperer
10:30 Commander In Chief
11:30 Desire: Table For Three
03:30 The Bold And The Beautiful
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 Andrea Bocelli
09:30 Ghost Whisperer
10:30 Commander In Chief
11:30 Desire: Table For Three

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

- 10:30 Triumph Of Life
11:30 Nat Geo Encores
12:30 Seconds From Disaster
01:30 Bioterror Alert
02:30 In The Wombs: Animals Unlamed
04:30 In The Wombs: Animals One Life in Desert Sea
08:30 Roman Technology Is It Real?
09:30 Panda Nursery
10:30 Invaders

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

- 09:30 Discovery Marquee
11:00 Extreme Machines
01:30 Best of Wild Discovery
02:30 Detective Stories
03:30 Ultimate Guide
04:30 Best of Wild Discovery
05:30 Junkyard Wars
06:30 Secrets To Survival
07:30 Best of Wild Discovery Honey We're Killing the Kids
08:30 Bringing Home Baby
10:00 Runway Moms
10:30 Science Frontiers

STAR MOVIES

- 07:00 Animal, The
08:30 Because Of Winn-Dixie
10:15 National Treasure
12:30 Alexander
03:20 Flubber
04:55 Mr. And Mrs. Smith
09:15 Star Wars: Ep. 1 - The Phantom Menace
11:00 Raging Sharks

STAR PLUS

- 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
11:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
11:55 V First Day First Show- Starplu

STAR WORLD

- 09:00 The Simpsons
09:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 My Wife And Kids
11:00 The King Of Queen
11:30 Grey's Anatomy
12:30 Everybody Loves Raymond
01:00 Becker
01:30 Commander In Chief
02:30 Oprah Winfrey Show

SONY

- 11:10 Part 1 "Tsunami, The Aftermath"
12:45 LIAR LIAR
02:30 Shakespeare in Love
05:00 XXX: The Next Level
08:00 The Making of 50 First Dates
08:45 Big Fish
11:15 Tales from the Crypt 40: Revenge is the Nuts
12:00 Shakespeare in Love
02:30 In Good Company
04:45 The Making of Anacondas: The Hunt for the Blood Orchid
05:00 The American President
07:15 XXX: The Next Level
09:15 "The Making of "Tsunami, the Aftermath"
09:30 "Tsunami, The Aftermath"