

## music

## When the King Sings

JAGJIT Singh. His name spells fame, fortune, glamour, elegance, vogue... the list goes on. He is the undisputed 'King of Ghazal' as Asma Ahmed Masud put it on the opening day of 'Ghazal Evening by Jagit Singh'. He is not only the best in India but also in the subcontinent, if not the world. There are few singers of his calibre - his dedication, his versatile voice and the witty maxims at stage performances are but a few of his attributes. He is not only a popular singer; he is also a wonderful human being. The way he responds to the audience, the way he talks to them is a telling example. He does not have any 'airs' about him, he does not look at everybody else with an oh-so-mighty attitude, he is just like anybody else.

by Nadine Murshid

The long-awaited evening started with Asma Ahmed Masud and Rasheda Mohiuddin giving an introduction to Jagit. Then, Hena Kabir, the head of 'Shetbandha', the cultural organization that brought Jagit to Dhaka, gave a small speech. She spoke of her organization, whose main goal was to patronize distressed artistes and develop latent talent among would-be singers. She then mentioned how hard she worked for bringing Jagit to Dhaka. She said that the VAT collectors were making her life difficult. She then thanked the audience for their presence and the local singers for their cooperation. She mentioned Jagit's Fan Club in Bangladesh who pleaded her to bring their idol to town. She thanked the government, which gave her permission without hassle. She did not receive any sponsorship from anyone, she did not get any advertisements from anyone and if she had the money, she wouldn't have sold tickets at all - she would have allowed everyone to enjoy Jagit's ghazals without money. She remembered Khan Ataur Rahman, who had helped build 'Shetbandha'. She acknowledged Nilufer Yasmin, Shubir Nandi (it was nice to see him back in his shoes again) and Shaheen Samad, who were her source of inspiration. Then she called on Jagit Singh, who came on stage with Shubir Nandi and hugged Hena Kabir.



The king of Ghazal, Jagit Singh presented his celebrated numbers with full-throated ease

Then began the much-awaited part of the evening. As the spectators looked on with enthusiasm and excitement, Jagit started his Aalap. With him were Deepak Pundit (violin), Arshad Ahmed (guitar), Shubhat Chatterjee (dholak), Avina Upadhi (tabla) and Shubir (sound).

The first ghazal of the evening was 'Ape hota par sajana chanata ho'. As Jagit started this number, the audience sang along, clapping and cheering. "Akhri Nichi ki tere

zalopey..." they all went on. Obviously, Jagit was very popular among the spectators. "Apni marzi se kaha apni safar ke hum hai..." was the second ghazal. The melodious tune and the enchanting voice enthralled everyone present and hands of applause filled the auditorium every now and then. All were very appreciative of Jagit's emoting, eloquent songs. "[Kali] Chandni ki chad se. Chandni ki raat hai... Kuch ne kaha ya chad hai. Kuch ne kaha chehra tera... Iham hasti tum chup ra-

hey...", the tehai of the tabla and the violin's vivacious and lively strokes mesmerised the audience even more. Next was a relatively short song, "Baat nikley to phir dur chala jayegi..." Almost everyone put their hands together as he started "Tera chehra kitna suhana lagta he.. tere aye chand purana lagta hai..". Then the violin, tabla and guitar played on, while Jagit bellowed at the harmonium. Even that was absolutely enrapturing and was very well accepted by the congregation. "Dha ni pa ma pe dha ni re... dha ma ni re sa..." and then "Koun wa ayeza yaha... koi na hogaya.. mera tanwa haawamey.. dil nadan dharkan.. diley nadan dharkey" was very very nice too. It was not too difficult to get lost in his music or get transformed into the world of ghazals even with so many people around. "Yeh doulat bhi le lo.. yeh shohrat bhi le lo.. bhalo chin lo modish merry Joarna... Magyar much KO loot do..." followed and so did the audience. As they sang along and clapped to its beat, the song came to an end, after which there was a break for fifteen minutes.

After the break, in which people ate, talked and socialised, Jagit returned with his famous "Ahipta", much to the pleasure of his fans. "Sadat ti jay hai..." he sang and the audience delighted in it. The tehai of the tabla again added special effects, not to mention the violin, which seemed to have a life of its own. Then, "Zindagi ko tumko dekha ko yeh khayal aya..." and "Hazar har khushi ke aisi..." supervened. Thereafter, "Jhuki Jhuki se nazaar bekarar hai..." fascinated the audience and while this reporter was walking towards the exit, Jagit began "Hoto se chulo tum, mera geet amar kardo..." with passion and ardour.

Jagit's arrival in Dhaka was a dream come true for many. He is a legend in his own rights and this was an excellent opportunity for all to see him perform live. It was a wonderfully enchanting evening for all that were lucky enough to be there with him on any of the two evenings. It was definitely a memorable evening and there is no doubt that all that were present will remember and cherish the memory of Jagit Singh.

## music

## Dulcet Tones Emanating from the Armenian Church

DESPITE the heat in the Armenian Church, Armanitola, Old Dhaka, whose fans had been put off so that the sounds could be heard, the singing of "Morning Sky", "Cantemus" and "Expatria" filled the air with sonorous sounds that reminded one of angel's voices. With Christmas celebrations just behind and Easter to come, the religious

by Cultural Correspondent

songs as well as the not so religious ones filled one's heart with joy. Most of the singers of the three groups were expats. They dressed in sober black and white, on the whole, while "Expatria" had floral and exotic motifs on their black boleros and jackets.

The purpose of the concert was to revive interest in the old Armenian Church and to provide a good time for listeners of western Christian religious music as well as normal type of music in dulcet and tender tones, that soothed your soul,



An evening of fascinating music

heart and mind. The other reason was to provide pure pleasure to the concertgoers in the city.

The pieces sung last evening included "Agnus Dei", "Christus factus est", "When Jesus wept" and "The Lord is ris'n indeed"

by the "Cantemus" group; "Ave Maria", "O vos omnes", "Salve Regina" and "Hear my prayer, O Lord" by "Expatria" group (vocal octet) "Cantemus" (chamber choir) added "April is in my mistress' face", "Phyllis, farewell", "Da unten im Tale", and "In stiller Nacht"; while the "Morning Sky" group (chamber choir) sang on with "Il est bel et bon", "Enchanting song", "On Suru sun rantas autius" and "Hay una mayor desaparecida". The "Expatria" group ended with "Si ben mi c'ha bon tempo", "L'ultimo di Maggio", "Consturte my meaning", "Weep O mine eyes" and "Fyer, fyery".

The singers included Anne Barnes, Virginia Reekie, Michael Edwards, Pam Dister, Oscar Newberry, Thayne Whipple, Petra Oskiski, Leslie Jack, Alain Delaune, Timothy Smith, Prue Harman, Ellie Sparkhall and others.

The singing drew crowds that filled the church to a bursting point, including individuals ranging from babies to middle-aged people. M J Martin, the pastor, played host to refreshments after the dry hot evening.

## festival

## Life is a Living Tragedy



A scene from the play entitled "Natok Noy Jibon Kahinie", performed on the stage of the Public Library auditorium on 18 March on the occasion of The National Child Juvenile Theatre Festival 99.

EVEN the moon is not without a spot. Nothing is absolutely right in the universe. So, how can the children's acting attain the zenith of perfection? Yet, there is no denying the fact that people felt mesmerized by the brilliant

by Mahfuz Ali

performance of little actors on the stage of the Public Library Auditorium, shaped up as house for dramatic representations on the occasion of The National Child Juvenile Theatre Festival 99. On the 18th March, the consecutive fifteenth day of the festival, teens as well as pre-teens adroitly represented a slice of life before the audience.

The festival began, as in other days, at 4:30 pm in a musical atmosphere. And there gleamed before the eyes of the spectators dramatic representations of three theatre troupes namely, "Ontor Dristy Shishu Theatre, Dhaka", "Cranty Khelegbor Ashore, Narayanganj" and "Tongi Shishu, Kishore Theatre, Tongi". And the plays staged by them were "Natok Noy Jibon Kahinie", "Orup Kothar Galpo" and "Suti".

children become skeptical about the role of its governing force. Even it doesn't stand within the prospect of their credibility that people might edge forward on personal level to take steps to bring an end to their oppressed condition. In the play "Natok Noy Jibon Kahinie" when the film-maker uncovered an intention of exchanging talks with the rootless children, they humorously reacted to it, showing no interest to unearth facts or evidence about themselves.

Their tragic sufferings unfurl before the eyes of people living in society. But when they don't take it seriously. But when little actors through their performance focused light on the sufferings of the rootless children, the audience began to calculate it as a social problem. And they (Audience) felt that they should have orchestrated a movement to lessen their sufferings.

When the play ended, Zillur Rahman John, a renowned artist of our country walked up the stage, congratulated the little actors on behalf of The Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy and gave them the laudatory certificates.

Being victimized by people living in society, the rootless

## TV Guide

Saturday 20th March  
(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme).

## BBC

6:00 BBC World News 6:05 USA Direct 6:30 World Living: Wilderness Walk - The Island of Mull 7:00 BBC News Headlines 7:30 Asia Today 8:00 BBC News 8:30 World Focus: USA Direct/Reporters 11:00 World News 11:30 World Focus: Panorama 12:00 World News 12:30 World Living: Wilderness Walk - The Island of Mull 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hard Talk 2:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Focus: Correspondent 3:00 World News Headlines 3:05 World Weekend: Peoples Century 4:00 BBC World News 4:30 World Living: Holiday 5:00 BBC News 5:30 This Week 6:00 World Headlines 6:05 World

Weekend: Horizon 7:00 BBC World News 7:05 World Weekend: The Lost Machine - Real Lives 8:00 BBC World News Headlines 8:30 World Living: The Travel Show 9:05 World Weekend: Peoples Century 10:00 World News 10:30 Style 11:00 BBC World News 11:30 World Living: The Travel Show - Holiday 12:30 This Week 1:00 World News 1:30 World Focus: Correspondent 2:00 BBC World News Headlines 2:05 World Weekend: Horizon 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 World Focus: Top Gear 4:00 BBC World News 4:05 World Weekend: The Lost Machine 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Simson's World

## CHANNEL IV

8:30am Rewind VJ Sophiya 11:30 VHS 12:30 Rewind Special 1:30 Hot Seat 2:00 Mainstage 3:00 Turn On TIV 4:00 The Drum 5:00 Billboard US Countdown 6:00 Speak Easy 6:30 Turn On TIV 7:30 Top Of The Pops 8:00 Top

## STAR PLUS

6:30am Ninaad 7:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Travel Asia 10:00 Eak the Cat 10:30 Story Teller 11:00 Poti Baba Ki 11:30 The Great Escape 12:00 It's a Small World 12:30 Living on the Edge 1:00 LG Is Duniya Ke Siratey 1:30 Tarha 2:30 Bakenians - Ooh La La VJ Ruby 3:30 Tea Time Hindi Film: Paras (Raakhee, Sanjeev Kumar, Shatrughan Sinha) 6:30 World Cup Cricket Magic Moments 7:30 Awaz 8:00 So Lets Yahoo 8:30 Apradhi 9:00 Serial: EK Mulaqat 9:30 Star News 10:00 Star Super Hit Hindi Film: Vijaypath (Ajay Devgan, Tabu) 1:00 Newhart 1:30 Movie - "Sweet Revenge" 3:30 Series: Snowy River 4:30 Class Act

## PTV-2

8:00 Tilawat Aur Tarjuma/Hamid/Naat 8:20 Cartoons 8:30 Kabrahn 8:45 Visitors Book 9:10 Phool Khushboo 9:25 Dastarkhawan 9:40 Mehmam 10:05 Aap Ki Anwar Maqsood 10:30 English Film: 10:55 Milli Nagma 11:00 Khabrahn 11:10 Meri Pasand 11:35 Janan 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15

## ZEE CINEMA

8:15 Kasam Kaliki 11:15 Movie Fare 11:30 The Train Rajesh Khana Nanda 2:30 Madhyantar 2:45 Ghari Detergent Cine Magic 3:15 Himmatawala (Jeetendra, Sridevi) 6:15 Ek Mood Anek 6:30 Tune Time 6:45 Almaljo Its My Choice 7:15 Aaj Ka Gunde Raj Chiranjeevi Menakshi Sheshadri 10:30 Sltmgar Dharmendra - Pawan Babi 1:45 Top of The Tops 2:15 Jigri Dost

## ZEE INDIA TV

7:00am Jagran 7:30 Zee News-Hindi 8:00 Beech Shahar 8:30 Zee News-Hindi 9:00 Insight 9:30 Zee News-Eng. 10:00 Vision Beyond-50 10:30 Naye Nagmeen 11:00 Hum Zamen 11:30 Zee News Update 11:50 Zee Business News 12:00 Hercules 1:00 Tropical Heat 2:00 Baywatch Nights 3:00 Series: Soldier Soldier 4:00 Nanny And The Professor 4:30 World News 5:30 Eek! The Cat

## STAR WORLD

6:00 Spiderman 6:30 G.I. Joe 7:00 Crystal Maze 8:00 Mr Belvedere 8:30 Nanny And The Professor 9:00 The Good Life 9:30 Murder Most Horrible 10:30 Travel Asia 11:00 Big Easy 12:00 Mystery Movies -- Halifax F.P. 2:00 Space and Beyond 3:00 The Adventures of Sindbad 4:00 Hercules -- 5:00 WWW: Shotgun Challenge 6:00 Xena 7:00 9:00 Soldier Soldier 10:00 The Adventures of Sindbad 11:00 Xena 12:00 Hercules 1:00 Tropical Heat 2:00 Baywatch Nights 3:00 Series: Soldier Soldier 4:00 Nanny And The Professor 4:30 World News 5:30 Eek! The Cat

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Xena: Warrior Princess

on Star World at 11 pm  
In Death Mask, Xena is reunited with her brother Toris and the two join forces to overthrow Cortese, the raider who destroyed their village many years before.



1492: Conquest of Paradise

on Star Movies at 10 pm  
Centuries before the exploration of space, there was another voyage into the unknown and tonight's Mega Movie focuses on that journey. It's the epic adventure of Christopher Columbus' life of exploration and discovery of America. This powerful story of discovery and betrayal stars Gerard Depardieu, Sigourney Weaver and Armand Assante.

Film Music 1:00 MTV House Full V Nafisa 1:30 MTV-U VJ Cyrus 2:30 MTV In Control 3:30 Thums-Up Non-Stop Hits 4:00 MTV Unplugged 5:00 Essential 5:30 MTV Recycled 6:30 Non-Stop Hits 7:30 MTV Fresh VJ Rahul 8:00 MTV & Smirnoff Mega Mix VJ Nafisa 8:30 Non-Stop Hits 9:30 MTV Hit Film Music 10:00 House Full VJ Nafisa 10:30 Non-Stop Hits 11:30 The Grind 12:00 Club MTV VJ Malika 12:30 Non-Stop Hits Continue ...

## MUSIC ASIA

7:30 Aalaap 8:00 B & W Gems 8:30 All Time Hits (Hit Songs Show) 9:00 Old Tavern - Sizlaars 9:30 Aalaap 10:00 All Time Hits 10:30 Bagpiper - Jharokha 11:00 Old is Gold 11:30 Bagpiper - Music Box (Trailer Show) 12:00 Coca-Cola - World Premiere 12:30 Old Tavern - Sizlaars 1:00 Bagpiper - Jharokha 1:30 Cbaca-Tube Top Ten 2:30 Bagpiper - Music Box (Trailer Show) 3:00 Old Tavern - Sizlaars 3:30 Bagpiper - Jharokha 4:00 Pop Busters 4:30 Bajaj - Music Box (Trailer Show) 5:00 All Time Hits 5:30 Bagpiper - Jharokha 6:00 B & W Gems 6:30 Music News 6:45 Coca-Cola - World Premiere 7:30 Old Tavern - Sizlaars 8:00 Coca-Cola - World Premiere 8:30 Bagpiper - Jharokha 9:00 Bajaj - Music Box (Trailer Show) 9:30 Ban-ganga Festival 10:00 Music Zone 10:30 Bagpiper - Jharokha 11:00 Aalaap 11:45 Sabab 12:30 All Time Hits 1:30 Jharokha

Them 8:30 Belaiti Babu 9:00 Samachar & The News 9:20 Current Affairs 9:50 Sanskriti Bharati 10:02 Jay Hanuman 11:02 Mile Sur Mera Tumhara 12:02 Spl

## DD 7

10:30 Movie Club Film (Last Monday's Repeat) 1:30 Movie Club Film (Last Tuesday's Repeat) 4:30 Movie Club Film (Last Wednesday's Repeat) 7:00 Saptahik 7:30 Bangla Sambad 8:00 Jatra Pala 8:30 Durbin 9:00 Serial: Sukhi 9:25 Serial: Sudhi 10:00 Khas Kabar 10:10 Drama: Siddhanta 10:30 News & Bengali Sambad & Closed

## SONY TV

7:30 Indian Holiday 8:00 Rishiprasad 8:30 Movers And Shekars 9:00 Chartbusters 9:30 Cine Clips 10:00 Toofan Mail with Guest 10:30 Just Mohabbat 11:00 Heena (Simone Singh, Rahul Bhatt, Rakhi Bhujani) 11:30 Choti Si Asha 12:00 Movers & Shakers 12:30 Dekh Bhai Dekh 1:00 The First Edition 9:00 Serial: Apne Apne Suryamukhi 9:30 Top Job 10:00 A Few Rupees More 10:30 Telefilm 12:00 Telefilm 12:30 Flim: Duniya