

festival

# Festival of Contemporary Iranian Films

Zahir Raihan Film Society celebrates its 14th founding anniversary



Abbas Kiarostami

By Cultural Correspondent

FOR over a decade now Zahir Raihan Film Society, which has devoted itself in inculcating a good audience which, it believes, is fundamental for the alternative film movement to take deeper roots into our putrid cinema-culture, celebrates its 14th founding anniversary that falls on May 16 by holding an eleven-day Iranian film festival.

The society will screen 27 recent films by world famous Iranian filmmakers such as Abbas Kiarostami, Dariush Mehrjui, and Jafar Panahi. In recent years Iranian cinema shot into prominence by winning the major international film awards at prestigious film

festivals. Zahir Raihan's anniversary celebration began early this year with a retrospective of the French master Robert Bresson on March followed by a retrospective of the great Indian master film-maker Satyajit Ray on April. A total of 23 films by Satyajit Ray were shown along with 3 documentaries on Ray, 12 other films by Ray would be shown next month.

The high priest of Iranian contemporary cinema is Abbas Kiarostami. Kiarostami's film "The Taste of Cherry" was awarded the Golden Palm for the best film at the Cannes Film Festival in 1997. His latest film "The Wind Will Cry Us" was awarded the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival in 1999. He is the most renowned and celebrated filmmaker from Iran and is currently considered to be one of the front-runners of contemporary film-world. Eight films made by Kiarostami will be screened in the festival.

The filmmaker whose name comes immediately after Kiarostami is Mohsen Makhmalbaf, who is also a prize winning and critically acclaimed filmmaker. A retrospective of Makhmalbaf will

showcase films such as "The Apple", the debut feature by Samira Makhmalbaf, and his daughter who made this film at the age of 17!

Samira is the youngest filmmaker at the Cannes Film Festival this year (at the age of 20) with her film "The Black Picture" in the competition.



Still from HAMOON by Dariush Mehrjui

Two films by Daryush Mehrjui and four films by Iranian women filmmakers will feature in the festival along with nine other features by as many as filmmakers.

Zahir Raihan Film Society was founded on 16th May 1986 by a group of young film enthusiasts. The aim was to add something new to the film society movement which was passing a bad phase because of the "Film Clubs Registration and control Act 1980". The society started working immediately



Scene from Zinat by Ebrahim Mokhtari



Still from ONCE UPON A TIME



Still from The Runner by Amir Naderi

after it was founded. It started to use modern video and electronic technology to enhance the movement of the film society. Since then it has organised innumerable film session, retrospectives, seminars, workshops, and film appreciation courses. It has shown a total of 1400 films with an average of 100 films each year and has organised screening of the films by the major filmmakers in the history of the cinema.

The admission to this festival is on invitation only and season passes can be collected

from the society during the festival at the German Cultural Centre at Road No 9, Dhamondi. Following is the list of the films and screening schedule:

May 16: *The Taste of Cherry* by Abbas Kiarostami *The last Act* by Varužh Karim-Mashl!

May 17: *The Need* by Alireza Davoudinejad *The Runner* by Amir Naderi *Prince Ehtejab* by Bahman Farmanara

May 18: *White Balloon* by Jafar Panahi *The Key* by Ebrahim Frouzesh *Zinat* by Ebrahim Mokhtari

May 21: *The Sultans* by Ghassam Ebrahimi *The children of Heaven* by Majid Majidi

May 22: Dariush Mehrjui film session: *Hamoon* by Dariush Mehrjui *The Tenants* by Dariush Mehrjui

May 23: Films by women filmmakers: *The Sealed Soil* by Marva M Nabil, *Nargess* by Rakhshan Bani-Etemad *The Legend of a Sigh* by Tahmineh Milani

**The Makhmalbaf Retrospective:**

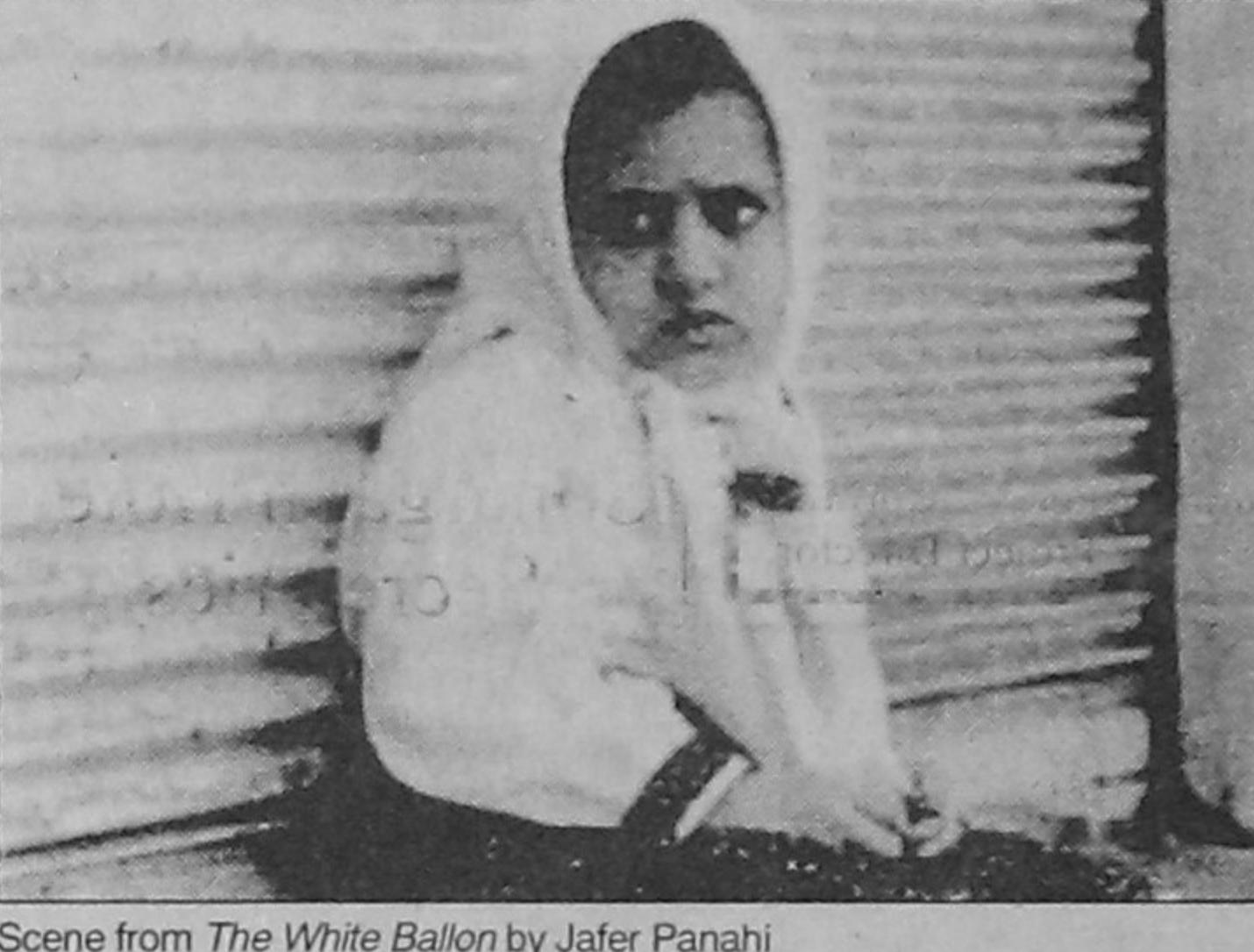
May 28: *The Apple* by Samira Makhmalbaf

**Abbas Kiarostami Retrospective:**

May 30: *The Bread and Alley*, *The Traveller*, *Where is May* *Friend's Home*?

May 31: *The Chorus*, *And Life Goes On* ..., *Through the Olive Trees*

June 1: *Close Up*, *The Taste of Cherry*



Scene from The White Ballon by Jafar Panahi

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### Solo Exhibition

19th May-1st June 2000  
Exhibition Hall, Goethe-Institut, Dhaka  
Everyday from 2 pm till 8 pm

(Friday and Saturday closed)

Born in Bangladesh, Mr Rashid Amin finished his formal education from the Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka. He started his career as a young artist with his first exhibition also at the Goethe-Institut. Since then he has spent few years in China on a scholarship and had taken part in numerous exhibitions and workshops in Beijing, Hong Kong, Calcutta and Dhaka. Many of his masterpieces were appreciated abroad as well in Shilpakala Academy and other Art Galleries in Dhaka. He was also awarded with the "Best Award on Experimental Print Making" in 1997.

Basically a free-lance artist Mr Rashid Amin is an expert in Etching. Some of his works can easily be compared with many of the renowned, young European artists of the same art-media.



### Fashion Exhibition

The inauguration of the fashion exhibition by designer Yasmin was held on May 12 at the Designer's Den gallery. A collection of men's kurta to panjabi and women's sari to salwar kameez are on display at the exhibition.

The exhibition will come to an end with a fashion show on May 19 at 7.30pm.

### French Musical Night

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will be organising a 'French Musical Evening' dedicated to the famous French composer of classical music Claude Debussy on Saturday, May 27 at 7.00 pm. There will also be visual display of French classical music over the century.

### Showkatuzzaman at Gallery 21

A solo exhibition of paintings by artist Showkatuzzaman is being held at Gallery 21 at Dhamondi. The show will remain open to all everyday from 10 am to 8 pm until May 22.

### Poetry Night

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will be organising a Poetry Night on May 21 at 6.00 pm. All those interested are requested to contact the reception of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka at the earliest.

### Movies at Alliance

Friday, 19th May 2000  
*Les Amants/The Lovers*

By Louis Malle with Jeanne Moreau, Jean-Marc Bory at 11:00 AM

1958, Jeanne Tournier, a young lady of the provinces, flirts between Paris and Dijon, where her husband, Henri owns an important newspaper.

Jeanne is extremely bored as her husband in spite of his love for her is to taken up with his paper go give her any time. She also has a distinguished lover, the polo champion Raoul Flores, making her the envy of all her friends, especially Maggy.

In a chance encounter, Jeanne meets Bernard Dubois-Lambert, a young archaeologist, whom she invites home for dinner where her husband, her lover and Maggy are all present.

The mutual attraction between Bernard and Jeanne leads to a night on intense passion when they happen to meet in the grounds of the house, against a background music by Brahms. By dawn, Jeanne leaves everything to go with her new lover, under the scandalous gaze of her guests.

Will their love survive the test of time?

## TV Guide

**Tuesday 16th May**  
(All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme)

### BTW

3:00 Opening Announcement, Recitation From The Holy Quran And Programme Outline 3:15 Patriotic Song 3:20 Open University Prog 4:00 Bangla News 4:05 Pusti Thatto 4:20 Sports Programme 5:10 Nakhatra Aala 5:40 Sashtha Thatto 6:00 Bangla News 6:05 Sabra Janno Shikha 6:30 Transmission From Chittagong Center 7:00 News For Weather 7:05 Sangita 7:25 Tookhor (TV Quiz) 8:00 Bangla News At 8 8:30 Drama Series: Sultan-O-Rakhal 9:00 Serial: Jibon Mohona 10:00 News At Ten 10:30 Chhaya Chhanda 10:55 Sur Lahori 11:30 Bangla News 11:35 English News 11:40 A) Programme Outline For Wednesday B) National Song 11:45 Closing

### PTV-2

7:00 Classic Cartoons 7:20 Mr Bean (The Return of Mr Bean) 7:45 News 8:00 Cinema Ekushey Aina Bibi Pala

10:00 BTV News After BTV News Cinema ekushey Aina Bibi Pala

### BBC WORLD

6:00 World News Headlines 6:30 Click Online 7:00 BBC World News Inc. World Business Report/Asia Today/24 Hours 8:30 Asia Today 8:45 World Business Report 2:00 World News 9:30 Asia Today 9:45 World Business Report 10:00 BBC World News 10:30 The Travel Show 11:30 Earth Report 12:00 BBC World News 12:30 It: India Tomorrow 1:30 World Living: Life An Act of Faith-2:00 World News 2:30 Earth Report 3:00 BBC World News 3:30 HARDtalk 4:00 BBC The World Today 4:30 Click Online 5:00 BBC World News 5:30 Earth Report 6:00 BBC World News 6:30 It: India Tomorrow 7:30 World Living: The Travel Show 8:30 HARDtalk 9:00 BBC World News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 World News 10:15 World Business Report 10:30 Wheels 11:00 BBC World

New 11:35 World Business Report 11:45 World Sport 12:30 HARDtalk 2:00 BBC News 1:30 Talking Movies 3:00 BBC World News 2:30 World Business Report 3:30 Reporters 4:30 World Business Report 5:00 BBC Newsdesk Inc. World Business Report/24 Hours

### CHANNEL [V]

7:30 [V] Hit Machine 9:30 Virtual [V] 9:45 Hit Machine 10:30 Video Preview 11:00 [V] Hit Machine 12:30 [V] Jungle Jukebox 1:00 [V] First Day First Show 1:30 [V] Hit Machine 4:30 Tea With [V] 5:00 Virtual [V] Tea With [V] 5:15 Tea With [V] (Back To Back Vids) 6:15 [V] Bheja Fry 6:30 Tea With [V] (Back To Back Vids) 7:30 [V] Hit Machine 8:30 [V] Face Off 9:00 [V] Jungle Jukebox 9:30 [V] First Day First Show 10:00 [V] Hit Machine 10:30 [V] Late Night 12:30 [V] Hit Machine

### PTV-2

8:00 Tilwat Aur Tarjuma/Hamid/Naat 8:20 Cartoon 8:30 Kabhrain 8:45 Beauty Care 8:50 Fun Kadha 9:10 Dhank & Health Tips 10:05 Har Taan Hey Deepak 10:30 English Film: Home Improvement 10:55 Milli Nagma 11:00 Kabhrain 11:10 Serial 12:00 Sports Hour 12:55 Quran-e-Hakeem 1:02 Bismillah 1:15 The Science Show 2:00 Yeh Jahan 2:25 Animated Classics 3:15 Geography & Sammar School 4:20 Mitti Soni 5:00 Allah Huma Laabbaik 5:25 Serial 6:25 Aiou Courses 7:00 Serial 7:45 English News 7:50 Saach Much 8:15 UN Quiz 8:45 Serial 9:00 Break for Headline News 10:00 Khabarnama & Commercial News 11:20 Do Sitare 12:30 Dr. Quin: Medicine Women 1:35 Khas Khabrain/Close Down

### ZEE News Tv

7:00 Zee News: Hindi 8:00 Zee Morning Show 8:30 News In English 9:00 News Outlook 7:00 Business News 7:30 Zee News: Hindi 8:30 Business News 9:00 News In English 10:00 Zee Prime Time Show 11:30 News In English 12:00 Business News

### MTV INDIA

8:00 MTV Classic 9:00 MTV Hungout 9:30 Pop Indonesia 10:00 MTV Non-Stop Hits 10:30 MTV Most Wanted VJ Shehnaz 11:30 MTV Top 2000 12:30 MTV Hit Film Music 1:00 MTV Housefull VJ Nafisa 1:30 MTV Fresh VJ

### DD CHANNEL-1

Teen drama serial 'Bubuner Baba' will be aired on Ekushey television on May 18 at 7:20pm.

### DD CHANNEL-1 (National)

5:55 Vande Mataram 6:15 CIET Programme 6:30 UGC Programme 10:30 Am to 06:30 AM Every Half Hour — Zee News: Hindi

### DISCOVERY CHANNEL

10:00 UGC Programme 10:32 Tarang- CIET Programme 11:30 ETV Programme 12:32 Serial: Ardhangini 12:00 Serial: Kamyabi 12:32 Serial: In-tezaat Aur Sahi 12:55 Serial: Kiran 1:00 Serial: Tulsi 1:25 Serial: Aapki Saheli 1:32 Serial: Agni 2:00 Serial: Deewar 2:30 Samachar 2:41 The News 2:50 Serial: Aaina 3:00 Serial: Jagte Raho 3:32 Serial: Mitti Ke Rang 4:32 Serial: Agni

### ESPN

10:00 Mantra 2:00 Boogi Woogi 2:30 Ek Mahal Ho Sapo Ka 3:00 Aurat 3:30 Daily Soap-Ghar Ek Mandir 4:00 Daily Soap- Itihaas 4:30 Daily Soap- Nazdeekiyani 5:00 Junoon 5:30 Dil Pyar Vyar Bad Boys 6:00 Family No. 1 6:30 C.I.D. 7:00 Rang Bigrangee 7:30 Music Mantra 8:00 Chartbusters 8:25 Jaany Vi Di Paro 8:55 Kanyadaan 9:35 Kash 10:10 Thodi Si Befawali 10:45 Moviers And Shekhar's 11:30 Ek Mahal Ho Sapo Ka 12:00 Saaya 12:30 Hum Sub Ek Hain 1:00 Sparsh 1:30 Bajaj Ki Lehren 2:00 Moviers And Shekhar's 3:00 Daily Soap-Nazdeekiyani 3:30 Cine Nite Show- Hindi Film: Mome Ki Guda

### SONY TV

10:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Hamburg Pres. By Eurocard Hamburg, Germany Early Round Coverage Day 12:00 Inside Cricket: 2nd Session 12:30 Dutch Football

### DD METRO

7:00 Anhad 7:15 Bhakti Sagar 7:45 Subah Aal Tak 8:30 Earth Matters 9:00 The First Edition 9:30 Serial: Saath Saath 10:00 Serial: Khamosh Awazein 10:30 Reet Par Likhi Naam 11:00 Daily Soapey 12:00 Tele Shopping 12:30 Geet Aateet 1:00 Serial: Bajaj Payal 1:30 TV Brand 2:00 Daawat: Cookery Show 2:30 Daily Soapey Band

### ZEE TV

6:00 Yedeon Ki Pal (B/W Songs) 6:30 Zee News & Business (Rpt) 7:00 Bhakti Songs 7:30 Jagran 8:00 Gul-dasta 8:30 Zara Hask-e-Hai Zindegi 9:00 Zara Hask-e-Film Chakkari 9:30 Disney Hour Cartoons 10:30 Ek Nazar 11:00 Tejasqini 11:30 Chollo Cinema 12:00 Mehendi Tere Nam Ki 12:30 Naye Nazrani 1:00 Khubsoorat 1:30 Waaris 2:00 Daily Soap-Hum Panch 2:30 Lakeeren 3:00 Daily Soap-Kartavya 3:30 Cinema Hits-Hi Film: 6:30 Ek Nazar 7:00 Disney Hour 8:00 Vijay Jyoti 8:30 Hum Paanch 9:00 Basera 9:30 Koshish 10:00 Raheen 10:30 Thriller At 10 11:00 Daily Soap-Aangan 11:30 Daily Soap-Kartavya 11:55 Daily Soap-Khalid-Trailer 12:00 Ashirwad 12:30 Rishtey 1:30 O Daddy 2:00 Saath Saath 2:30 Naye Nazrani 3:00 Feature Film (B/W):