

## music

# A World Apart: Taking Ghazal to a New Height

Manzurul Islam enthralled the audience with his ghazals at Sheraton Ballroom on Friday evening

By Tawfique Ali

MUSIC enthusiasts started gathering at the Dhaka Sheraton Hotel in the evening, defying the late October drizzles. Ruposhi Bangla organised a ghazal evening by Manzurul Islam Khan and Shaila Tasmin on October 27 at 7 pm. The ghazals started and went on even without the Civil Aviation and Tourism Minister Mosharraf Hossain who was due as chief guest. But among others, Noor-e Alam Chowdhury MP, Nazmul Ahsan Chowdhury, Secretary, Posts and Telecommunications Ministry and Azad Rahman, DG, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy were present as special guests.

There were brief addresses by the special guests before the main programmes. "Devotion and great pursuit had brought Manzurul to today's position of a ghazal exponent," said Noor-e Alam.

"The world of music is an enlightened world. Ghazal is a genre of music that establishes this fact. But ghazal nowadays is gradually gaining popularity in our country. Manzurul Islam is one of the front-ranking ghazal singer in the country," commented Nazmul Ahsan Chowdhury. While delivering his address, Azad Rahman said that practising art is a devoted pursuit for the artiste.

All the distinguished guests at the occasion emphasised on one point that there is a severe constraint of opportunity and environment to practise classical music - ghazal.

"There are many promising artistes who are outstanding and have a going global ability, if fostered properly," Azad Rahman opined. It is a very common phenomenon that art and culture do not enjoy a nourishing treatment in our country yet. The chairman of Swanirvar Bangladesh made this clear while addressing the audience. The patronisation that is required to bring art and culture in the forefront falls much short of expectation. "We need to patronise all the artistes accordingly," he said.

Ruposhi Bangla chief Khondoker Rezaul Karim highlighted the organisation's role and objectives in the cultural arena.

Manzurul's ghazal evening was sponsored by Ruposhi Bangla on the eve of his launching a ghazal album.

Then the ghazal recital started. Manzurul went on performing one after another and appeased the music lovers' hearts. Later he performed two Bangla ghazal "Beshi Kichhu Aasha Kora Bhul" and "Dhako Joto Na Noion Duhate Badal-Megh Ghumate Debe na."

The audience's enthusiastic response and hearty applause showed that Bangla ghazals appeal more to them. A trance-like atmosphere prevailed in the beautifully bedecked Ballroom for some time. The audience forgot worldliness and lost themselves perhaps in imaginative thoughts for some moments at least. It seemed they were in a divine world of purity -- a state that softens and purifies the soul. The artiste's melodious voice and *taans* took the audience to a blissful world of peace and tranquillity.

The fifth was a duet recital with Shaila Tasmin.

Manzurul ended his performance by presenting *Aapko Mubarak Ho* addressed to the audience. Shaila later presented three ghazals. Manzurul performed a number of songs on audience's request.

Manjurul's musical education started under the guidance of Ustad Abul Kalam Siddiqui, Ustad Shi Shankar Das, Usatd Nurul Islam in the village Shibchar of Madaripur district. Then he went on to learn from Ustad Azad Rahman, Amjad Hossain, Sanjib Day and Aminul



Huq in Dhaka and completed his finesse with Chayanat. Later on he received taalim from Ranji Biswas and Ustad Asman Khan at Shreema Academy, Bombay in 1986-87. Majurul has been inspired by the spirit of rebel poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

Though a bank officer, his dream is to explore the beauty through music, as he said, "If God tells me to sacrifice my most intimate thing, I will present him the music I learned."

Manjurul's dream is to enlist himself as one of the noteworthy ghazal singers of the sub-continent.

The evening was followed by a musical video screening Bristir Kanya.

## dance

## Artists in The Making

Alliance Francaise de Dhaka presents budding artists Rinkoo and Ashit with folk dances

By Shahana Parbeen

ALLIANCE Francaise de Dhaka has taken up a commendable initiative to introduce and promote budding artistes by giving them a platform to exhibit their skills and talents.

Budding stars are aplenty all around but who will recognise them and give them the much needed break to introduce themselves to the public? No matter how talented a young person is, its only the acknowledgement and acceptance by the public that can make him a star. And this acknowledgement can only come by if others are given a chance to see them 'at work'. Not everybody can hire auditoriums, invite a host of people whose opinion really matters and then give them a chance to appraise the budding and hopeful artiste.

Alliance Francaise understands this need and has come up with this very commendable move. Through a star search they try to pick up budding and aspiring stars around Bangladesh and arrange for them to perform in a show which is exclusively theirs. This gives them the much sought

after exposure.

Last Friday was Rinkoo and Ashit's Day. Rinkoo and Ashit are from Rajshahi and specialise in Bangladeshi folk dance. They got a chance to demonstrate their skills at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka's auditorium. The duo presented solo folk dances and duet numbers as well. Some of the tunes they danced to are Polli Mayer, Ruposhi Jol Bharite Jay & Oi Dekha Jay Bari Amar.

Both were very enthusiastic and gave in their best efforts. Rinkoo dressed in a vibrant yellow sari in the traditional Bengali style. She had alta (a colour used by girls from the subcontinent to adorn their hand and feet) on her feet and golden jewellery to go with her yellow sari. Ashit wore a green check shirt, a flora printed 'lungi' with a gamucha tied around his waist.

Rinkoo's emulation of the shy village belle carrying water in a pitcher was good. In all her dances, she was the carefree village beauty who makes the hearts of the men beat faster or bumpety bump, as the saying goes. For his part, Ashit played the role of the young rural boy

well too rather stiffly though. The sound system was the only let down and could have been better. Most of the lyrics of the songs being played could not be understood yet the rhythmic drum beats projecting the joyous carefree youth made up for the lack of lyrics.

The young artists were visibly tired out by all the rigorous dance routines but nevertheless put up a smile bravely right to the very end. That ought to be the spirit for every artist.

At the end of the show, the director of Alliance Francaise presented them with flower bouquets.

The Alliance Francaise contents in its venture to give aspiring artists a break each week. Next week at the same time, (on November 3), there will be two new aspiring stars at the same venue. Since no tickets are required, for entry to the show, anyone interested in watching young people, who could one day very likely have their names in the limelight, should drop in and encourage them.

One never knows, where these stars will be performing next!!

## exhibition

## 14th National Art Exhibition in January

Shilpakala invites artworks



By Cultural Correspondent

ORGANISED by Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, the 14th National Art Exhibition will begin from the 3rd week of January, 2001.

The first prize for the exhibition titled "Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Award 2000" is worth Tk. 50,000. There will also be three honourable awards worth Tk. 10,000.

The artworks in the following media will be in the exhibitions: Painting (oil, acrylic, watercolour, gouache, pastel and mixed), printing (any media) and sculpture (wood, cement, stone, plaster, metal, ceramic etc.)

All Bangladesh artists aged over 22 can take part in the exhibition. For being nominated for the exhibition they have to submit three recent (1999-2000)

artworks and 5 colour photographs (5 X 7 inches) or colour slides (55mm) of their works. The artworks displayed at the 9th Asian Biennial will not be accepted for the exhibition.

The colour photographs/slides of the artworks will have to be submitted within December 6 - 12, 2000 at the Art Department of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. The artworks selected by the selection committee will be final.

For rules, regulations, entry form and details artists are requested to contact the Director, Art Department, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Dhaka.

## Recommendations



## Shadows &amp; Sunlight

A solo photographic exhibition on Bangladesh's Forest and Sacred Trees by Ian Lockwood will start at the Drik Gallery from November 2. The inaugural ceremony of the exhibition will be held at 5 in the evening.

The exhibition will be jointly opened by eminent artist Mustafa Manwar and The Daily Star editor Mahfuz Anam.

The exhibition will remain open daily until November 11, from 3:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

## Khalid's Tenth

Khalid Mahmud Mithu's 10th solo painting exhibition is on at Divine Art Gallery. Lyricism and intricate rhythm is the beauty of Khalid's canvases. Open from 9am to 8pm everyday, the show will run until October 30.

## Out of Focus

A group photography exhibition by a group of working class children titled "Out of Focus" is now being held at Drik Gallery at Dhanmandi. The exhibition is refreshing as the pictures give us an alternate interpretation of the world we live in. The show with 145 exhibits is a treasure trove for gallery-goers. Open from 3 to 8 in the evening, the show runs until October 30.

## Retrospective

Organised by Jahangirnagar University Journalist's Association an exhibition of photographs by Azizur Rahman Pea and a seminar started at the Jahangirnagar University central auditorium yesterday. Professor Abdul Bayes, vice chancellor, Jahangirnagar University was present as chief guest. The exhibition will come to an end at 5:00 p.m. today.

## TV GUIDE

## PICK OF THE DAY



### National Lampoon's Vegas Vacation

HBO tonight at 11:15

Chevy Chase and Clark Griswold are back in another instalment of the outrageously funny 'National Lampoon' series. This time Clark and Ellen and their teenage children are headed for Las Vegas for what Clark bills as a chance to bond and an opportunity to renew Mom and Dad's wedding vows. Neither, of course, works out at least not in the way the perpetually bewildered Griswolds had imagined because Clark blows all their money, Ellen reveals a passion for Wayne Newton, daughter Audrey decides to become a go-go dancer and son Rusty turns into a high roller who draws the attention of the Mob.

National Lampoon's Vegas Vacation stars Chevy Chase, Beverly D'Angelo, Randy Quaid and others.

5:00 Family Fortunes  
5:30 Hit Ya Fit

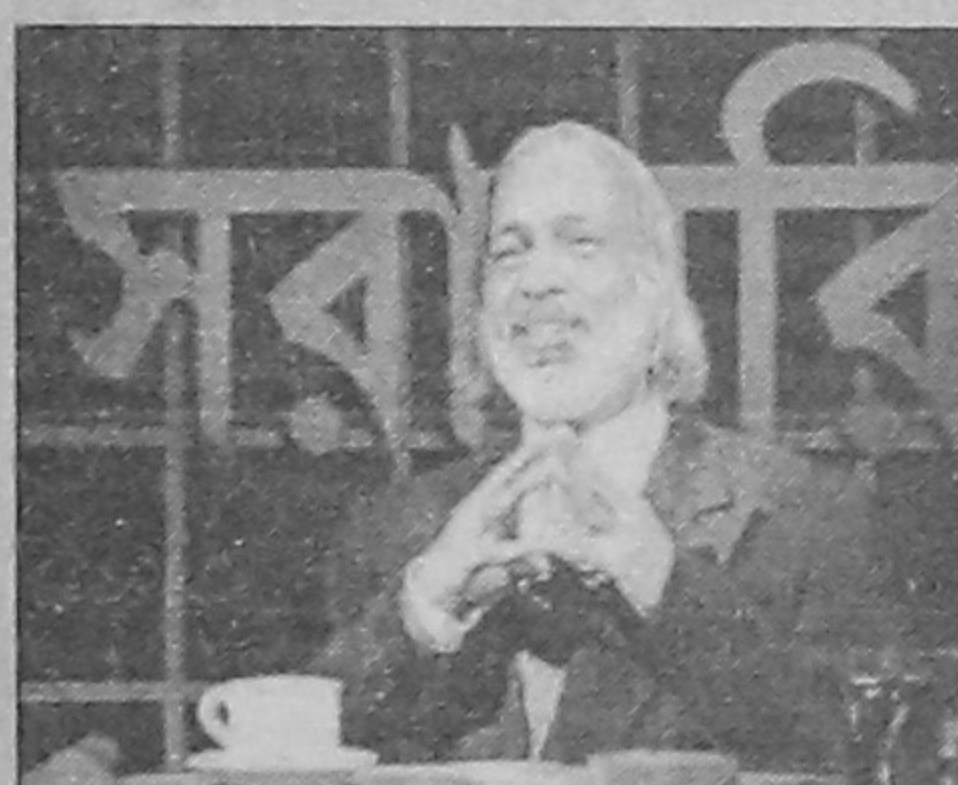
Track Next Generation  
1:00 TV Com 1:30  
Star News Sunday 2:30  
The X Files 3:30 Star  
Track-Next Generation  
4:30 Cops 5:00  
Stars News Focus Asia  
6:00 The X Files

## STAR WORLD

7:00 Kye of David 7:30  
Morries Cerullo 8:00  
Space Island One 9:00  
Lassie 9:30 Doogie  
Howser 10:00 Batman  
10:30 Jack Hanna's  
Animal Adventure  
11:00 Second Noah  
12:00 The New WKRP  
in Cincinnati 12:30  
Lassie 1:00 Sir Arthur  
Conan Doyle's The Lost  
World 2:00 Small  
Wonder 2:30 I Love  
Lucy 3:00 Xena 4:00  
Hercules 5:00 JAG 6:00  
Walker Texas Ranger  
7:00 Crown and Country  
7:30 Travel Asia  
8:00 Baywatch 9:00  
The Simpsons Series 9  
9:30 3rd Rock From the  
Sun 10:00 Stars News  
Focus Asia 11:00 The X  
Files 12:00 Series: Star

## BTV

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  
Animation Film: Jim  
Henson's Animal



Sarashari, guest: Dr Moin Khan on Ekushey television tonight at 10:20

Show 4:30 Pusti  
Thaththo 4:45 Col-Table  
(Based On Social En)  
5:10 Sashtho Thaththo  
(Health Developing  
For Mother & Children)  
5:25 National Television  
Debate Competition  
6:00 Bangla News 6:05  
Metho Surr 6:30 Trans-  
mission From  
Chittagong Center 7:00  
News For Weather 7:05  
Mati-O-Manus 7:25  
Uddid O Jiban 8:00  
News At 8 (Bangla)  
8:20 Dekha Adekha  
(Doc) 8:50 Package  
Serial: Khacha #2  
(\*Nader Chowdhury,  
Suborna Mostafa,  
Elina, Darashiko, Rina  
Rahman, Maya Ghosh)  
9:30 Comedy Series-  
Tim Night Ridar /  
Molla Nasiruddin  
(Bangla Dubs) 10:00  
News At Ten (English)  
10:20 Pach Akasher  
Tara (Programme On  
World Literature)  
11:30 Bangla News  
11:35 English News  
11:40 A) Programme  
Outline For Monday  
B) National Song 11:45  
Closing

EKUSHEY TV  
200 Aker Potrika 2:10

Drama Serial: Na 2:35  
Chironotoni 3:00  
Ekushey News Head-  
lines 3:05 Shanthrashi  
Raja 5:30 Dristhi 5:50  
Aker Potrika 6:00  
Ekushey News Head-  
lines 6:05 Expedition to  
the Animal Kingdom  
6:30 Charidike 7:00  
Supernatural: The  
Unseen Powers of

Amar Chobi 10:45  
Asia Cup Football  
12:45 Asia Cup Foot-  
ball 2:45 Bangla Cin-  
ema: Amanat

## HBO

7:00 Return of the  
Living Dead Part II  
9:00 The Rat Pack 11:30  
Hollywood's Greatest  
Shunts 12:00 The Kill-  
ing Fields 3:00 Mars  
Attack! 5:15 Night  
Shift 7:30 Body  
Snatchers 9:30 Dracula  
Dead and Loving It  
11:15 National Lamp-  
oon's Vegas Vacation  
1:15 MS 45 3:00 Friday  
the 13th 5:00 Body  
Snatchers

## STAR GOLD

5:30 Naniya Ke Paar  
8:30 TBA 9:00 Grahasti  
12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30  
Sunday Noon  
ShowHum Sab Chor  
Hain 3:30 Geet Bahar  
4:00 Teen Bahuraniyan  
7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30  
Sunday  
Blockbusters: Woh Kaun  
Thi 10:30 TBA 11:00  
Yuvraj 12:30 Yuvraj  
(Cont) 2:00 Geet Bahar  
2:30 Woh Kaun Thi

## BBC WORLD

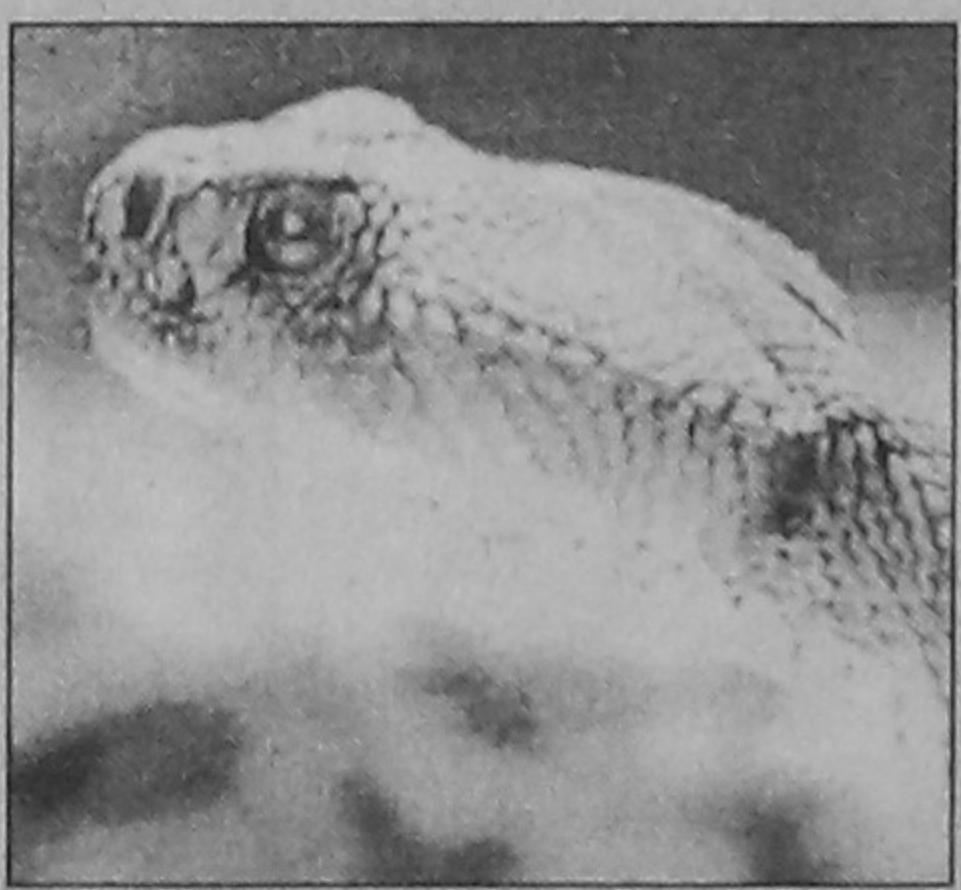
6:00 BBC World News  
Headline 6:30 World  
Living: Holiday 7:00  
BBC World News 7:30  
Australia Direct 8:00  
BBC World News 8:30  
World Focus: Corre-  
spondent- 9:00 BBC  
World News 9:30 This  
Week 10:00 BBC World  
News 10:30 Wheels  
11:00 BBC World News  
11:30 India Business  
Report 12:00 BBC World  
News 12:30 Made In  
India: Face To Face  
India 2:00 BBC World  
News 2:30 This Week  
3:00 BBC World News  
3:10 Weekend World:  
The Entertainment Biz  
4:00 BBC World News  
4:30 World Living:  
Click Online 5:00 BBC  
World News 5:30  
Australia Direct 6:00  
BBC World News  
Headlines- 6:10 Week-

## CHANNEL-1

Morning  
6:15 Shaya Muke 7:00  
Drama Everyday: Joar  
Vhata 7:40 Music Next  
Generation 8:00 Din  
Protidin 8:35 Tir  
Sanggit Bichitra 9:10  
Amar Jhoto Gane 10:00  
Reciting from Holy  
Quran 10:10 I Music  
10:40 71-ar Sabdho  
Synik 11:15 Shaya  
Muke 12:00 Drama  
Everyday-Joar Vhata  
12:40 Music Next  
Generation 1:15 Tir  
Sanggit Bichitra 2:00  
Amar Jhoto Gane 3:00  
Bangla Cinema: Choto  
Bowu 6:00 Reciting  
from Holy Quran 6:10  
Frames of Changes  
6:40 Bhai Ki Dharun  
Dirshow 7:15 Ami Se  
Sanggit 8:00 Drama  
Everyday: Joar Vhata  
8:40 Samoyer Gane  
9:15 Job Line 10:00

## The X Files on Star World tonight at 11

The Winner of 1995 and 1997 Golden Globe  
Awards for Best Drama Series and four time  
Emmy Award nominee for Outstanding Drama  
Series, returns for its sixth season following  
the box office success of the first feature film  
based the series. Tonight the continuing epi-  
sode comes to an end where Molder fights to  
return to his normal life before its too late.



Super Natural, subject: Hidden Forces on Ekushey television at 7:00p.m.



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's The Lost World on Star World at 1:00p.m.

Camped in the mountains, Roxton and Marguerite are taken by surprise by Norse Warriors. Roxton is run through a sword and Marguerite is abducted. Near death Roxton is visited by a mystical young boy named Osric, who offers a deal. Meanwhile, Malone and Veronica must defend the tree house from a band of cut-throats who will stop at nothing to take it from them.

2000 Preliminary  
Round Highlights  
10:30 Live Soc-  
cer/Futbol-Asian Cup  
Finals 2000 Lebanon,  
LEBANON- Final 1:00  
Pga Tour Golf  
National Car Rental  
Classic At Walt Disney  
World Lake Buena  
Vista, FL USA Day  
Three

ESPN  
5:30 Live- Mlb World  
Series 2000 Major  
League Baseball  
World Series (If Nec)  
Game #6 8:30 Western  
Union World Football  
9:00 The Fb's World Of  
Rugby 9:30 Uefa  
Champions League  
2000/01 Group Phase  
1, Matchday 5 11:30  
English Premier  
Football League 1:30  
Pro Billiards 2000 Int'l  
Challenge Of Cham-  
pions Uncasville CT  
USA Semifinal #2 2:30  
Boxing Series Espn2  
Friday Night Fights  
Kansas City MI USA  
4:00 English Premier  
Football League 6:00  
English Premier  
Football League 8:00  
Basketball- Nba  
Action 8:30 Atp Ten-  
nis Show 9:00 Uefa  
Champions League  
Highlights 2000/01  
Weekly #8 Matchwk 5  
H/Ls 10:00 Live-  
English Premier  
Football League  
Bradford City ENG-  
LAND- Leeds United  
Afc Vs Bradford City  
12:00 Extreme Sports-  
Van'S Triple Crown  
Van'S Triple Crown  
Best Of Bmx