

exhibition

Soul Searching in Various Mediums

Saiful Islam bares his soul in his ongoing solo exhibition

By Fayza Haq



Saiful Islam

Md. Shaiful Islam had his exhibition of oil paintings, photography, computerized paintings, sculpture and poems at the Zainul Gallery.

He explains that he has been working in various mediums since childhood. He tried his hands at several things according to his moods and needs. He feels

that one must do something constructive and this does not necessarily mean that he has to stick to one medium. He deals with human feelings whether they be in the abstract oils or the photo prints or even the ceramics. "When I walk in the streets, meet different people, read the newspaper, talk to my mother or friends I get different emotions which I transfer to my work."

In *He and the Black Cat*, an oil painting, there is a monstrous black cat in the background and a white ass. Shaiful says, "Those who run the country are cunning and evil while we are the stupid ass with no rope leading us anywhere. We are powerless and bereft of a will of our own. A human head is also included revealing muscles, veins, arteries etc. which stands for emptiness in our inner mental lives. The black cat stands for evil politicians and the marauding mobsters who make our daily existence unbearable."

Another oil called *Pointless Journey* portrays our pointless existence even though we are rushing through life. The central



Blue-blooded Bird

multicoloured circle, with its splashes of blue and pink, stands for the soul that is being trampled on. The subject is surrounded by dull colours which stand for the emptiness and ugliness of our existence. Monsters like giant crocodiles and dinosaurs with saliva clinging on to their mouths hover around the subject and put it in jeopardy. This too depicts our pointless and aimless existence that is threatened every day.

Yet another oil creation *Blue-Blooded Bird* depicts a dead bird with flowing blue blood. Blue brings in the element of sorrow. Above the bird is depicted its life as it was with its eggs and nest, with raindrops covering the canvas. The clouds are not beautiful as one would expect but bears the sickly greenish yellow colour of acid rains. This painting was inspired by a dead crow being eaten up by insects which Shaiful once came across on the road. Here the bird symbolizes the lifeless existence of human beings.

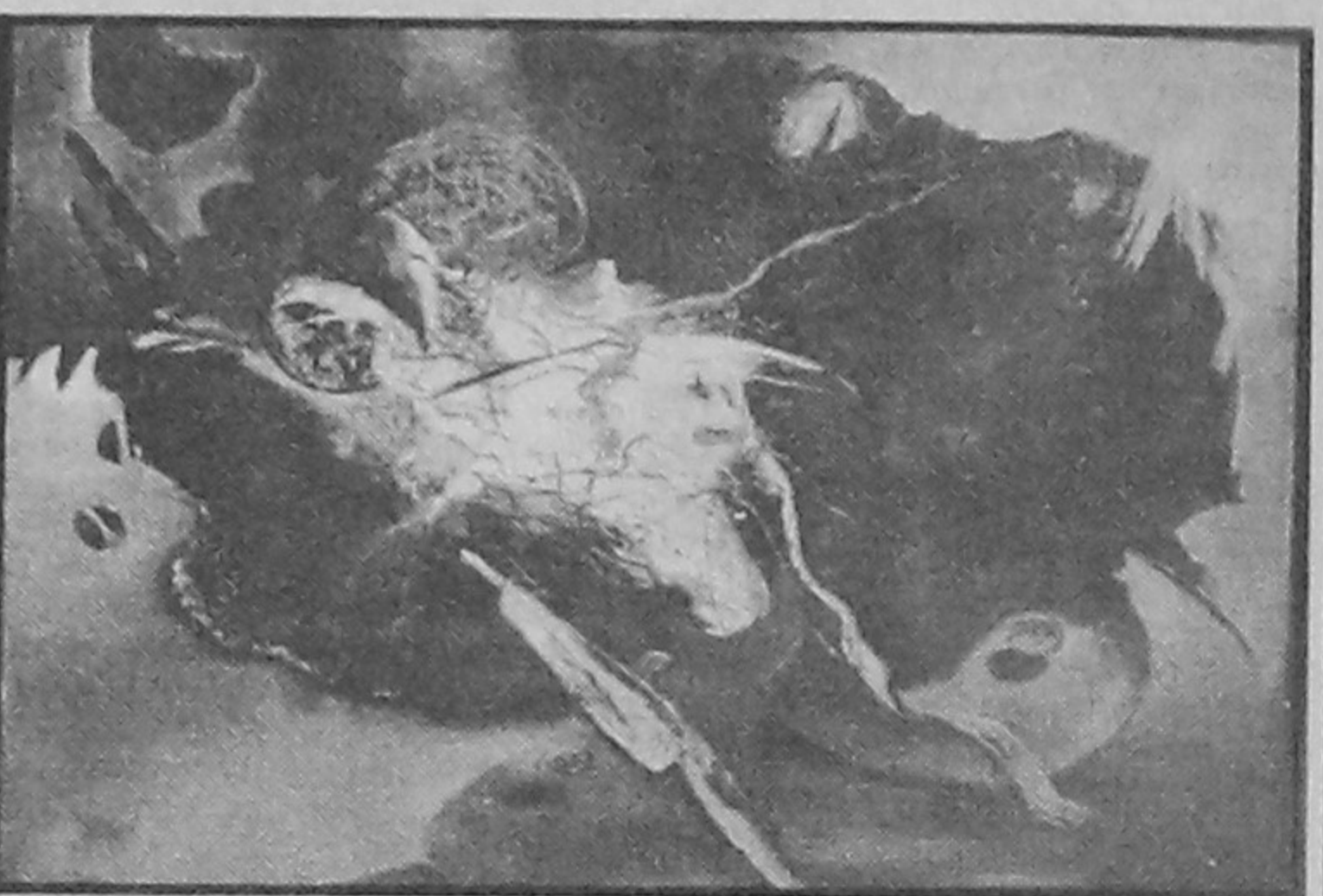
Millennium Moonlight, the last of his oils, brings in the unhealthy neon light colours in place of the



Millennium Moonlight

of green. This is superimposed in different shades of emerald, white and black.

Yes, *Good Morning* is a photograph that gives the impression of light filtering in through the trunks and branches of leaves in a forest. In reality it is the sunlight reflected on collected ripples of water on sand when the tide runs low. This was taken at Saint Martin's. Another photograph shows a fascinating image at a machine repair shop where old parts have been hung together and have then collected rust. The images here are often rounded like the bubbles that Shaiful brings in his paintings. This piece too symbol-



She and the Black Cat

once gentle moonbeams. Gray and brown stands for the dissatisfaction of human existence sans charm or dreams. Light and heavy bubbles representing man's heart and soul cover this canvas too.

A computer generated painting represents the sleepless night of a friend. There is a luminous fish with stars surrounding it along with suggestions of lightening. A photo painting, *Vanguard of Truth*, brings in an owl with its luminous eyes which stand for our conscience, and it is surrounded by overwhelming swirls

izes the overwhelming burden of mankind.

The ceramic works depicting humans in emotional and mental isolation are also worth noting. So are his poems which are in the same pessimistic and poignant vein.

Shaiful has had five solo exhibitions apart from joint ventures. He has been awarded the best set designer three times and he is involved in acting apart from fine art. He is an art teacher at Scholastica. He has an MFA from the Fine Arts Institute.

photography

Frozen but Bubbling

Mala Mukerjee's photographs tell a tale of the past wallowed in the present elegantly at her solo exhibition now being held at the Alliance Francaise.

By Tawfique Ali

CITY'S gallery-goers availing themselves another captivating photography exhibition featuring works by Indian photographer Mala Mukerjee. The show, now being held at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, was inaugurated by Andre Raynouard, Counsellor for Cultural, Scientific and Technical Affairs, French Embassy on November 17. Christophe Steyer, Deputy Director, Cultural Affairs, Alliance Francaise was present at the occasion as special guest.

Mala Mukerjee has attempted to bring out, as the title of the exhibition 'Frozen Music' suggests the symmetry and rhythm of architectural wonders of India. Mala has through her lens discovered a vibrant music frozen in the enticing historical monuments of India that not only open the doors of our imagination but also tell stories that we can share and be thrilled. The immaculate craftsmanship of all the monumental works are rich in antique value and have a lasting aesthetic appeal. Having been framed in the hands of an artist, these age old and abandoned objects have got a new dimension and been equalled to an overlasting form of art. The objects mainly include marvelous architectural grandeur. The architectural landmarks have been photographed at places like Lucknow, Delhi, Jaipur, Goa, Shantiniketan, Oxford, and Dhaka.

Rhapsody in marble (Jaipur), *Heavenly Arch* (Jaipur), *Pebbles* (Lucknow), that are being dis-

played, create a symphony of art for their simplicity and intense play of light and shade on the domes and on the magnificent arches of great historic monuments, and their vibrant colour and a kind of hidden music make Mala's works intensely lively. They appear to be telling tales of unknown past with elegance and vividness. "Romeo & Juliet" (Delhi) is a depiction of a rear window and a ladder leaning against it in an orchard. This piece instantly reminds one of Shakespeare's romantic heroine Juliet eagerly awaiting her lover Romeo who climbs up the ladder to meet his beloved. The magnificent columns (Sonargaon) speaks of the razzle dazzle of the past that surround the palace.

Photography is in her blood. "I started my photography at a very early age with our family camera. I used to take snaps on any occasion held within family circle. At the beginning I never thought of becoming a professional photographer. I moved to London in 1990 with my husband. I had no formal education on photography before I obtained a diploma degree in Applied Art and Design Studies from the London Guildhall University in 1994," says Mala.

The theme of this exhibition is Frozen Music. She first started on this series abroad and later in several parts of India and Bangladesh. Some of the works in this series are steeped in history but, at the same time, are very much an integral part of our contemporary scene. Some are in urban setting while some others are in rustic surroundings. "I am drawn to this theme not only by their beauty but by their texture and colour and by the mystery of the tales they want to tell me."

Mala launched her professional career in 1986 and over the years her work has appeared in many publications such as *Discover India*, *Indian Express*, *Sport Star* and *Suagat* in India and in the *BBC Bulletin*, *India Weekly* in London, to mention a few. She taught photography at The School, KFI, Madras during 1986-89. In 1993 she was

awarded the Owen Rowley Art Prize in London. She was among the prize-winners in 'Our Big City' competition, in London in October 1993. She was nominated by the Photographic Resource Centre at Boston University.

She took part in group shows at various galleries in London. Her major solo exhibitions include Cottons Centre, London (1991), Sakshi Gallery, Bangalore (1994), BCD Gallery, Mumbai (1995), Birla Academy Art Gallery, Calcutta (1995), Lalitkala Academy, Chennai (1996), Lalitkala Academy, New Delhi (1997).

Mala has received critical acclaim from painters, art critics and collectors and has gotten rave reviews. KM Adimoolan commented, "The realities simply disappear and all abstract shapes and forms emerge like magic in her work." Binoy K Behl said, "her



Mala Mukerjee



Dumped (Matheran)

works are excellent imaginative." Critic Aruna Bhowmik commented, "The frames are imbued with an old world clarity and economy of elements, unimpaird by consumerist clutter." "Unexpected details that will release a marvelous and compelling reality just beneath the banal surface of ordinary experience," Geeta Doctor remarked. According to Vasantha Iyer, Mala Mukerjee's works turn the familiar and the commonplace into an exotic and extraordinary experience."

Recommendations



Artists of the New Millennium

Gallery 21 celebrates its 3rd founding anniversary with the group exhibition titled Artists of the New Millennium. The inaugural ceremony of the exhibition started on November 17. The exhibition will bring together the works of all our exciting younger painters.

Shamsuzzaman Khan, director general Bangladesh National Museum will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest while Professor Rafiqun Nabi and Dr Hossain Zillur Rahman were also present as special guests.

The exhibition will remain open from 10:00a.m 8:00p.m. till November 27.

The First Human Rights Cartoon & Film Festival Bangladesh

The foreign and Commonwealth Office and The British Council organised *The First Human Rights Cartoon & Film Festival Bangladesh* at the British Council Auditorium today at 3:00p.m.

Abdul Matin Khoshru, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs will inaugurate the occasion as chief guest.

Musical Soiree

Today Chalchitram Film Society organises a musical soiree titled *Panchageete Kabir Ganer Ashar* at the Goethe Institut at 6:30 in the evening. Five eminent Bengali song writer - Rabindranath Tagore, Drigendral Roy, Rajanikanta Sen, Atul Parashad Sen and Kazi Nazrul Islam's songs will be performed at the programme.

Face to Face

Organised by Chalchitram Film Society Tanvir Mokammel's film *Chitra Nadir Pare* will be screened at the Goethe Institut on November 22 at 5:30 in the evening. After the screening there will be a face to face with the filmmaker.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



"Tommy Boy"

on HBO tonight at 8:30

Just out of college, perpetual foul-up Farley returns home to work in his father's factory. His father's sudden death forces Farley to try and save the plant and the town, with the help of the most efficient and obnoxious man in the company Spade. Starring: Chris Farley, David Spade, Rob Lowe.

FDES 10:00 [V] Hit Machine 10:30 Late Night [V] 12:30 [V] Hit Mchine

STAR GOLD

8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Baharen Phir Bhi



Drama: Maddyabitya will be aired on Ekushey television tonight at 9

BTB

Morning Session
9:45 Opening Announcement 10:00 Live telecast of the question and answer part of the 20th session of the 7th National Parliament
Evening Session
3:00 Opening Announcement 3:20 Open University 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Nutrition Facts 4:20 Sports Programme 4:50 Shukhi Poribar: Programme on population control 5:10 Lal Shabuj Pala: A Programme for the children 5:40 Chande Anande (Re telecast) 6:00 News 6:10 Shabar Jonnya Shiksha: Public education programme 6:30 Programme from Chittagong station 7:00 Sangeeta: Programme on modern music 7:25 Tukhor: Television Quiz 8:00 News in Bengali 8:20 Drama Series: Sattayajiter Papya 8:50 Drama Series: Birohi Boshonto 9:20 National Film Awards (1995-1996) Part-1 10:00 News at Ten 10:20 Abahaman Bangla: A programme on Bengali culture and heritage 10:50 Sur Lahari: A programme on classical music 11:30 Khabar/ The News 11:45 Close Down.

EKUSHEY TV

12:00 Ekushey News Headlines 12:05 Akjer Potrikay 12:15 Bangla Movie: Dhon Roto 2:40 Drishti 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Drama Series: Hakarbin 3:30 Amader Kotha 4:00 Chitrogeeti 4:30 Circus 5:00 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:30 Drishti 5:50 Akjer Potrikay 6:00

Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Classic Cartoons 6:30 Charidike 7:02 Bubuner Baba 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Drama Series: Nei Kono Thikana 8:30 Drama Series: Jhor Brishtir Neer 9:00 Drama: Moddhotito 10:00 BTB News 10:20 Mukto Khobor 11:00 Ekushey Late Night News 11:15 Ekushey Classic 12:00 Ekushey News Headlines

CHANNEL-i

5:40 Addar Table 6:15 Drama: Shesh Khothi 7:00 Drama Everyday:



The 3rd episode of the children drama serial HakaRobin will be aired on Ekushey television at 3:05p.m.

Joar Vhata 7:40 Chethonal Chironjib 8:00 Din Protidin 8:25 Business File 8:50 Akatter Dinguli 9:00 Drama: Khear Khata 9:30 Drama: Prothaborton 10:00 India vs Zimbabwe 1st Test Match 6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Mancholik 6:40 Addar Table 7:15 Anondodhara 8:00 Drama Everyday: Joar Vhata 8:40 Business Show 9:15 Talk Show: Sanglap 9:50 Akatter Dinguli 10:00 Uzan Vati 11:00 Bangla Cinema:

ALPHA BANGLA TV

8:00 Din Protidin 9:00 News / Bharat Bhromon 9:30 Bahari Aahaar 10:00 Grihasajja 10:30 Bhalobasa Mondobasa 11:00 Iska Boner Bibi 11:30 Mon Niye 12:00 Bahari Aahaar 12:30 Amra Probsai 1:00 Shyaola 1:30 Ek Akasher Niche 2:00 Nanyantara 3:30 Feature Film 5:00 Football 5:30 Anya Bhuvan 6:00 Arghya 6:30 Din Protidin 7:30 News 8:00 Nanyantara 8:30 Ek Akasher Niche 9:00

Shudhu Tomake Chai 9:30 Kapurush 10:00 News/Shyaola 10:30 Football 11:00 Din Protidin 12:00 Arghya 12:30 Bharat Bhromon 1:00 Bhalobasa Mondobasa 2:00 Feature Film 4:00 Ek Akasher Niche 4:30 Grihasajja 5:00 Shyaola 5:30 Hiyar Majhe 6:30 Aalap 7:00 Grihasajja 7:30 News/Arghya

HBO

7:00 Our Mother's Murder 9:00 Poodle Springs 11:00 The Indian in the Cupboard 1:00 Lone Star

3:45 Gremlins 6:00 Kung Fu: The Movie 8:00 Tommy Boy 10:00 Oxford Blues 12:00 Bulletproof 1:45 Lone Star 4:30 Tommy Boy

STAR WORLD

8:00 Home Improvement 8:30 Happy Days 9:00 That 70's Show 9:30 Dharma & Greg 10:00 Chicago Hope 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 Everybody Loves Raymond 12:30 Frasier 1:00 The Things People Do 1:30 The Bold And The Beautiful 2:00 Mork & Mindy 2:30 Happy Days 3:00 Baywatch 4:00 Hollywood Squares 4:30 Home Improvement 5:00 Star News Asia 5:30 Friends 6:00 JAG 7:00 The Pretended 8:00 NYPD Blue 9:00 Friends 9:30 Star News 10:00 JAG 11:00 The Pretender 12:00 NYPD Blue 1:00 JAG 2:00 The Pretender 3:00 Crefo Dollar Daily 3:30 Kenneth Copeland Ministries 4:00 Life In The Word With Joyce Meyer 4:30 World News 5:00 Media TV 5:30 Mork & Mindy 6:00 Hollywood Squares 6:30 The New WKRP in Cincinnati 7:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show

STAR PLUS

6:30 STAR Geetmala 7:30 Good Morning India 8:30 Cine Jharokha 9:00 Hit Ya Fit 9:30 Star Morning Show: Awara Zindagi 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 TSN 1:30 Tanha 2:00 Meri Saheli 2:30 Saans 3:00 Pal Chhin 3:30 Small Wonders 4:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 4:30 Cine Jharokha 5:00 Hit Ya Fit 5:30 I Love My India 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30

Fox Kids 7:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 8:00 Tu Tu Main Main 8:30 Kabhi Kabhi Mere Ghar Mein Bhuchal Aata Hai 9:00 Kora Kagaz 9:30 Kaun Banega Crorepati 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 12:00 Tanha 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 Small Wonder 1:30 Saans 2:00 Meri Saheli 2:30 Tanha 3:00 Tu Tu Main Main 3:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 4:00 Star Bestsellers 5:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 5:30 Hit Ya Fit 6:00 Cine Jharokha

STAR MOVIES

7:30 Drama: Ultimate Deception (12) 9:30 Western: Im for the Hippopotamus 11:30 Comedy: Mr Warong (PG) 1:30 Middy Movie: Cousin Bette (15) 3:30 Drama: Mother Night (PG) 5:30 Action: Freeway (15) 7:30 Comedy: Rookie of the Year (PG) 9:30 Extreme CU 10:00 Hollywood Action Night: Lock Up (15) 12:00 Movie With Style: Forced To Kill (15) 2:00 Thriller: Brown's Requiem (15) 4:00 Action: Freeway (15) 5:30 Comedy: Rookie of the Year (PG)

CHANNEL [V]

7:00 [V] So Long Gone 9:30 Virtual [V] 9:45 [V] Hit Machine 10:30 Video Preview 11:00 [V] Hit Machine 12:30 [V] Jungle Jukebox 1:00 [V] FDFS 1:30 [V] Hit Machine 2:30 [V] MMM 3:00 [V] Hit Machine 4:30 Tea With [V] 5:00 Virtual [V] 5:15 Tea With [V] 8:00 [V] Hit Machine 8:30 [V] Face Off 9:00 [V] Jungli Jukebox 9:30 [V]

Ayengi - (R) (Dharmendra, Mala Sinha, Tanuja) 12:00 Geet Bahar (R) 12:30 Sharada (*Raj Kapoor, Meena Kumari) 3:30 Bollywood News (R) 4:00 Dil Ki Rani (Raj Kapoor, Madhubala) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Mangal Masti-Khuddar (*Amitabh Bachchan, Praveen Babi) 10:30 Bollywood News 11:00 Vardaan (* Vinod Mehra, Reena Roy, Mehmod) 12:30 Vardaan-(Contd) 2:00 Geet Bahar (R) 2:30 Dil Ki Rani-(R) 5:30 Vardaan-(R) (* Vinod Mehra, Reena Roy, Mehmod)

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

6:30 Go For It! Sailing in Australia 7:30 Ushuaia Sky Sports 8:30 Lonely Planet II Israel and the Sinai Desert 9:30 Animal in Survivors Episode 15 10:00 *Eyewitness II Arctic and Antarctic 10:30 ESPU Cobra III/Jurassic I/Jurassic II 11:00 EOuter Bounds I & II Episode II 11:30 Shark Files, The (II) Tales of the Tiger Shark 12:30 Wild Discovery The Secret Life of Whales 1:30 Medical Detectives I The List Murderers 2:00 Medical Detectives II Postal Mortem 2:30 Discover Magazine Stealth Helicopter 3:30 Go For It! Scuba Diving in Australia 4:30 Ushuaia Exotic Animals 5:30 Lonely Planet III South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland 6:30 Mega Movie Magic (II) The Borrowers 7:00 Real Kids, Real Adventures Bear Attack 7:30 Wild Discovery Secrets of the Deep IV: Sharks

Masters of the Sea 8:30 Hunters Track of the Cat 9:30 Web Week Nerds 2.0.1: A Brief History of the Internet: Episode 3 10:30 On the Inside Inside: Devil's Island 11:30 Discovery Profile Series Great Books: Pride and Prejudice 12:30 Wild Discovery Secrets of the Deep IV: Sharks: Masters of the Sea 1:30 Hunters Track of the Cat 2:30 Web Week Nerds 2.0.1.A Brief History of the Internet: Episode 3 3:30 On the Inside Inside: Devil's Island 4:30 Discovery Profile Series Great Books: Pride and Prejudice 5:30 Discover Magazine Size and Scale

STAR SPORTS

7:30 Sportsline Today 8:00 Sportsline Today 8:30 Australian Domestic Cricket-Mercantile Mutual Cup Tasmania vs. New South Wales 12:30 Sportsline Today 1:00 Yachting-Swedish Match Grand Priz Sailing Tour 1:30 South Africa Cricket-New Zealand Tour of South Africa New Zealand vs. South Africa LIVE 4:30 Soccer-The Match of the Century: Charlton 5:00 South Africa Cricket-New Zealand Tour of South Africa New Zealand vs. South Africa LIVE 9:30 Thai Kick Boxing 10:30 Sportsline Tonight LIVE 11:00 Australian Domestic Cricket West Indies vs. Western Australia 12:00 Sportsline Tonight LIVE

ESPN

6:00 Conference USA Basketball Massachusetts vs. Marquette LIVE 8:00 NFL Football (I) Washington Redskins vs. St. Louis Rams LIVE 11:30 Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour: PWBA Bowling Sam's Town Invitational 12:30 Motoworld 1:00 Sportscenter LIVE 2:00 Italian Football: Italian Serie A 2000/2001 Highlights 3:00 ATP Tennis Masters Series: Paris 5:00 English Premier Football League Liverpool vs. Tottenham Hotspur 7:00 ATP Tennis Masters Series: Paris 10:00 Sportscenter: International Edition 10:30 English Premier Football League Ipswich Town vs. Coventry.

ZEE CINEMA

2:30 Chalak (Kiran



Rezwana Chowdhury Bonna and Sadi Mohammed will sing in the programme Anandadhara, on Channel i at 7:15 in the evening.

Kumar, Radha Sulochan) 6:30 Sangeet Samrat Tansen (Bharat Bhushan, Anit) 10:30 Baarish (Dev Anand, Nutan) 2:00 EK Phool Chaur Kaante (Sunil Dutt, Vahida) 6:30 Julie (Vikram, Laxmi) 10:30 Gopi Kishan (Sunil Shetty, Karishma Kapoor)



Forced To Kill

on Star Movies tonight at 12 midnight

Starring: Corey Michael Eubanks, Michael Ironside
A repo man (Eubanks) tries to do his job and deliver a repossessed Jaguar. Instead, he becomes entangled in a bizarre situation when he is captured by an insane family who force him to fight in an illegal, bare-fist tournament run by an corrupt sheriff (Ironside).

ATN

5:30 Islamic Program 7:00 Children Prog. 7:30 Musical Prog 8:30 Drama Serial 9:00 Documentary Prog

Jiggasha

CNN 7:00 CNN This Morning 7:30 Moneyline 8:00 Larry King Live 9:00 World News 9:30 World Sport 10:00 World News 10:30 Showbiz Today 11:00 World News 11:30 Q&A (Replay) 12:00 World News 12:30 World Report 1:00 World News 1:30 World Sport 2:00 World News 2:30 Insight 3:00 Larry King Live (Replay) 4:00 World News 4:30 Biz Asia 5:00 Asia Tonight 5:30 World Sport 6:00 World News 6:15 Asian Edition 6:30 Biz Asia 7:00 World News 7:30 World Beat 8:00 Asia Tonight 8:30 World Sport 9:00 World News 9:30 CNN Indiadotcom 10:00 World News 10:30 Biz Asia 11:00 World News 11:30 Q&A (Replay) 12:00 World News 12:30 World Report 1:00 World News 1:30 World Sport 2:00 World News 2:30 Insight 3:00 Larry King Live (Replay) 4:00 World News 4:30 Biz Asia 5:00 Asia Tonight 5:30 World Sport 6:00 World News 6:15 Asian Edition 6:30 Biz Asia 7:00 World News 7:30 World Beat 8:00 Asia Tonight 8:30 World Sport 9:00 World News 9:30 CNN Indiadotcom 10:00 World News 10:30 Biz Asia 11:00 World News 11:30 Q&A (Replay) 12:00 World News 12:30 World Report 1:00 World News 1:30 World Sport 2:00 World News 2:30 Q&A 3:00 World News Europe 3:30 CNN Newsworm