

## cinema

# Through the Window of the West

*Cinematic Discoveries in a Strange yet Familiar World The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 opened not only the door to the West but also the door to the East.*

By Cultural Correspondent

THE World War II witnessed a split of German land into East and West. In course of time, a democracy-loving world emerged gradually to bring about world's stability, peace and harmony. By the decade of nineties the trauma of the war was erased significantly by continued efforts to establish peace over the world. The Berlin wall that drew a curtain to disintegrate German nation for the sake of world peace, came down in 1989 in a newer post-war context. A nation divided forcibly, rejoiced their re-union with remarkable enthusiasm and jubilation.

A unique cultural amalgam between the east and West took place.

The world experienced a different phenomenon in a new world order.

In the GDR the close historical ties of Germany to certain regions in Eastern Europe, the borders that were drawn as a result of the Second World War and the accompanying loss of a homeland for many Germans from East Prussia, Poland, former Czechoslovakia and other countries were to a certain extent supposed to be

erased from people's memories. Of course there were DEFA films about Germany's Eastern European neighbours, but all traces of Germany in these stories were ignored. In the Federal Republic of Germany one could very quickly be suspected of wanting to restore old national borders or also accused of being politically associated with the organisations of German exiles, and thus the film-makers, who were sincerely interested in discovering the way of life in the neighbouring countries in Eastern Europe, were the ones of all people who had great difficulties in conducting their cinematic investigations. Below the surface, the relationship of the Germans to the East remained a festering sore. This was a taboo that could only be destroyed after the Wall came down. For this reason, it is simply all too understandable that in the last few years a comparatively large number of films have been made which look to the East with a mixture of curiosity participation and involvement, beyond any sort of journalistic broadside or speculation. The films presented here are not the only ones to do this, and newer films are also continually being made. In all of them the interest in current changes is more

**Films that will be shown are as follows :**  
23.125.1.2001, every day at 6 pm, Goethe Institut Auditorium

**Vokzal - The Brest Station**  
35 mm, b/w, 90 min.  
1994  
Dir: Gerd Kroske

**Cold Homeland**  
35 mm, colour, 157 min.  
1995  
Dir: Volker Koepp

**Off season**  
35 mm, b/w, 125 min.  
1997  
Dir: Pepe Danquart and Mirjam Quinte

**Slask/Silesia**  
35 mm, colour, 80 min.  
1994  
Dir: Viola Stephan

**Tired Companions**  
16 mm, colour, 71 min  
1996  
Dir: Zoran Solomun

or less clearly combined with the search for historical roots, causes and circumstances that determine the situation today. They are observations of everyday life and investigations of history in one. Essentially what we have here is documentary films. What the documentary film strives to do is to present an exact and penetrating view of the world; its purpose is to make the world accessible and to have us become acquainted with the people and the localities found there. For narrative films, the time required to process the radical changes taking place today is, on the one hand, too short; on the other hand, a narrative film does not necessarily need to have direct contact with

the country it deals with, since it can create whatever reality or image of one it chooses. Thus, there have always been great fictional films about the Germans in the East and the relationship to their Slavic and Baltic neighbours. Two good examples are Die Blechtommler (The Tin Drum, ERG, 1979, based on the novel by Gunter Grass) and Lewins Mühle by Horst Seemann (Levin's Mill, GDR 1980, based on the novel by Johannes Bobrowski).

The historical background causes it to appear only too natural that in the films *Vokzal Bahnhof Brest* (Vokzal The Brest Station) by Gerd Kroske, *Slask Schiesien* (Slask Silesia) by Viola Stephan and *Kalte Heimat* (Cold Homeland) by Volker Koepp the war; above all the Second World War; plays a major role. For the inhabitants of Belarus, Silesia and East Prussia it is still strongly prevalent in the concrete circumstances surrounding them and lies like a shadow over their lives.

This collection of films also deals with another war; namely with the one currently raging in Yugoslavia. This war is viewed not only from the outside, namely by the Germans *Pepe Danquart and Mirjam Quinte*, whose film *Nach Saison* (Off Season) was shot on location in Mostar; but also from the inner perspective, in the only feature film in this film series, *Mude Weggefahrten* (Tired Companions) by Zoran Solomun, a Croation who lives in Germany. Despite the slight temporal distance to the occurrences depicted here, both of these films, because of their cinematic way of telling a story beyond any sort of journalism, also arrive at a historical view of the events and allow us to look at the depths of the conflict.



## music

# A Concert with a Difference

*Concert For Music at the Indian Cultural Centre*

By Nafid Imran Ahmed

EACH year a group of enthusiastic young music lovers organises a friendly concert. Through this they want to promote and inject fresh blood into the country's thriving music scenario. Organised by Joy and presented by Bass Computronics Ltd this year's concert labelled Concert for Music was held at the Indian Cultural Centre on January 14.

In front of a host of music aficionados of the city, this year's concert featured three bands. Keeping with the tradition of introducing a new band, this year Nemesis was introduced.

Another band, which has recently been in the popularity chart was Aurthohin and finally the main attraction of the concert Trikal, an exclusive band from Germany, kept the audience captivated.

The Indian Cultural Centre auditorium on Sunday was overflowing with young music lovers. Before the curtain was raised a voice recited verses of the legendary Jim Morrison, "Is everybody in? The ceremony is about to begin." The first band to play at the Concert for Music was Nemesis, a band with five young members playing English songs. They started the concert with a famous U2 number, *One Love*. The audience was a bit amazed to hear a U2 number first. But as Nemesis went into full flow they enjoyed it. Without any break they played another popular U2 number *With or Without You* to be followed by yet another number by U2. They played these numbers uniquely and the audience enjoyed their playing. The next number, *Californication* of Red Hot Chili Peppers almost got the audience up from their seats and moving. Next Nemesis went for Dire Straits. The audience was mesmer-

ised when they started playing famous songs such as *Down To The Water Line* and *Sultans of Swing*. The young guitarist played outstandingly the Mark Knofler guitar solos. The audience clapped after each solo he played. The last song Nemesis played was a famous song by the legendary band Guns N' Roses, *Sweet Child O' Mine*. Though the vocal was a bit low for this song, but it was the beauty of the song that made it so well liked by the crowd. Nemesis said that as their band members had different tastes in music they perform various ranges of songs.

The next band received a very warm welcome from the audience. They were Aurthohin. This four-member band has recently released an album. They started their performance with a jamming session. It was clear from their playing that the members were masters in their own fields of instruments. The first song they played was *Shiter Shokal Bela*, a very nice and melodious number. The next number they played was *Jostnay Ojana Poth Chola* a bit heavy number. The guitar solos were heavy along with the massive bass solos played by vocal Shumon. After another heavy number they played *Shonali Rode Rangabo Tomay*. After these two numbers Aurthohin played their famous number *Mone Koro*, the audience loved this song and sang along with them. Then they played *Amar Shukher Apith Opith* and then an English number *Ace of Spade*. With another own number Aurthohin's high-speed performance came to an end.

This was not all for the audience. The main attraction of the show was still to come. A band from Germany playing Bengali songs, Trikal was next. This five-member heavy metal band is a German based band. All the members except for the vocal Tuhin

are German. They already have two albums, which are recorded in Germany and will be released in local market very shortly. Tuhin the only Bangladeshi member in Trikal went to Germany in 1991, where he formed a band playing Bengali heavy metal songs. This was the very first performance in Bangladesh and they were thrilled along with the audience. They started their very first performance in Bangladesh with the number *Nirobe Koshte Thaka*. The compact and heavy performance amazed the audience and they were also amazed to see such tremendous musicians performing Bengali songs. One after another they played *Preyoshi Ke*, *Jostna Toma Anchale Lukiye Robe*. The exclusive drumming by Estefan made the audience jumping and dancing around. After another number they played a very nice song *Elkon Nagar Poribrajok*. One thing about Trikal is that their lyrics are very powerful and effective. Next they played *Jolche and Smriti*, two incredible numbers. The audience cheered Trikal all the way. Their exclusive performance continued as they played *A Kamon Beche Thaka* and the last song of the concert *Ronger Ghore Boshobash* a very touchy and melodious number.

Overall the concert was a massive success alike the previous years and the audience enjoyed it so much that they sat still even after the show was over. Concerts like this should be organised throughout the year so that the music loving community of the country get the feel how the young and upcoming bands of the country are performing. All in all it was a show that everyone enjoyed.



Dance artiste Nipa adjusts a portrait of dance guru Uday Shankar prior to a programme to mark the birth centenary of the legendary dancer of the sub-continent.

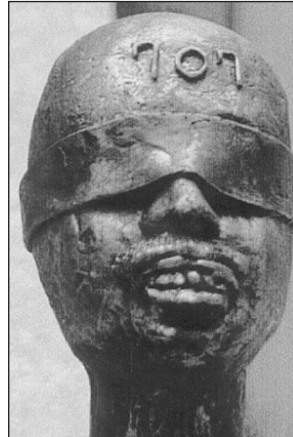
## Recommendations

### Kittankhola

The screening of the film *Kittankhola* will be held at the Goethe Institut (German Cultural Centre) today at 6 in the evening. Based on the theatrical presentation by Selim Al Din, the film is directed by Abu Sayeed.

### Cassette Release

An album titled *Sur Baje Tar Amar Prane* by Rabindrasangeet singer Mansura Begum will be held at the Indian High Commission Cultural Centre auditorium on January 18 at 6:30 in the evening.



### Art exhibition

Alka Mathur and Naresh Kapuria's joint show opens at Bengal Gallery on January 18. Alka Mathur is a familiar name in the Dhaka art circle. These two artists together promise a mind stirring show for the city's gallery-goers.

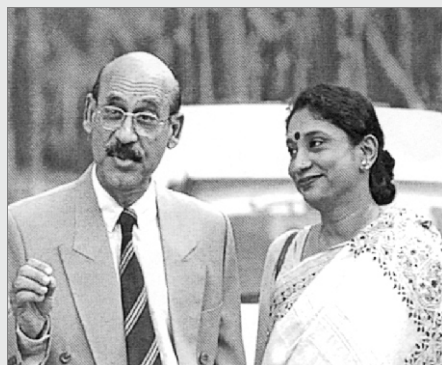
### The War We

#### Forgot

A photography exhibition on the history of country's Liberation War has opened at the Drik Gallery. The show displays historic images of the internationally renowned press and other photographers who were in Bangladesh during the War in 1971. The works of Abbas, Barbey, Henri Bureau, David Burnett, Horst Paas (Associated Press), Michel Laurent (Associated Press), Raghu Rai, Rashid Talukder, among others, have been kept on display. The exhibition is open for all from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily and will come to an end on February 2.

# TV GUIDE

## PICK OF THE DAY



**2nd episode of drama serial Bismriti on Ekushey at 8:00 p.m.**  
The drama has been written and directed by Maloy Ganguly.  
Starring: Tareq Anam, Abul Hayat, Monir Khan Shimul, Indrani Haldar and Shirin Bakul among others.

**BTV.**  
Morning session: 9:45 opening announcement. 10:00 Live telecast of Parliament session. Evening session: 3:00 Opening announcement. 3:20 Open University. 4:00 Khabar. 4:05 Shasthya Tathya: a programme on health of mother and child. 4:20 Cartoon. 4:40 Apon Bhumi: a programme on land development. 5:20 Pratisruti: a magazine programme. 5:45 Pusti Tathya. 6:00 Khabar. 6:10 Sopan. 6:35 programme of Chittagong station. 7:00 Geet Bitan: a programme of Rabindra songs. 7:25 Nupur Nikkan: classical music. 8:00 Bangla news. 8:20 Drama serial: Abar Ashibo Phire. 9:00 Movie: Young Hercules. 9:30 Drama serial: Baishakhi Jhar. 10:00 News at Ten. 10:20 Unnyao Sanglap. 11:30 Khabar/ The News. 11:45 Closing.

**BBC WORLD**  
6:00 BBC News 6:30 World Business Report 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Asia Today/World Business Report 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Hardtalk 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Talking Movies 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Hospital 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Reporters ex World Review 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Jancis Italian Feast Rought Science 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Reporters ex World Review 6:00 BBC News 6:30 Hospital 7:00 BBC News 7:15 World Business Report 7:30 Click Online 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Hardtalk 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Face to Face 11:00 BBC News

**Ekushey TV**  
12:00 Ekushey News Headlines 12:05 Ajker Potrikay 12:15 Bangla Movie: Dhwon Rotno 2:40 Drishti 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Choto Choto Dheu 3:30 Shampa Rezar Boithok 4:00 Bauliana 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:00 Circus



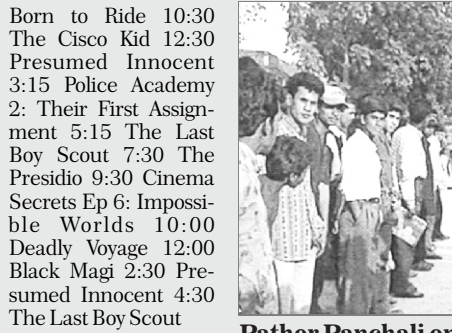
Bolte Chai on Ekushey TV at 7:00 p.m.

11:15 World Business Report 11:30 Holiday 12:00 BBC News



Young Hercules on BTV at 9:15 tonight.

12:30 World Business Report 12:45 World Sport 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Top Gear ex Waterworld 3:00 BBC News 3:30 World Business Report 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Asia Business Report/World Business Report 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Asia Business Report/Asia Today



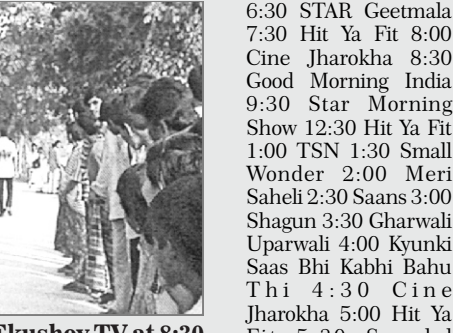
Pather Panchali on Ekushey TV at 8:30 p.m.

6:00 Dark Skies/Ancient Future 7:00 Heart of Courage

Dares Wins 6:00 I Dare You 7:00 VIP II/Ransom of Red Val 8:00 MovPremiere Movie: Starman 10:00 Charlie's Angels I/The Seance 11:00 VIP II/Ransom of Red Val 12:00 Movie: Starman 2:00 Dark Skies/Ancient Future 3:00 Silk Stalkings V/Exit Dying

**STAR GOLD**  
8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Tumsa Nahin Dekha 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Shabab 3:30 Bollywood News 4:00 Durgesh Nandini 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Rang Birangi Paigham 10:30 Bollywood News 11:00 Jogan 12:30 Jogan (contd) 2:00 Geet Bahar 2:30 Durgesh Nandini 5:30 Jogan

**STAR WORLD**  
6:30 Live In The World With Joyce Meyer 7:00 World News 7:30 Grace Under Fire 8:00 Mork & Mindy 8:30 Murder Call 9:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 10:30 Home Improvement 11:00 Happy Days 11:30 JAG 12:30 The Pretender 1:30 The Oprah Winfrey Show 2:30 NYPD Blue 3:30 Grace Under Fire 4:00 The Bold And The Beautiful 4:30 Mork & Mindy 5:30 Happy Days 5:30 Baywatch 6:30 Hollywood Squares 7:00 Home Improvement



Jag on Star World at 11:30 am

Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 12:00 Shagun 12:30 Telebrands 1:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 1:30 Star Movie Show 4:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 5:00 Saans 5:30 Meri Saheli

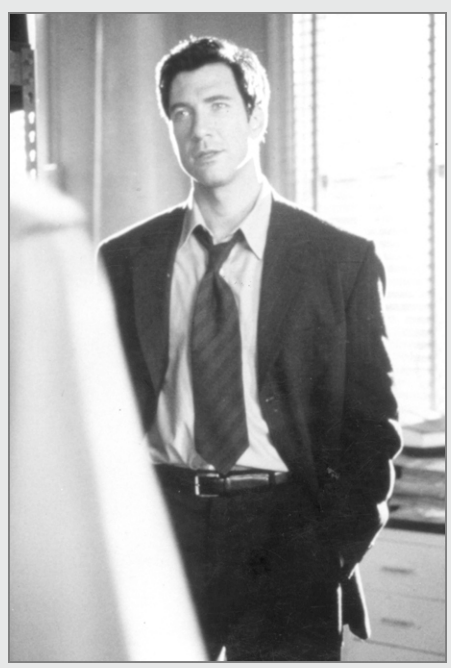
**STAR MOVIES**  
7:00 Drama: Cinderella 9:00 Comedy: Secret Life of Girls 11:00 Action: Rambo 3  
1:00 Action: Alien Intruder 3:00 Drama: Ever After 5:00 Thriller: Without Malice 8:00 Action: Total Recall 9:00 Action: Eighteen Shades of Dust 11:00 Drama: Cinderella 1:00 Action: Intent To Kill 3:00 Thriller: PI 5:00 Drama: Mystery of Spoon River

**DISCOVERY CHANNEL**  
6:30 Eyewitness II 7:00 In Care of Nature 7:30 Outer Bounds I & II 8:00 Without Warning I 8:30 Lonely Planet V 9:30 Popular Mechanics for Kids II 7:00 Pop Sci 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Blue Reef Adventures 9:00 Oceans of Mystery 9:30 Discover Magazine 10:00 The Quest 10:30 Lands of Legends 11:00 Sea Legends 11:30 Discovery Profile Series 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Blue Reef Adventures 2:00 Oceans of Mystery 2:30 Discover Magazine 3:00 The Quest 3:30 Lands of Legends 4:00 Sea Legends 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 Medical Mysteries



Jag on Star World at 11:30 am

Planet V 9:30 Beyond 2000 10:00 Next Step 10:30 Go For It! 11:00 Intimate Escapes 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Medical Detectives I 2:00 Medical Detectives I 2:30 Medical Mysteries



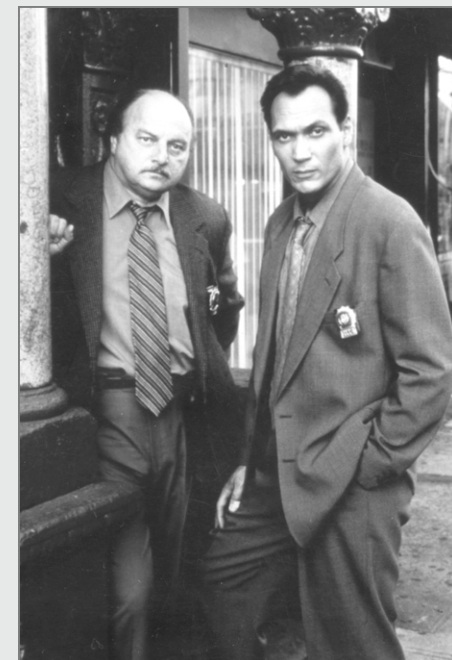
The Practice on Star world at 10:30 pm

3:30 Animal Survivors 4:00 In Care of Nature 4:30 Outer Bounds I & II 5:00 Without Warning I 5:30 Lonely Planet V 6:30 Popular Mechanics for Kids II 7:00 Pop Sci 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:30 Blue Reef Adventures 9:00 Oceans of Mystery 9:30 Discover Magazine 10:00 The Quest 10:30 Lands of Legends 11:00 Sea Legends 11:30 Discovery Profile Series 12:30 Wild Discovery 1:30 Blue Reef Adventures 2:00 Oceans of Mystery 2:30 Discover Magazine 3:00 The Quest 3:30 Lands of Legends 4:00 Sea Legends 4:30 Discovery Profile Series 5:30 Medical Mysteries

Business Unusual 10:00 World News 10:30 Biz Asia 11:00 World News 11:30 Q&A South Asia 12:00 World News 2:00 CNN Hotspots 3:30 World Business Today 2:00 World News 2:30 Q&A News 3:00 World News Europe 3:30 CNN Newsroom

**ZEE CINEMA**  
6:30 Ustad Ustad Se (Vinod Mehra, Ranjeeta) 10:30 Chor Aur Chand (Aditya, Puja Bhat) 2:00 Kora Kagaz (Vijay Anand, Jaya Bhaduri) 6:30 Sikander Azam (Prithviraj Kapoor, Mumtaz) 10:30 Aap Ki Khatir (Vinod Khanna, Rekha) 2:30 Dushman Devta (Javed Khan, Shripada)

**Z MGM**  
6:30 My Favourite Brunette 4:00 House on Carroll Street 11:30 Love at Large 2:00 Catch Me If You Can 4:30 He is my Brother 7:00 Cool Change



NYPD Blue on Star World at 2:30 pm