

Music

Creating musical bond between East and West

British Council presents State of Bengal band from UK

NAFID IMRAN AHMED

LONDON'S Time Out magazine writes, "State of Bengal, the so-called Asian underground sounds have fired up some of the London's finest dance floors" while The East writes, "Once the musical direction had been taken on board, State of Bengal went out and played to young audiences from all backgrounds and let them know about the damage caused by discrimination."

British Council presents new sensation in London's music scene State of Bengal for city's music lovers on 10 and 11 of February at Osmani Memorial Hall.

The band will also perform in Chittagong on February 12. The State of Bengal musical extravaganza will also co-feature local musical bands Miles and Soft Touch. The touring band will involve themselves in a fusion session with classical musicians of the city.

Saifullah (Sam) Zaman, the founder of State of Bengal has a musical history that goes all the way back to the Joi Bangla sound system. The band was formed in 1987 when Sam was visiting traditional folk musicians and dancers in the village of Noakhali in Bangladesh. He was driven by a desire to create a new type of music that would create an expression and a conversation between instruments, which would develop a bond between the culture of the people and the music between East and West. When Sam returned to London, he began to recruit rappers and dancers and started to make music which was the reflection of his desire.

State of Bengal has toured the world opening for Bjork, remixed tracks for the group Massive Attack and the late great Pakistani singer Nusrat Fateh Ali Khan, and recorded a duet record with legendary sitarist Ananda Shankar for Peter Gabriel's Real World Records shortly before Shankar's death. Sam Zaman of State of Bengal has also created a track that will transport one to a jungle of strong tabla beats and bass lines, fused together with samples of his portfolio of unique sounds - ranging from traditional classical Indian instruments such as the Sarangi and Santoor to natural environmental instruments. About his first solo release Elephant Ride, Sam says, "It is an experience. I want people to close their eyes and feel the rhythm and soul of the track. It is a journey into the array of music and cultures. The inspiration is from my roots back home, blended with my influences as an Asian in the UK"

State of Bengal is more than just a musical experience. It is a mood that reflects the very essence of emotion, culture and beliefs of the people of Bengal. Their mission was simple - to use their own experiences as second generation Asians to educate and inform younger generations of all the creeds and

colours about the injustices and discrimination that exists across the world. Sam says, "I grew up with discrimination but the one thing that crosses barriers is music. I wanted an opportunity to tell people about the pain and suffering caused by it. But more importantly I wanted to teach kids how to break down barriers and develop and identity to be proud of."

experimental performances and devising educational projects. Her vocals are a result of a musical background which includes influences from Bengali folk and classical to sounds from all over the world. She is interested in creating Music from a very personal perspective. She has toured with British Asian band JOI which saw her perform with them

Cambridge Massachusetts, Marque Gilmore "the inna.most" is a neo-legendary drummer and one of the founding members of NYC's Black Rock Coalition. As a student and Musician of the meta-physical realms of sound, Marque has found his nomadic rhythmic dwelling inside the drum. He also plays a unique instrument called The Chapman

Migration. 'The inna'most has performed with an international array of artists including: Talvin Singh, Poy Ayers/Ray Gaskins, Vernon Reid, Mica Paris, Triok Gurtu, the list goes on. Following two historic performances in Bombay, India (Sept 98), the inna.most has been touring Worldwide with artist/producer State Of Bengal, one of the innovators of the 'Asian Underground'.

Matt Mars. Aged 15 Matt started to play the guitar, taking influences from blues, folk, Ska and Reggae, Rock and Funk to find a varied style that could reflect elements of all these different expressions. As he first grew aware of music theory, he noticed the harmonic minor scale had always held a particular power over him. Learning to program extended the net of influences, whilst working in a studio gained knowledge of 'wider' music and 'Asian' music in particular. It was here that he learned his attraction to rag influenced music was not an accident, but that his favourite scale is the nearest relative of Rag in western Music. Matt Mars met Sam Zaman at a State Of Bengal in 1996 at Novasonics studio where Matt was the House Programmer. He went on to establish his own studio 'Plant Mars' where State Of Bengal recorded his first Album. In 1998 he was invited to join the Ananda Shankar /State Of Bengal project which toured the UK, culminating in a WOMAD performance and recording the resulting Album, Walking on for Real World Records. From 1999 Matt has been touring with the State Of Bengal as part of their Live set where Matt plays the Guitar.

Paul Ramjack. Percussionist, programmer, Internet Promoter and DJ, Ramjack is one of the original live technology pioneers at 'Acid House' parties across the South of the UK and on tours with Shaman, Orbital and Mixmaster Morris. His live performances involved computers and samples alongside live palm drumming. His unique music has been released on Pink Plonk, Brainiak and Irdial Discs. Ramjack set up his own studios where he mentored Master D (ADF) and Flithy Rich (Kool FM) and worked with artists such as freq Nasty and Asian Dub Foundation for whom he appears on the Community Music Album. Ramjack plays percussion with State of Bengal and plays, produces various 'music' sessions in London. Ramjack has a live weekly Internet show at interface Radio and Promotes live music on the Net at <http://ramjack.co.uk/tns> with guests such as MJ Cole, Bedouin Ascent, State of Bengal, Nicolette and State of Bengal.

Dhaka waits for as fire performance as those of State of Bengal's London's ones on the 11th and 12th and savour it to its hearts content.

The British Council presents concert with State of Bengal Asian Underground from the UK

also featuring: MILES and a fusion session with classical musicians from Dhaka

Date : 11 February 2001
Venue : Osmani Memorial Hall
Time : 7 pm
Admit Card Tk. 80/-

Co-sponsored by: The British Council, Osmani Memorial Hall, Dhaka Brothers (Bangladesh) Limited, Royal Palace



Saifullah (Sam) Zaman: founder of State of Bengal

The other members of State of Bengal includes Susmita Benerjee, a multi-disciplinary artist whose training integrated Music, Dance, and Theatre. Over the last 10 years she has worked in Kenya, India, Bangladesh, Europe and the US as a Director, Performer and Collaborator with dancers, actors, video/visual artists and musicians creating both

1999 on the Eurythm "Peace Tour" and in March 2000 in Bangladesh. Other musicians she has worked with include Moroccan percussionist Lahcen Lahbib (Momo, guitarist Aziz Ibrahim and vocalist Sushela Rahman. She has been collaborating with State Of Bengal since March 2000.

Marque Gilmore "the inna.most". Born in Stick, a 10-string fretboard combing the technique and timbers of bass, guitar, percussion and piano. His musicianship is critically acclaimed Worldwide and maintains this position with his project 'Drum-Fm': interactive Trabalistic Sessions. In 1999 he collaborated with malian musician Cheick Tidiane Seck in multi-media performance of Millennium

RECOMMENDATIONS

Poetry Evening

Front-ranking poets of the country read from their recent works at 6:30 this evening at German Cultural centre, Goethe Institut, auditorium at Dhanmandi. Poet, essayist Dr. Mohammad Moniruzzaman will be present at the reading session as chief guest while poet Shahed Rahman will chair the evening organised by Kabyakala.

Ekushey Book Fair

A discussion on "Demand and promise of the 21st century : Use of Bangla Language" will be held in the evening at Bangla Academy premises. Professor Mansur Musa will present the key-note paper while Prof. Abul Kalam Monjur Morshed and Prof. Begum Jahanarawil discuss on the paper. Prof. Moniruzzaman will preside over the programme. The evening will be rounded up with the staging of a play.

Film Festival and Cultural Week

On the occasion of the 22nd anniversary of the Victory day of Islamic Revolution in Iran, office of the Cultural Counsellor, Embassy of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dhaka has organised a Cultural and Film Festival Week began on February 4 at the Bangladesh Shishu Academy auditorium. Exhibitions of the holy Quran, books, calligraphy, photo, poster, handicrafts, engraving, video documentary show, photographs on historical places of Iran and photographs on the Islamic Revolution will be displayed everyday from 9:00a.m to 5:00p.m. till February 8. Films will be screened from 4 to 8p.m. till February 8 and there will also be a children drawing competition.

Coming of Age

An exhibition of paintings by selected contemporary artists will be held at the European Commission Residence on February 9 at 5:00p.m. venue: 177 Gulshan Avenue. The exhibition is being organised by Gallery 21. The inaugural ceremony will be followed by a cultural event.

The exhibition will remain open on February 10 & 11 from 3:00 - 8:00p.m.

BTV
3:20 Open University 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Programme on Mother and Child Health Care 4:20 Cartoon film:



Drama Nila Namer Meyeti on Ekushey television tonight at 8:45

Casper 4:40 Niramay Programme on Homeopath Medicine 5:20 Shishangan 5:45 Facts about Nutrition 6:00 Khabar 6:10 Programme on Science Projects 6:35 Programme of Chittagong Centre 7:00 Sangbad Shironam 7:05 Getabiton 7:30 Chande Chande: Dance Recital 8:00 News in Bangla 8:20 Drama Series: Yuddha Jayar Galpa 9:00 Film Show: Young Hercules 9:30 Drama Serial: Monikanchan 10:00 News at Ten 10:20 Biswa Natak 11:30 Khabar The News 11:45 Closing

9:00 Jao Pakhi 9:50 Focus 10:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 10:10 Vasha Amar Ahongker 10:40 Bosenter Ful 11:15 Special Programme on Hajj 11:50 Akattorer Dinguli 12:00 Khatthi Khathi 12:40 Songlap 1:15 Business Show 1:50 Amar Channel I 2:00 Jao Pakhi 2:50 Focus 3:00 Bangla Cinema: Amor Prem 6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Deser Game 6:40 Vasha Amar Ahongker 7:15 Special Programme on Hajj 7:50 Akattorer Dinguli 8:00 Ylto Fadhe 8:40 Chitti Pelem 9:15 Kholu Khuli 9:50 Amar Channel I 10:00 Audio Bazzar 10:50 Focus

CHANNEL-i



6th episode of the drama serial Bismriti will be aired on Ekushey television tonight at 8

11:00 Bangla Cinema: Harano Prem

EKUSHEY TV

12:00 Ekushey News Headlines 12:05 Ajker Potrikay 12:15 Bangla Movie: Alo Amar Alo 2:40 Driшти 3:00 Ekushey News Headlines 3:05 Drama Series: Choto Choto Dheu 3:30 Bhalobasha Kare Koy 4:00 Bauliana 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:00 Circus 5:50 Ajker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey News Headlines 6:05 Classic Cartoons 6:30 Charidike 7:00 Bolte Chai 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 Drama Serial: Bismriti 8:45 Nila Namer Mayati 10:00 BTV News 10:25 Amazon



Charidike, topic: Dipabali on Ekushey television today at 6:30 in the evening

11:00 Ekushey Late Night News

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 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30

Italian Feast 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Reporters 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 11:15 World Business Report 11:30 Holiday 12:00 BBC News 12:30 World Business Report 12:45 World Sport 1:00 BBC News 1:30 Hardtalk 2:00 BBC News 2:30 Top Gear 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

STAR PLUS

6:00 Tu Tu Main Main 6:30 STAR Geetmala 7:30 Hit Ya Fit 8:00 Cine Jharokha 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Star Morning Show : Shukriya 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 TSN 1:30 Small Wonder 2:00 Meri Saheli 2:30 Saans 3:00 Shagun 3:30 Gharwali Uparwali 4:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 4:30 Cine Jharokha 5:00 Hit Ya Fit 5:30 Sewal Mewawala 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Fox Kids- Daily 7:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 8:00 Tu Tu Main Main 8:30 Hasna Mat 9:00 Siski 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 Shagun 12:30 Telebrands 1:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki 1:30 Star Movie Show: Shukriya 4:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 5:00 Saans 5:30 Meri Saheli

HBO

7:00 Bad to the Bone 8:45 Beverly Hills Cop III 10:45 Cookie 12:45 The Prince of Tides 3:15 Blue Ridge Fall 5:30 Stealing Home 7:30 Johnny Skidmarks 9:30

CNN

4:00 CNN This Morning 4:30 Asia Business Morning 5:00 CNN This Morning 5:30 Asia Business Morning 6:30 Asian Edition 6:45 Asia Business Morning 7:00 CNN This Morning 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 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30

STAR GOLD

8:30 Bollywood News 9:00 Azaad (Dharmendra, Hema Malini) 12:00 Geet Bahar 12:30 Hira Aur Pathar (Shashi Kapoor, Shabana Azmi) 3:30

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Kiss The Girls on HBO at 10 tonight

Watch out for this terrific suspense thriller. A serial killer is on the loose. His modus operandi is to kidnap girls and kill them at his leisure. Alex Cross, a forensic detective and best-selling crime author gets into the act when his niece becomes the latest victim. So who is the killer? Watch out.

Kiss The Girls stars Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd and others.

& II 5:00 Without Warning I 5:30 Lonely Planet I 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



Maggie Winters on Star World at 8:30p.m.

7:00 Sportsline Today 7:00 Sportsline Today 8:30 Spanish Football League 2000/01 Spanish Football League 10:30 ATP Tour World Series Tournament ATP Tour Qatar Open 2001 Doha, Qatar Finals 12:30 Sportsline Today 1:00 PGA Tour Golf A&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am Pebble Beach, CA USA Day Three(R) 3:00 National Sports Report (S) 4:00 Asia Sport Show 4:30 Futbol Mundial 5:00 Watersports World 6:00 New Zealand Cricket Sri Lanka Tour Of New Zealand, New Zealand

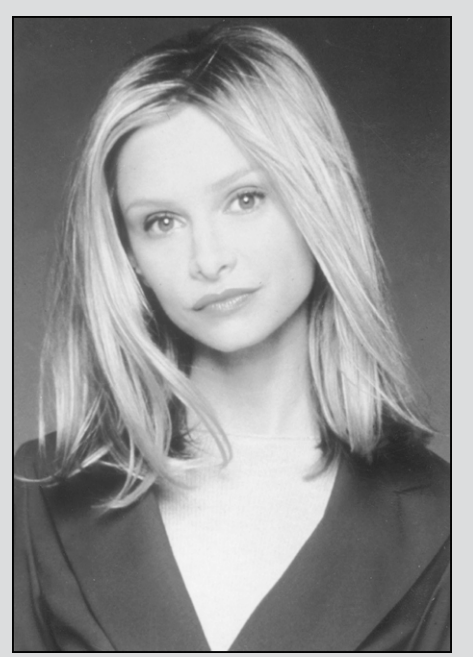
ESPN

8:30 Australia Cricket Carlton Series 2001 Perth, Australia Zimbabwe 9:28 Australia Cricket Carlton Series 2001 Perth, Australia Zimbabwe 10:00 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz Olympiad 1:30 Australia Cricket Carlton Series 2001 Perth, Australia Zimbabwe 6:00 Extreme Sports 6:30 Motorsport Asia 6:30 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz Olympiad 7:00 Saucony Running & Racing (R) 7:30 New Zealand Cricket Sri Lanka, Tour Of New Wellington, New Zealand Sri Lanka Highlights 8:30 Sportscenter Hindi 9:00 Australia Cricket Carlton Series 2001 Perth, Australia Zimbabwe 10:00 Classic's Big Fights Boxing Hour Great Fights of the Mid 50's 11:00 School Quiz Show ESPN School Quiz Olympiad 11:30 Sportscenter Hindi 12:00 NBA Basketball Miami, FL USA Indiana Pacers 2:30 Sportscenter Hindi 3:00 Snooker Billiards ESPN World Snooker: 2001 Nations Cup Reading, England Semifinal 5:00 Sportscenter Bristol, CT USA

Sri Lanka Highlights 7:00 World Wrestling Federation Metal 8:00 Sportline Tonight 8:30 Cricket Talk Show Boycs And Sunny Masterclass; Batting 9:30 Max Power 10:30 Australia Cricket Carlton Series 2001 Sydney, Australia 1st Final 12:00 Sportsline Tonight (T) 12:30 Heineken Classic Golf Heineken Australia Day Two(r) 3:30 Sportsline Tonight 4:00 New Zealand Cricket Sri Lanka Tour Of New Auckland, New Zealand 3rd Odi, Highlights 4:55 New Zealand Cricket Sri Lanka Tour Of New Zealand, Hamilton, New Zealand Sri Lanka @ New Zealand 4th Odi, 1st Session

STAR SPORTS

7:00 Sportsline Today 7:00 Sportsline Today 8:30 Spanish Football League 2000/01 Spanish Football League 10:30 ATP Tour World Series Tournament ATP Tour Qatar Open 2001 Doha, Qatar Finals 12:30 Sportsline Today 1:00 PGA Tour Golf A&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am Pebble Beach, CA USA Day Three(R) 3:00 National Sports Report (S) 4:00 Asia Sport Show 4:30 Futbol Mundial 5:00 Watersports World 6:00 New Zealand Cricket Sri Lanka Tour Of New Zealand, New Zealand



Ally McBeal on Star World tonight at 9

07:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 08:00 Home Improvement 08:30 Happy Days 09:00 J.A.G. 010:00 The Pretender 11:00 The Oprah Winfrey Show 12:00 Law & Order : Special Victims Unit 1:00 Grace Under Fire 1:30 The Bold & the Beautiful 2:00 Mork & Mindy 2:30 Happy Days 3:00 Baywatch 4:00 The Simpsons 6:30 Home Improvement 7:00 STAR News Asia 7:30 Friends 8:00 2 Guys A Girl 8:30 Maggie Winters 8:45 20:55 STAR News Asia (5mins) 9:00 Ally McBeal 10:00 The Practice 10:30 Friends 11:30 STAR News 12:00 2 Guys A Girl 12:30 Maggie Winters 1:00 Ally McBeal 2:00 The Practice 2:30 2 Guys A Girl 3:00

STAR WORLD



Young Hercules on BTV today at 9:15p.m.