

Cinem

Festival of European Films

Zahir Raihan Film Society presents classics from European master film makers

THE contemporary European film festival got underway in Dhaka this week. Zahir Raihan Film Society, this time, has brought some of the better movies from Europe as part of its 15th anniversary celebrations.

The festival was inaugurated yesterday at the auditorium of the Indian High Commission with the screening of *Meeting Venus* by Ishivan Szabo of Hungary and Danton by Andrzej Wazda of Poland.

Other films that will be screened at the five-day long festival include *Ulysses's Gaze* by Theo Angelopoulos of Greece, *Underground* by Emir Kosturica of Croatia, *Cabaret Balkan* by Goran Paskaljevic, of Serbia, *Before the Rain* by Mmilcho Manchevsky of Macedonia, *The Wall* by Yilmaz Guney of Turkey, *The Eight Day* by Jaco Von Dornael of Belgium and *The Match Factory Girl* By Aki Kaurismaki of Finland. The festival also includes *Buena Vista Social Club* by Wim Wenders of Germany, *Journey of Hope* by Xavier Collier of Switzerland, *Tainted Horseplay* by Vera Chytiloa of Czechoslovakia, *Billy Elliot* by Stephan Daldry, of United Kingdom, *All Things Fair* by Bo Wilderberg of Sweden, *Pola X* of Leox Carx from France, *Al about My Mother* of Pedro Al Modovar from Spain, *Life is Beautiful* of Roberto Benigni from Italy, *The Thief of Pavel Chukhrai* of Russia and *Dancer in the Dark* of Lars Von Trier from Denmark.

About some of the directors: Andrezej Wazda is the Polish cinema's masterful narrator of the past, and he was honoured at the Oscar ceremonies with a lifetime achievement award for his 34 films. He is no stranger to film buffs around the world. Many of his classics like *Ashes and Diamonds*, *Kanal*, *Man of Iron* and *Danton* are studied and analysed at film institutes around the globe. In short, Wazda is to Poland what Satyajit Ray was to India.

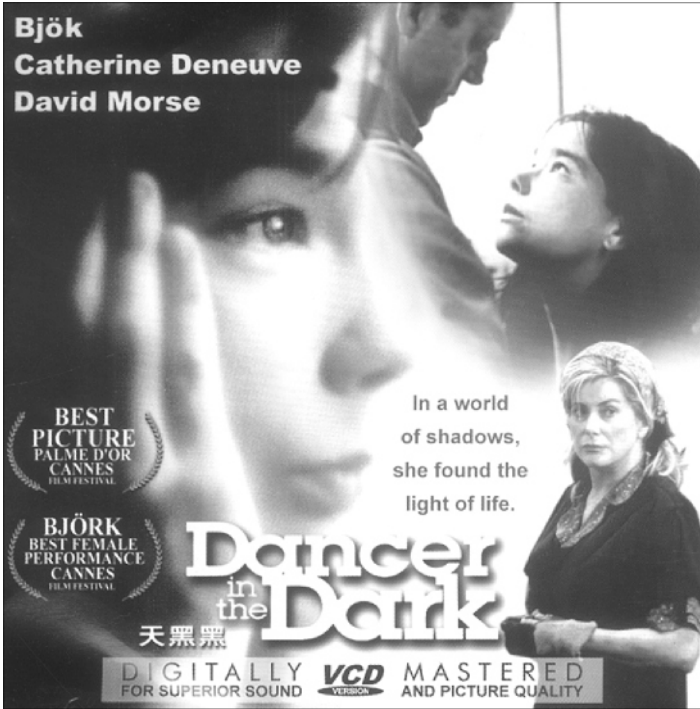
Theo Angelopoulos, the Greek born director and screenwriter, studied law before studying film making in Paris. He directed his first feature, *I Ekpombi*, in 1968 and has continued to work in Greece ever since.

Brought up by a Kurdish father from Siverek and a Kurdish mother



from the village of Mus, Yilmaz Guney completed his high school in Adana in 1955. Guney was widely popular in Turkey in the 1960s and 1970s as an actor, director, writer

and political activist. In and out of jail in those troubled decades for his leftist writings, Guney wrote many of his screenplays in prison and directed the films through an inter-



mediary. Among his most renowned films are *Hungary Walls*, *Syyit and Hope*. In 1982 his film *Yol* (The Road) won the *Palme d'Or* at the cannes film festival. Written while Guney was in prison, serving a 19-year sentence for a controversial murder conviction, the screenplay was smuggled out of jail and the movie was filmed clandestinely in south eastern Turkey, under the direction of one of his collaborators, Serif Goren. Guney escaped from Turkey in 1981, while on leave from prison, and moved to Switzerland where he finished the post production of the film. A life sentence for writings published from jail had been added to his term and in 1983 he was stripped of his citizenship. He died in exile in Paris in 1984.

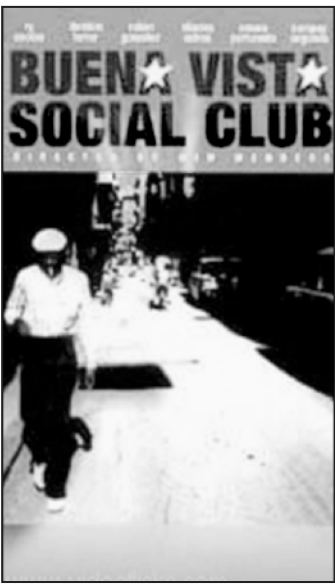
Synopsis of some of the films that will be screened at the festival:

Match Factory Girl
A girl's life is hilariously bleak as friends, family, lover, and co-workers all belittle her. A packet of rat poison could be the solution to her problems.

Meeting Venus
Karin Anderson is an icy Swedish signer, whose heart ultimately melts for her conductor, in this sophisticated behind-the-scenes comedy about the feuds and foibles of the fractious cast of an international theatrical production.

The Wall
This story of the fourth dormitory of the Ankara Prison is a metaphor for Turkish life. Here boys live in the worst conditions until they realise their only hope is to be sent to another prison or to revolt.

Buena Vista Social Club
No one can recall exactly where the *Buena Vista Social Club* once stood in pre-revolutionary Havana, but Wim Wender's documentary of a dozen legendary musicians resurrects the magnificent music of the era. Guitarist Ry Cooder assembled the aging singers and musicians for a series of recording sessions. The resulting 1997 album won a Grammy. The music performances are intercut with shots of the performers reminiscing in decaying Havana bars. "... A valid celebration of musical sophistication and ageless optimism..." "... Opulent, organic and as intoxicating as a rum binge ... Terrific, truly liberating stuff..." Exhilarating.... A documen-



tary that mixes music with impressionistic glimpses of urban life in Cuba....

The Thief
Autumn of 1952. Six year old Sanya and his young mother Katya are going by train across cold and starving Russia still struggling to recover from World War II. Like many others in postwar Europe, a

young window and her fatherless child, Katya and Sanya strive for at least a bearable life, which for them means finding shelter and enough bread to eat. A handsome and gallant young officer in uniform named Tolyan boards the train at one of the stations and is immediately attracted to Katya. At night half-awake Sanya sees his mother and the officer embracing on the carriage platform. Early in the morning all three of them get off the train in a small provincial town, where they rent a room in a communal flat with a lot of neighbours. They live as a family, Tolyan loves Katya and orders Sanya to call him father. The boy can't do this as he thinks of his real father all the time. Nevertheless Tolyan fascinates him as he is the first man in the boy's life.... One fine day everything is revealed. Tolyan takes numerous tenants of their huge apartment to the circus but leaves the performance in its full swing. Katya follows him. She realises that he is not an officer at all but an ordinary thief.

Zahir Raihan Film Society has been leading the film society movement in the country for the past 15 years. It has over 450 members at present. The society has proved



itself to be the most active film society in the country. With its well thought out programmes, it holds film festivals, seminars, publishes brochures, posters, leaflets and booklets focusing on the technical as well as thematic aspects of cinema.

Last year the society screened some 125 films and hopes to cross that mark in current year by screening 175 films for the film buffs of the capital city.

The President of the society is Prof Aminul Islam Chowdhury, ex-Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University and its general secretary is Sabbir Chowdhury, teacher of the Literature Department of Jahangirnagar University.

Membership to the society is open to all and comes with a small annual fee.

(Compiled by Munneera Parbesan)



TV GUIDE

<div>BTV 3:20 Open University 3:45 Documentary 4:00 Khabar 4:05 Burney and Friends 4:30 Ta Ta Thoi Thoi 5:00 School Debate 5:45 Dhama O' Jiban 6:00 Khabar 6:20 Shasthatathya 6:35 Programme from Chittagong station 7:00 News Headlines 7:05 Special on World Telecommunications Day 7:30 Shandhamaloti 8:00 News in Bengali 8:30 Roder Uthan Bari 9:00 News Headlines 9:05 Dekha Odekha 9:30 Film Show: Karishma 10:00 Tarokajagath 10:30 News in English 10:55 Special: Shoroniyo Shei Din 11:30 Khabar / The News EKUSHEY TV 12:00 Ekushey Midday 12:20 Film: Moron Pon 2:40 Drishti 3:00 Ekushey Headlines 3:05 Drama Serial: Na Kena Kata 4:00 Bauliana 4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom 5:00 Circus Circus 5:30 Drishti 5:50 Ajker Potrikay 6:00 Ekushey Headlines 6:05 Classic Cartoons 6:30 Charidike 7:00 Close-up E-Zone 7:30 Ekushey News 8:00 English Series: Peter Benchley's Amazon 9:00 Drama: Shopno Jatra 10:00 Pepsi Concert 10:30 BTV News 11:00 Ekushey Nightly News 11:30 E-Shoptaher Bishsho 12:00 Ekushey News Headlines CHANNEL-i 9:00 Anuvhabe Anukhane 10:10 Addar Table 10:40 Khola Chokhe 11:15 Drama: Doyroth Chitti Pelam 12:40 Rang Bergan 2:00 Anuvhabe Anukhane 3:00 Bangla film: Amanat (Osimi/Anju) 6:00 Reciting from Holy Quran 6:10 Suvo Sandha 6:40 Nilanjonna 7:15 Drama: Shes Drisho Dekhun 8:40 I Dream of Jeinne 9:15 House Full 10:00 Drama: Juboraj 11:00 Tele Film: Tomar Jainne (A A Mamun/F Majumdar)</div>	<div>STAR GOLD 10:30 Woodland Bollywood News 11:00 Geet Bahar 11:30 Payal Ki Jhankar (Kishore Kumar, Jyoti Laxmi) 3:00 Woodland Bollywood News 3:30 Amne Samne (Mithun Chakraborty, Bindya Goswami) 7:00 Geet Bahar 7:30 Lamhe Pyaar Ke Arzoo (Rajendra Kumar, Sadhana, Feroz Khan) 11:00 Woodland Bollywood News 11:30 Tarana (Dilip Kumar, Madhubala) 12:30 Tarana (Contd) Geet Bahar 3:30 Pushpanjali (Sanjay Khan, Naina Sahu) 7:00 Babar (Jagirdar, Azra, Mumtaz) HBO 7:00 Cast A Deadly Spell 9:00 Bird on a Wire 11:15 Eyes of a Stranger 1:00 You've Got Mail 3:30 Escape From Atlantis 5:30 Batman & Robin 8:00 Allan Quatermain and The Lost City 10:00 Of Gold 12:00 Fierce Creatures 2:15 Congo 4:45 You've Got Mail Bird on a Wire 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 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today/Asia Business Report 10:00 BBC News 10:30 Top Gear/Aqua/Extra Much 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Reporters 12:00 BBC News 12:30 Hardtalk 1:30 BBC News 1:50 Talking Movies 2:30 BBC News 2:30 Money Programme 3:00 BBC News 3:30 Hardtalk 4:00 BBC News 4:30 Holiday 5:00 BBC News 5:30 Money Programme 6:00 BBC News 6:30 Asia Today 7:00 BBC News 7:30 Top Gear/Aqua/Extra Mach 8:00 BBC News 8:30 Money Programme 9:00 BBC News 9:30 Asia Today 10:00 BBC News/World Business Report 10:30 IT India Tomorrow 11:00 BBC News 11:45 World Business Report/World Sport</div>	<div>STAR PLUS 6:00 Sanskruti 6:30 STAR Geetmala 7:30 Sewalal Mewawala 8:00 Hit Ya Fit 8:30 Good Morning India 9:30 Star Morning Show: Bharat Ke Shaheed (Subhash Ghai, Reema Sapru) 12:30 Hit Ya Fit 1:00 TSN 1:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki 2:00 Sanskruti 2:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 3:00 Shagun 3:30 Shanti 4:00 Meri Saheli 4:30 Kaahin Kissii Roz 5:00 Hit Ya Fit 5:30 Kuchha Papad Pucca Papad 6:00 Small Wonder 6:30 Fox Kids-Daily 7:30 Sanskruti 8:00 Tu Tu Main Main 8:30 Ma Shakti 9:00 Kaahin Kissii Roz 9:30 Kora Kagaz 10:00 Ji Mantriji 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Aaj Ki Baat 12:00 Shagun 12:30 Telebrands 1:00 Hit Ya Fit 1:30 Star Movie Show: Bharat Ke Shaheed (Subhash Ghai, Reema Sapru) 4:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 5:00 Shanti 5:30 Hit Ya Fit STAR MOVIES 8:30 Comedy: American Pie 10:15 Drama : The Proposition 12:15 Action: Nowhere In Sight 2:00 Action: A Time To Die 3:45 Thriller: Bloody Murder 5:15 Action: Mercury Project 7:00 Drama : Dreaming Of Joseph Lees 8:30 Drama: Bitter Suite 10:30 Comedy: American Pie 12:30 Action : Fight Club 2:45 Drama: Bitter Suite 4:30 Action: Raw Deal AXN 6:30 Grander Musashi/Starship Troopers 7:30 El Hazard: The Alternative world/Curious Play 8:30 Big Sky II/Take a Chance 9:30 Ripley's Believe It or Not 10:30 Grander Musashi/ Starship Troopers 11:30 El Hazard: The Alternative world/Curious Play 12:30 Amazon/The Chosen 1:30 Ripley's Believe It or Not 2:30 VIP II/Franco in Love 3:30 Movie: Operation Delta Force III: Clear Target 5:30 Who Dares Wins/Grander Musashi 6:30 Starship Troopers/El Hazard: The</div>	<div>PICK OF THE DAY Fierce Creatures On HBO at 10 tonight The staff of a zoo try and save it from its new owner from over-commercialisation who orders that the zoo only feature dangerous animals since they are the best at boosting tickets sales, and all other animals be shot. The stuff plans to overthrow the owner in this brilliant comedy. TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS STAR SPORTS: 3:50(Session 1) 4:30 (Session 2 & 3). <i>The first Test</i> of the two match-series between <i>Pakistan and England</i> begins at Lord's today. Pakistan, under new captain Waqar Younis, will be desperate to avenge the series defeat at home last year against Nasser Hussain's rejuvenated Englishmen. While England have gone from strength to strength winning consecutive Test series' against the Zimbabwe, West Indies, Pakistan and Sri Lanka, the tourists on the other hand have seen their fortune take a dip failing to earn a single victory in the 2000-01 season. STAR WORLD: 11:00 p.m. <i>Angel</i>. A spin-off series from the cult hit Buffy The Vampire Slayer. Lonely Heart: Angel tracks a worm-like demon that preys on lonely hearts at a hip nightclub.</div>	<div>Foreign Body ZEE ENGLISH 6:30 Benny Hill Show 7:00 Capitol 7:30 Music Zone 8:00 Late Show With David Letterman 9:00 Three's Company 9:30 Here's Lucy 10:00 Dave's World 10:30 The Great Robbery 2:15 Kuch Lamhe Kuch Nagme 2:30 Jeene Ki Sazaa 5:30 Chhrehn 5:45 Film Time ZEE MUSIC 6:00 Zee Music Plus 7:00 Aalap 7:30 Tararun 8:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Just Jammin 11:30 Music Box 12:00 Zee Music Plus 1:00 Hit Pe Hit 2:00 Jharokha 2:35 Cool-Age 3:05 Tararun 4:00 Hit Pe Hit 5:00 Zee Music Box 5:30 Hit Mix 6:00 Blue 6:30 Zee Music Plus 7:30 Hit Pe Hit 8:30 Pyar Mohabbat Etc 9:00 Artist of the Fortnight 9:30 Zee Music Box 10:00 Sizzlers 10:30 Jharokha 11:05 Dil Se 11:35 Phoren Mail 12:35 Shabab 1:35 Zee Music Box 1:30 Jharokha</div>	<div>Alpha TV 6:30 Bhalobasha Mondobasha 7:00 Jeebon Rekha 7:30 News Bulletin 8:00 Aalaap 9:00 News Bulletin 9:05 Bharat Bhromon 9:30 Apna Der Janya 10:00 Chena Mukh Achena Manush 10:30 Bhristi Megher Akash 11:00 Swapnoneel 11:30 Grihasajja 12:00 Bahari Ahaar 12:30 Lookochuri 1:00 Ingeet 1:30 Ek Akasher Niche 2:00 Nayantara 2:30 Phire Paoa- Feature Film 5:00 Shesh Prashna 5:30 Half Choclote/Disney 6:00 Alpha Khabor 6:25 Jhankar 6:30 Foot Ball 7:00 Swapnoneel 7:25 Jhankar 7:30 Ki Likhi Tomai 7:55 Jhankar 8:00 Nayantara 8:30 Ek Akasher Niche 9:00 Saregama 10:00 News Bulletin 10:05 Ek Palake 10:10 Ingeet 10:40 Ek Palake 10:45 Foot Ball 11:20 Alpha Khabor 11:45 Ek Palake 11:50 Mahanagar 12:20 Surer Ei Jharna Dhara 12:40 Surer Ei Jharna Dhara 1:00 Bharat Bhraman 1:30 Feature Film 4:00 Ek Akasher Niche 4:30 Nayantara 5:00 Ingeet 5:30 Football 6:00 Chena Mukh Achena Manush ZEE TV 6:15 Yaadon Ke Pal 6:45 Old Is Gold 7:00 Bhakti Geet 7:30 Jagran 8:00 Morning Zee 8:30 Nickelodeon On Zee 9:00 Nickelodeon On Zee 10:00 Guldasta 10:30 Filmi Chakkark 11:00 Highlight Zee 11:15 Chatpatti Chat 11:30 Ek Nazar 12:00 Basera 12:30 Sangini 1:00 Dastaan 1:15 Jhalak</div>	<div>1:30 Hasratein 2:00 Chandan Ka Palna Resham Ki Dori 2:30 Amanat 3:00 Gharana 3:30 Yeh Dil Kya Kare 4:00 Kaise Kahoon...? 4:30 Aanchal Ki Chaon Mein 5:00 Nickelodeon (Cat Dot) 5:30 Nickelodeon(Legends) 6:00 Ek Nazar 6:30 Banegi Apni Baat 7:00 Hip Hip Hurray 7:30 Ek Nazar 8:00 Devrani Jethani 8:30 Babul Ki Duayein Leti Ja 9:00 Amanat 9:30 Chandan Ka Palna Resham Ki Dori 10:00 Samander 10:30 Yeh Dil Kya Kare 11:00 Kaise Kahoon..." 11:30 Manzilein Apani Apani 12:00 Gharana 12:30 Sanam Bewafa-Thursday Hits 13:00 Patanga 5:45 News In Hindi 6:15 Yaadon Ke Pal ESPN 7:00 Ladies Pro Bowlers Tour Professional Women's Bowling Association Sunrise, FL USA 8:00 ESPN's Wednesday Night Baseball 11:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Hamburg Hamburg, Germany Early Round Coverage Day 1:00 B3 Bikes, Blades & Boards B3 Stop 2 Blades Louisville, KY USA Sportscenter 2:00 Bowling World Tenpin Masters 2001 4:00 Motorworld 4:30 College Gymnastics National Collegiate Men's Gymnastics Columbus, OH USA Finals 6:00 Tennis Masters Series By Mercedes-Benz Tennis Masters Series Hamburg Hamburg, Germany Early Round Coverage Day 8:00 Western Union World Football 8:30 Sportscenter Hindi 9:00 UEFA Cup UEFA Cup Final Dortmund, Germany Finals 11:00 Motorsport Asia 11:30 Sportscenter Hindi 12:00 International Cricket The Cricket Archives 1905-1960 12:30 LPGA Golf Chick Fil-A Charity Championship Stockbridge, GA USA Final Round 2:30 Sportscenter Hindi 3:00 International Cricket The Cricket Archives 1905-1960 3:30 Athletes In Motion 4:00 Sportscenter Bristol, CT USA 4:00 Motoworld 5:30 NHL Playoffs CONF Finals Game</div>
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