

RECOMMENDATIONS

Book Fair

Amar Ekushey Grantha Mela, a three-week long book fair at the premises of Bangla Academy is in progress. The fair is open everyday from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Ghazal evening

A Ghazal evening will be held today at the Best Western La Vinci Hotel at Kawran Bazar in the city, on the occasion of Valentine Day with solo live performance of Ghazal exponent Mesbah. The show will start at 7 p.m. to continue till 10 p.m. A second similar event will be held at the same venue on February 17 from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Boutique exhibition

An exhibition of boutique items titled *Ghorowa Poshak Prodorshoni* is being held at Ali's Knitwear Bangladesh at Hse-49, Rd-15/A, Dhanmondi. Rehana Ali is hosting the event that includes display of traditionally designed saree, punjabi, shalwar kameez, indigenous apparels and hand-made wax candle. The exhibition will remain open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. everyday till February 22.

Publication ceremony

A publication ceremony of a novel *Nirban-er Nirlipto Kinaarey* by Nilima Aftab will be held at 37, Al-Amin road, Kathalbag, Dhanmondi at 5 p.m. today. Dr. Razia Khan will attend the occasion as Chief Guest and Dr. Rafiqullah Khan will be present as Special Guest. Eminent artist and writer Bulbon Osman will preside over the ceremony.

Seventh Solo

The 7th solo art exhibition of artist Samiran Chowdhury is being held at Divine Art Gallery in Hotel Sonargaon. Samiran's 25 works in water colour, mixed media and acrylic are on display. The exhibition will remain open for the visitors from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. till February 16.

Drama Festival

Natyo Utsav 2002, the national festival of drama is going on at the Mahila Samity auditorium in the city. A drama of a particular group is staged everyday at 6:30 p.m. The festival will continue till February 20 organised by Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation.

Art Exhibition

A 12-day painting exhibition by renowned artist Maruf Ahmed started at the Shilpangan Art Gallery in the city from February 7, 2002. The show will remain open for all till February 18, from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. everyday.

Movies

The Oscar 2002 nominations

Hobbits, schizophrenics and dancers dominate Oscar nominations

AFP, Beverly Hills

FANTASY film "The Lord of the Rings" swept the 2002 Oscar nominations Tuesday, scooping a stunning 13 nods, but pundits warned it still faces a tough fight to win the top film prize.

The other leaders in the race for Hollywood's most coveted awards were the biopic "A Beautiful Mind" and musical "Moulin Rouge," which came in next with eight nominations each, including best picture.

Also showing heavily were the satirical 1930s murder mystery "Gosford Park" which came in with a surprising seven nods and family drama "In the Bedroom" which garnered five.

"This was a staggering performance by 'Lord of the Rings' and is one shy of the all-time record for Oscar nominations," film critic and Oscars author Tom O'Neil told AFP.

In the past 19 years, the most-nominated movie has won the best picture Oscar 18 times, but O'Neil warned that the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences had never voted a fantasy film as best picture.

"There is an unbelievable buzz about 'A Beautiful Mind' and the presumption throughout Hollywood now is that it will win (best picture) as it's a heroic, feel-good movie that Oscar voters really like," he said.

Other pundits agreed that "Rings" would be an unusual best picture choice, but pointed out the "psychological advantage" any film with 13 nominations would have in the voting.

The pre-dawn nominations ended weeks of maneuvering, studio lobbying and nail biting as Tinseltown's frenzied awards season moved into its final straight ahead of the March 24 Academy Awards.

"Lord of the Rings," "Mind" and old-style song and dance extravaganza "Moulin Rouge" had recently emerged as the favorites in the once-crowded field for the Oscar nominations, and they did not disappoint.

"Mind," the story of schizophrenic maths genius John Nash, picked up nods for best film, best actor for Australian Russell Crowe --



A scene from the movie *Lord of the Rings* that receives a total of 13 nominations in different categories



A scene from *I am Sam* shows Sean Penn who receives nomination for *Best Actor*

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A scene from *Gosford Park* shows Helen Mirren who receives nomination for *Best Supporting Actress*



A scene from *A Beautiful Mind* shows Jennifer Connelly who receives nomination for *Best Supporting Actress*

last year's best actor winner -- best director for Ron Howard and best supporting actress for Jennifer Connelly.

Tuesday marked Crowe's third consecutive Oscar nod and puts

him in the running for the rare honor of winning two back-to-back statuettes.

Nicole Kidman won a best actress nod for her role as a courtesan in "Moulin Rouge," which also picked up seven other nods including best picture, cinematography and costumes, but director Baz Luhrmann was overlooked.

New Zealander Peter Jackson's richly imaginative "Lord of the Rings" won best director fir him, best supporting actor for Ian McKellen's as the wizard Gandalf and best cinematography.

Only seven films have won 13 nominations in the Oscars' 74-year history while only two have managed a record 14 -- 1997's blockbuster "Titanic" and 1950's "All about Eve."

Veteran director Robert Altman's tongue-in-cheek whodunit "Gosford Park" emerged Tuesday as a serious Oscar player when it was nominated for best picture, director

List of 2002 Oscar nominees in the major categories	
<b>Best Picture:</b> "A Beautiful Mind" "Gosford Park" "In the Bedroom" "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" "Moulin Rouge"	Kate Winslet <b>Best Director:</b> Ron Howard (A Beautiful Mind) Ridley Scott (Black Hawk Down) Robert Altman (Gosford Park) Peter Jackson (The Lord of the Rings) David Lynch (Mulholland Drive)
<b>Best Actor in a Leading Role:</b> Russell Crowe Sean Penn Will Smith Denzel Washington Tom Wilkinson	<b>Best Aminated Film (new category):</b> "Jimmy Neutron: Boy Genius" "Monsters, Inc." "Shrek"
<b>Best Actress in a Leading Role:</b> Halle Berry Judi Dench Nicole Kidman Sissy Spacek Renee Zellweger	<b>Best Foreign Language Film:</b> "Amelie" "Eling" "Lagaan" "No Man's Land" "Son of the Bride"
<b>Best Actor in a Supporting Role:</b> Jim Broadbent Ethan Hawke Ben Kingsley Ian McKellen Jon Voight	<b>Best Adapted Screenplay:</b> "A Beautiful Mind" "Ghost World" "In the Bedroom" "The Lord of the Rings" "Shrek"
<b>Best Actress in a Supporting Role:</b> Jennifer Connelly Helen Mirren Maggie Smith Marisa Tomei	<b>Best Original Screenplay:</b> "Amelie" "Gosford Park" "Memento" "Monster's Ball" "The Royal Tenenbaums"

and won twin best supporting actress nods for Britons Maggie Smith and Helen Mirren.

"In the Bedroom," a low-budget drama won five nominations: best film, best actress for Sissy Spacek, best actor for Tom Wilkinson's portrayal of a grieving father, best supporting actress for Marisa Tomei and best adapted screenplay.

Sean Penn, for "I am Sam," was a surprise nominee in the best actor category which also included for the first time two black actors: Will Smith for his role as Muhammad Ali in "Ali" and Denzel Washington as a crooked cop in "Training Day."

Other best actress contenders were Halle Berry for "Monster's Ball," Judi Dench for her role as novelist Iris Murdoch in "Iris" and US actress Renee Zellweger for Brit comedy "Bridget Jones's Diary."

Nominated with Howard and Jackson for best director were Ridley Scott for combat drama "Black Hawk Down," Altman for

"Gosford Park" and David Lynch for his twisted drama "Mulholland Drive."

Among foreign language films, French comedy "Amelie" won five nods including best screenplay, while India's entry "Lagaan," a tale of the trials of poor farmers under British colonial rule, Bosnia's "Mo Man's Land," Argentina's "The Son of the Bride" and Norway's "Eling" were also named.

Family favorites "Shrek," "Monsters Inc." and "Jimmy Neutron" Tuesday on won nominations as best animated feature, the first new category to be added to the Oscars in two decades.

The three-strong category was announced here early Tuesday at a pre-dawn ceremony marking the climax of weeks of tension over the most coveted awards in cinema.

The awards will be handed out at a ceremony in Hollywood on March 24.

Movies

A fine tribute

Films of Satyajit Ray to be screened in Dhaka

CULTURE DESK

ZAHIR Raihan Film Society have decided to screen five films made by celebrated Indian filmmaker Satyajit Ray, at the Cultural Center of Indian High Commission at Satmasjid road of Dhanmondi in the city. The retrospective exhibitions have been arranged in collaboration with the High Commission of India, to pay

tribute to actress Karuna Bannerjee and cinematographer Subrata Mitra, who have recently passed away. It may be mentioned that both the late film personalities had worked in different films of late Satyajit Ray. All the five shows will start at 6:30 p.m. sharp.

Schedules of the exhibitions are as follows:

February 16 (Saturday) : *Pather Panchali* (The Song of the

Road -- 1955)  
February 17 (Sunday) : *Aparajito* (The Unvanquished -- 1956)  
February 18 (Monday) : *Apur Sangsar* (The World of Apu 1959)  
February 19 (Tuesday) : *Devi* (The Goddess -- 1960)  
February 20 (Wednesday): *Kanchanjangha* (Kanchenjunga 1962)

Event

In observance of Amar Ekushey

Five-day program of Liberation War Museum

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

LIBERATION War Museum has chalked out elaborate programs to observe the 50th anniversary of language movement and martyrdom of the golden sons.

Discussion programs, poem recitation, tagore songs and stage drama will feature in the five-day schedules. Discussions and seminars will be held every evening from 5:00 p.m. to be followed by a cultural event.

**February 15, Friday:** Discussion on role of artists during the Liberation War. Discussants will include artists Aminul Islam, Murtaja Bashir, Imdad

Hossain and Bijon Chowdhury. Folk songs by Indra Mohan Rajbangshi, Dipankar Rajbangshi and Dulal Rajbangshi.

**February 16, Saturday:** Discussion on role of photojournalists during the Liberation War. Discussants will include Amanul Haque, Rafiqul Islam and Mohammad Takiullah. Tagore songs by Ifat Ara Dewan and Khairul Anam Shakil.

**February 17, Sunday:** Discussion event *Bangladesh-er Ridoy Hotey* and musical soiree by Rabindra Sangeet Sammilan Parishad, Dhaka.

**February 18, Monday:** Discussion on women's role during the

period of Language Movement. Participants will include Halima Khatun, Sanjida Khatun and Amena Begum. Recitation of poem on language movement.

**February 19, Tuesday:** Speech and discussion on immortal Ekushey by Abu Mohammad Delawar Hossain, Syed Imamur Rashid, Professor Abul Kashem Chowdhury and Syed Badruddin Hossain. Patriotic songs.

**February 20, Wednesday:** Poems of Language Movement by Poet Shamsur Rahman, Mahbubul Alam Chowdhury and Alauddin Al Azad. Stage drama *Kobor* (Grave) by Samay Sangskritik Gosthi.

Exhibition

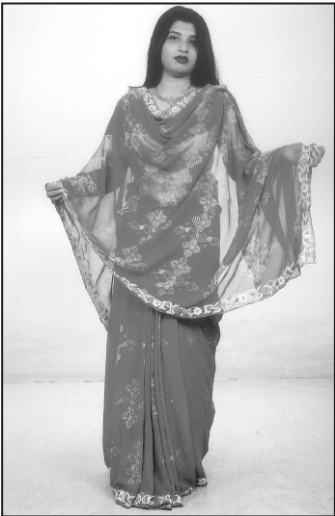
A representation of our traditional heritage

Rehana Ali, a BBA student, is holding a boutique exhibition with aim of upholding our traditional heritage besides creating job opportunity for the rural community

AZIZ AMIRUL

GREAT news awaits the fashion lovers of traditional trendy apparels. Rehana Ali Rimi, a fashion designer welcome all to her latest exhibition of dresses that was inaugurated yesterday at Ali's Knitwear Bangladesh at a house of road no. 15/A at Dhanmondi in the city.

The exhibition that has been titled *Ghorowa Poshak Prodorshoni*, includes items of saree, shalwar kameez, Punjabi for men and a very special type of clothing *Pahari*, named by the designer herself. *Pahari* is a modified pattern of dress exclusively worn by female members of the indigenous tribal groups



of Bangladesh.

Wax candles, made by hand, will too, feature as an added attraction in the exhibition. 'I love creating colourful candles and candle-glasses through manual effort at home', mentions the energetic, young designer.

Rehana Ali is continuing to create dress designs from her school days and has gradually excelled in the field. It was the year 2000 when Rehana for the first time dealt with any commercial consignment of her designed produces. Till now she has traveled most of the areas of Tangail, Mymensingh, Jessore and Rajshahi in search of rural women who are capable of good sewing craft. After successful selection by the designer,



the women folk are assigned of supplying her ready-made clothings as per requirement. Rehana provides all raw materials to the skilled members of her workforce.

'I have now decided to produce fashion products of the indigenous tribal women of Bangladesh and spread the trend among the modern community of ours'. This is a way of mine through which I intend to represent and uphold the rich tradition and cultural heritage of our Golden Bengal as well, try to alleviate poverty from the lives of a group of rural citizens', adds an optimistic Rehana Ali.

The exhibition is open from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. till February 22.

Event

Valentine ghazal

A solo ghazal performance of singer Mesbah will be held this evening and on February 17 at the ballroom of Hotel La Vinci on the occasion of Valentines' Day

CULTURE DESK

HAZAL singer Mesbah will hold a couple of solo performances at the Best Western La Vinci hotel at Kawran Bazar in the city, on the evenings of February 14 and 17.

The first solo event to be held this evening will carry special interests for the younger audience

most of who will be present at the scene with a joyous mood while celebrating the Valentines' Day.

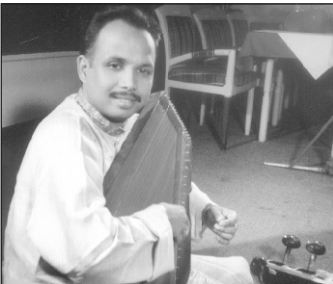
Mesbah, a noted ghazal singer of the country has achieved considerable success in his career and has acquired a great number of fans, through presentation of a rich vocal aptitude.

Mesbah has so far, performed

in a record number of 600-plus solo musical events all over the country.

A particular aspect is that most of his Bangla ghazals are composed and written by Mesbah himself that have frequently been transmitted over television and radio.

Rotaract club of Shyamoli



Pioneer Dhaka has recently awarded Mesbah with the honour of *'Best Ghazal singer of the present generation'*.

The events will start at 7 p.m. and will continue till 10 p.m. Guests, interested to attend the evenings, have been requested to contact at the front desk of La Vinci hotel.

Media

New TV channel at the end of pipeline

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

A new private television channel is knocking at the doorsteps of the Bangladesh viewers. Jamuna TV or JTV, as it would be called, is making its debut in the arena of electronic media of the country within a short period. The information was revealed at a Press Conference organized by the management of the impending project.

Jamuna, from its very beginning, would strictly try to provide the most impartial, objective, in-depth and the best relevant news items to the viewers besides, being a producer of neatly designed programs of various kinds.

High officials of the management were hopeful of the fresh venture and committed about transforming the coming channel into a perceptible one where news items will stay

at the helm of contents along with inclusion of international quality entertainment programs.

The channel will transmit programs round the clock, for 24 hours and those will be appropriately designed to match the tastes and attitudes of both the common folk and the upstart viewers of the urban community.

JTV is about to begin their journey with a strong team of freshly

recruited media personalities and technically sound producers. An option of bringing in qualified and renowned producers from abroad would also remain open for the management, if required during the course of time.

JTV is a sister-concern of the Jamuna Group who in addition, manages the print media organization of Dainik Jangantor, a versatile Bangla daily of the country.

The channel will go on air

through Ultra-high Frequency or UHF system. The company will have its own office building and tower. Viewers will be able to watch the proceedings of the channel from across the country and from neighbouring regions, provided there remain strong receiving satellite antennas in those areas.

Nurul Islam, chief of the Jamuna Group will act as Chairman of JTV and Shamim Islam will be his deputy as Managing Director.