

RECOMMENDATIONS

Concert of Classical Music

May 18
As part of their 'Cultural Events 2002', the Embassy of Italy in Bangladesh organises a concert of classical music titled, 'I Solisti Veneti' at 7:00 p.m. at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel.

Pritom's solo

May 9-15
Nurul Islam Pritom holds his first solo art exhibition at the Zainul gallery of Fine Arts Institute in the city that is open to all from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m. daily.

Calligraphy

May 4 to 15
Arifur Rahman, a calligraphy artist holds his fifth solo exhibition at the lobby of National Museum in the city. The exhibition displays around fifty works, done in Arabic and Bangla. The exhibition is open from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Japanese film session

May 19-21
Rainbow Film Society has organised a three-day long Japanese Film Session, in association with Goethe-Institut. Filmshows start daily at 5:30 p.m. at the German cultural center auditorium. 'Andromeda' and 'Doubles' will be screened on May 19, 'Ekiden' and 'HIMITSU-Secret' on May 20 and 'The white collar worker' and 'KEIZOKU Unsolved cases' on May 21.

Photography on ship breaking

May 18-29
R. Laarsen, a photographer from Sweden and a teacher at Pathshala Photography School, holds a solo exhibition in the city on issues of ship-breaking in Bangladesh. Through his works, Laarsen raise questions those focus on various hazardous and harmful sides of the business including matters of environmental pollution caused by the breaking process.

Cinema

Devdas makes it to Cannes

After Lagaan, the subcontinent aspires again

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

THE Indian film industry seldom ceases to be without excitement. Some weeks back, the industry as well as the media had been virtually swept off its feet when Aamir Khan-starrer Hindi mega film "Lagaan" made it to the final five entries for an Oscar award for the best foreign film.

The disappointment of the film not finally getting one was not commensurate with the hoopla simply because there was a recognition, however silent, that "Lagaan" was not Oscar stuff. Exit "Lagaan" and the latest buzz is about yet another celluloid recreation of novelist Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyaya's classic work "Devdas", both in Hindi and Bengali which are set for commercial release in India in June.

The Hindi version directed by

Sanjay Leela Bhansali has created more stir than the Bengali one less because it has in its cast another famous Khan of Bombay Shah Rukh (in the role of Devdas), Madhuri Dixit (as Chandramukhi), model-turned-actress Aishwariya Rai (as Paro) and Jackie Shroff (as Chunilal) and more because it has been chosen for screening in non-competitive section of Cannes Film Festival beginning on May 20.

Bhansali, who already has two mega hit films like "Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam" and "Khamoshi" to his credit, is obviously delighted by the selection of "Devdas" for the Cannes festival. "It's a great honour for me," he says.

The distributors of "Devdas" in Hindi has scheduled its release in June in a bid to capitalize on the publicity blitz that is expected to generate for its screening at Cannes, film industry sources say.

But Bhansali's filming of "Devdas" is likely to face competi-

tion from the latest celluloid production of the novel in Bengali which took is slated for release in Calcutta in June. The Bengal version is directed by another leading Hindi film director Shakti Samant and stars Prasenjit (as Devdas), Tapas Pal (Chunilal), Indrani Haldar (Chandramukhi) and Arpita Paul (Paro).

Samant is not new to making films in Bengali for many would certainly remember his "Amanush" and "Ananda Ashram" starring Uttam Kumar and Sharmila Tagore and "Anusandhan" featuring Amitabh Bachchan, Rakhi and Amjad Khan.

Samanta admits film from no other region of India can match the budget of a Hindi one but is confident his celluloid version of "Devdas" will be a box-office hit. He is apparently unfazed by the presence of Bhansali's "Devdas" in cinema halls in Calcutta around the same time.

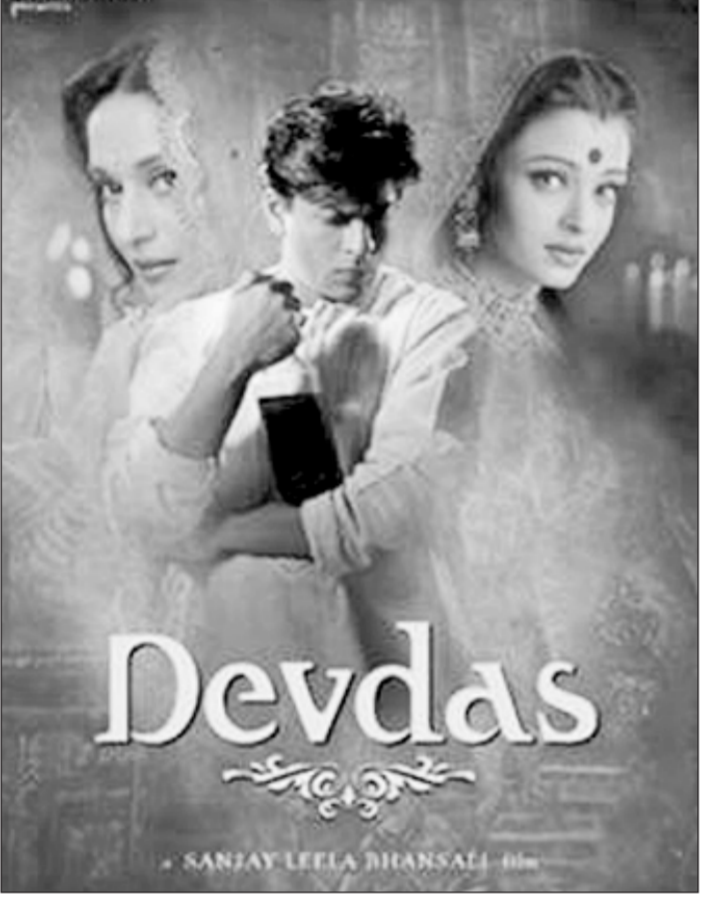
The appeal of Sarat Chandra's "Devdas" has not only transcended generations of readers cutting across ages but also film-makers in both Bombay and Calcutta. In fact, no other work of the author for that any other writer has been filmed so many times.

The first screen adaptation of the novel took place during the silent era in 1928 and seven years later the first talkies version of it came from legendary director-actor Pramathesh Barua who featured in the role of "Devdas."

Director Dilip Roy recreated "Devdas" on the screen in 1979 roping in a star-studded cast Uttam Kumar (Chunilal), Soumitra Chatterjee (in title role), Supriya Choudhury (Chandramukhi) and Sumitra Mukhopadhyaya (Paro).

The first Hindi production of "Devdas" was in 1953. Directed by Bimal Roy, it starred Dilip Kumar and Vyantimala and Suchitra Sen for whom it was the debut in Hindi movies.

Apart from the commercial success of the latest celluloid versions of "Devdas" in Hindi and Bengali, what is most likely to happen is a comparison of the performance of the actors and actresses figuring in them with those who had starred in the earlier films. It may not be the right thing to do but it is but natural.



Exhibition

Nurturing young artists

Manarat Dhaka International School and College holds its first ever art and crafts show

TAWFIQUE ALI

PUPILS of Manarat rejoiced a colourful and festive day on May 4 with their art and crafts display at the college premises by the magnificent bank of the Gulshan lake. The institution sponsored such an event for the first time. Participants, in the exhibition, included students from class I up to 'A' level. The craftsmanship and latent promise of these young amateur artists is manifested by their ingeniously done artworks. Their skill, imagination and creative inclination, marked on a wide range of art pieces, are appreciable. "The little artists have accomplished beyond what they were expected to. We are even more inspired by the number of participants," opined some teachers' coordinating the event.

The young artists have prominently been found pre occupied creating art on handicrafts, useful household fancy items and finely decorated pieces.

The handicrafts included cushion cover, TV cover, handkerchiefs and T-shirts decorated with needlework portraying various beautiful forms and floral motifs. Traditional motifs and rural landscape have found place on these pieces. Some other pieces to name are tablemat, wall mat and purse beautified with fine needlework.

An excellent variety of show-



Mujahida Luceford, the principal of the college, inaugurates the crafts show

pieces and paintings were compiled for display. The collection was rich in artistic value. Needle worked wall mat, purse and hand made beautiful Eid cards fascinated the viewers. Showpieces made of nuts, painted eggshells and matchsticks created an added dimension to the display. The list of showpieces further encompassed flowers made of wax and fabric, nestling birds, and models of huts. Exquisitely designed flower vases, depicting traditional countryside and rural landscape like farmer women

pounding crops in their home yard, indicate those young artists' imagination and admiration for their own heritage. Potteries were adorned with paint and glitter. Fanciful multi-coloured candles and paintings on glass, capturing floral and leafy motifs, butterfly and some other familiar objects evoked captivated the viewers. A salad arrangement of cucumber, carrots, jeweled with fine artistic curving, which belonged to the students of class VII, was really impressive.

Tamanna, Maria, Mithila and



A collection of painted pottery compiled on display



Young painters framed with their paintings

Fahmida, the students of class-V, made hand stitch purse, cushion cover, wall mat, tissue box, flower vase and pottery decorated with flowers.

Masfiqur Rahman, a student of class II, had a painting on the show. His piece portrayed traditional ways of life of Bangladesh. Rahatul Amin, a student of class I, drew his piece capturing a meandering brook by a village lush-green with crops. Tamim's picture delineates three rural girls plucking flowers by a river. Samiha Tamanna captures a colourful butterfly and exhausted peasants taking nap under a tree. Another peace by Oish is a typical rural scene of village women pounding paddy in a traditional way, with thatched huts and a stake of hay at the background.

While reflecting on the event, principal of the college Mujahida Luceford said, "When we realized that our pupils have latent talents and experience in different areas of art, we decided to hold an art and crafts show. We have just offered them a platform to bring out their creativity, talent and artistic aptitude. Their response and performance has been amazing and beyond what they were expected from. Though academic excellence is our first priority, we encourage our young gems to express their artistic creativity."

TV GUIDE

BTV

- 3:10 News Headlines
3:15 Desher Gaan
3:20 Open University
3:45 Pustitathya
4:00 Khabar
4:05 Shabar Janya
4:20 Shikhya
4:20 Cartoon
5:00 News Headlines
5:10 The Sun of Good Earth
5:35 Sangeeta
6:00 Khabar
6:10 Sukhi Paribar
6:35 Programme from Chittagong Station
7:00 News Headlines
7:05 Pran Taranga
8:00 Bangla Bulletin
8:30 Drama serial
9:00 News Headlines
9:05 Drama: Kazi Nazrul Islam
10:00 English Bulletin
10:25 Legal affairs programme
11:30 Khabar/The News
11:45 Closing

EKUSHEY

- 12:00pm Ekushey Midday
12:30 Deshjure Chalchitro
1:00 Ekushey Headlines
1:05 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
1:30 Documentary programmed : Japan Video Tropic
1:50 Classic Cartoons
2:10 Surer Prodeep
2:40 Drishti
2:40 Ekushey Headlines
3:05 Drama Serial
3:30 Amader Kotha
4:00 Surer Prodeep
4:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
5:00 Circus Circus
5:50 Ajker Potrikay
6:00 Ekushey Headlines
6:05 Classic Cartoons
6:30 Charidike
6:55 Ekushey Headlines
7:00 Deho Tore
7:30 Ekushey Shongbad
8:00 Ekushey News
8:05 Kena Kata
8:30 Drama serial : Biskata
9:00 Natak : Goyla
10:00 News : Simulcast from BTV
10:30 When Century Was Young
11:00 Ekushey Late Night Shongbad
11:30 Ekushey Business
12:00 Ekushey Headlines

ATN

- 5:30 "Islamic Prog
7:00 Competition prog: Sapla Saluk ATN
Gold Medal
Protiujigita
8:00 ATN Bangla News
8:25 Reporting Prog : Ghotonar Napathee
9:00 Magazine prog : Sutorang
9:35 Mega serial : Kun Semanay Mukte
10:50 Bengali feature film: Jeggasa
12:00 ATN Bangla News
6:07 Musical prog: ATN Music
6:45 Dance prog. : Nete Neta
7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News
7:35 Musical prog.
8:10 Computer based prog. : ATN Computer Projekte
8:45 Drama: Sei Tume Sei Ami
10:00 ATN Bangla News
10:35 Musical Prog :
11:15 Bengali Feature film: Sukher Ghoray Dukher Agun
11:30 ATN Bangla 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 World Business Report
11:00 BBC News
11:30 World Business Report
12:00 pm BBC News

- 12:30 World Business Report/Sport Today
1:00 BBC News
1:30 Click Online
2:00 BBC News
2:30 Hardtalk
3:00 BBC News
3:30 Earth Report
4:00 BBC News
4:30 Asia Today/World Business Report
5:00 BBC News
5:30 Hardtalk

HBO

- 6:45am The Finishing Touch
8:30 The Hunted
10:45 Mercy
12:30 Buried Alive 2
2:30 The Little Rascals
4:15 Clueless
6:15 Groundhog Day
8:15 Picking up the Pieces
10:00 The Art of War
12:15am When Trumpets Fade
2:15 The Hunted
4:30 Clueless
STAR MOVIES
6:30am Three Days
8:30 Mighty Ducks, The
10:15 Incognito
12:00pm Intern, The
1:45 Major League
3:30 Enemies A Love Story
5:30 Too Smooth
7:00 Powder
8:45 Thomas Crown Affair
10:45 Mighty Ducks, The
12:30 Queens Logic
STAR GOLD
7:00am Dil Ka Raja (Raj Kumar, leena Chandavarkar)
10:30 Bollywood News
11:00 Geet Bahar
11:30 Hum Tere Ashiq Hain (Jeetendra, Hema Malini, Amjad Khan)
3:00pm Bollywood News
3:30 Tarana (Dilip

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

EKUSHEY: 7:00 p.m. Dehatari. Baul song dates back to the ancient stage of Bangalee culture. Nightlong Baul performance is a common cultural phenomenon in rural Bengal even today. Today's peisode of the programme presents a number of Baul of songs.
EKUSHEY: 8:30 p.m. Bishkata. An invisible feud arises after Peter slaps Akkas when he disrupts his Thumri recital. Police officer Riaz becomes up and doing to investigate Shahid murder. Since Peter is affectionate to Akkas he calls him in. But he refuses Nakib.



PICK OF THE DAY

The Art of War
On HBO at 10:00p.m. Westley Snipes Anne Archer Donald Sutherland At the dawn of the millennium, the UN will sign a trade treaty with China that will catapult China into the bit league. But someone is trying to sabotage the summit, and secret agent Neil Shaw (Snipes, Disappearing Acts, Blade 11) and his boss Eleanor Hooks (Archer, Rules of Engagement) believe that Chinese UN Ambassador Wong is behind everything. But when he is assassinated at a formal banquet, Shaw is mistaken for the assassin.

