RECOMMENDATIONS

Reconstruction of Reality

June 7 -21

Kazi Sayed Ahmed holds a solo exhibition of his artworks titled 'Reconstruction of Reality' at the gallery of Alliance Française de Dhaka. The show is open to all daily except Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 8

Jamdani exhibition

June 3 - 18 A Jamdani sari exhibition is on at Haseen's gallery in Kemal Ataturk Ave. in the city. Done in cotton and half silk, around 150 saris are on display with 24 designs. The show is open daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Painting **Exhibition**

June 6 - 15

A solo painting exhibition by artist Esmkar Uddin Ahmed is being held at the Gallery Chitrak (H-21, R-4 Dhanmondi). The exhibition will continue veryday from 10:00a.m. to 8:00 p.m. till June 15.

Solo concert

July 12

Shelu Barua, an eminent singer of the country, holds a solo concert at the Ballroom of Sheraton Hotel in the city. This will be his 3rd solo program at the hotel venue. His first solo was held at the ballroom in 1998 and a duet concert was held last year where Samina Chowdhury also performed. Tickets will be sold at the hotel counter from due time that will be declared soon. Bird fair,

painting, quiz competion June 29

A bird fair will be held at Aga Thakurpara in Barguna district on June 29 that is to be organised by Dalchut, a little magazine club with cooperation from Enam-Ul-Haque, President of Bangladesh Bird Club. Children's painting contest, quiz competition, photography exhibition and bird watching will also be held

Cinema

Of lust, lechery and love

CULTURE

Phul Kumar's premiere at Public Library

ALCHOBI's "Phul Kumar" which took two years in the making was a story of provocation, hypocrisy, idyllic thoughts, lust and pristine love. This had the plot of an innocent orphan, Selim(Chotton), brought up by his paternal grandmother (Moni) and given to growing exotic flowers in the garden to remove his ennui and depression at being alone . These flowers lead to an allergy outburst throughout Sonargaon, where the film is shot, so that the three leading "mastans" of the area hurtle in and destroy Selim's garden in a ruthless and barbaric manner. When the story moves over to the three "mastans" being asked for flowers by the lady they are courting, that is Shirin (Parveen Konna), Selim is encouraged to grow his flowers in the garden again and actually instructed to bring a single flower every day to the beauteous lady.

The three brothers, the leading local "mastans" Abu (Azad Abul Kalam), Habu (Shahid Iqbal) and Shafi (Shatabdi) have their rivals in the Maulvi(Shahid) and the Major (Tariq Shariar) who both send expensive presents and visit Shirin. The major, despite having his wife (Sonia Jaffer), peers at the object of his lust through a binocular. Humour is brought in with the rough and tumble of the suitors, the cool manner of "Shirin"'s responses to them, the monkey that enters and renters the scenarios at will, the exercising of the "mastans", the stealing of "Shirin"'s gifts by the thief (Nurul Alam Atik) and the use of the old Dhaka dialogue. Gorgeous scenes are included in the purple and indigo sunsets where "Shirin" is seen on the roof top, the details of the old building, the depiction of the garden that contains flowers of all colours, shapes and sizes.

Tragedy enters when "Salim" repeatedly brings flowers to "Shirin" and there grows an affiliation between them which is misconstrued by the "mastans", who send "Selim" in the first place to "Shirin" with afresh flower each day. The lady often serves some delicacies such as "sujir halwa" and there



Choton (L) and Parveen Kona in a scene from the movie

comes a time when there are no flowers budding in "Selim"'s garden, leading him to go and weep over this dreadful fate on "Shirin"'s shoulder. The lady embraces him to console him when the three brothers "Abu", "Habu" and "Shafi" enter to find the two people in a warm embrace. This leads to the "Selim" being treated like some unwanted cur, the forced marriage of "Shirin" to the eldest "mastan"(hooligan) against her will and the ultimate discovery of "Selim"'s corpse floating in the pond. It is not clear if he has committed suicide or whether he has been hacked up by the "mastan" brothers.

Pathos has also entered in the manner in which the grandmother is seen struggling to bring up "Selim" single-handed and when as a child he is teased in school by his classmates. "Shirin"'s intrinsic loneliness and internal confusion also adds sad, soulful elements to the film.

Ashiq Mustafa, the director and producer of "Phul Kumar", speaking to DS , says,"'Jolchobi' has done 'Chuthotra Matra' and 'Cycle's Dana' before 'Phul Kumar'. The theme is about the life and death of 'Selim', his growing up as a teenager with his limitless dreams, while the other characters all contribute to the ill fate of the protagonist. 'Selim's corpse at the finale stands for the death of innocence or the end of his fatalistic dreams. Out of something small and innocuous such as the embrace by 'Shirin' towards the end, the dreaming teenager sees a grotesque end which he surely does not deserve. He comes from a society where hooligans can brutally destroy his personal garden within a wink of an eye, without offering any explanations or without any apologies or even excuses. Thus this film portrays how small elements destroy the struggles and determination of individuals in our society.

Asked if he had brought symbolsm in his film, the director says," I have not consciously brought any symbolism into the film although some of it might have crept in . When you see the sky, you have different



feelings and reactions and you can even see images in them as has been told in the film. Here the element of flower stood for innocence, I will admit. As for the continuous sneezing those reflect how something normally insignificant lead to something serious and hostile. I cannot clearly explain why so many individuals at different parts of the place sneeze at one time almost in a string. It was there in the plot and I simply delineated it and implemented it in the film. Of course, I admit that just because something is there in the story I have to necessarily portray it. I felt that it was important and integral to the weird setting of the scenario. The audience can interpret this string of sneezing in any manner that it desires. There could be different explanations and interpretations to this. Incidentally, the story was by Shahidul Zahir while I was the script writer cum director, while the editing has been done Shamir

Dwelling on why the film took so long to be completed, Ashik

Mustafa says,"It takes time to make subtitles, we have to go to Bombay for the finishing. It is not yet ready to be sent to the foreign festivals. I think that my aim is to draw as much audience for 'Phul Kumar' as possible. I want to reach out to one and all and the focus is not just the intelligentsia. This is meant for screening at all sources and not the TV channels although the local big cinema halls are diffident about accepting a one hour film to be shown to one and all. However, there are the auditoriums like the Public Library where it can be shown."

Asked about the technicalities of making the film, the Ashiq Mustafa says, "Only one camera has been used and Shamiran Dutta handled it. He has graduated in film making at Poona, India. This is my first film.I have graduated in a visual arts school in Manhatten, New York, where I studied for four years and finished last spring . Studying at that academy I had access to instruments such as camera. I have missed the dead line for 'Phul Kumar' but I am bent on making

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ZEE TV



more films . Due to the difficulty of funding a lot of experts have been sidetracked . My own school, back in USA funded a 15 minutes low budgeted film making fund. The rest has been borrowed from my friends In order to improve the technical quality I've had to spend a lot and I know that to recover that money it will not be easy. If we could easily recover the cost of film making there would be many more good films in

"I originate from a typical middle class family myself and my experiences and trends of thoughts have been bourgeoisie oriented. I have not aimed at any class as such in making the film. I believe that it will appeal to anyone, from any strata of our society."

Dwelling again on the problems that he faced in making the film, Ashiq Mustafa says, "When I finished the shooting there was the question of where I would edit it. After a lot of tussle with editing, I couldn't get a booking at Madras for the finishing. I had to wait for five months for this. In selecting the cast

of the film, however, there were few problems as I included actors and actresses who were known to me already and were eager to work with me. Parveen Konna, the lead actress is a friend of mine while Chotton is again well-known to me from the time that Nurul Alam Atiq, my friend was writing the script for the film. Incidentally, this is based on a short story by Shahidul Zahir."

the future of the film "Pul Kumar", Ashiq Mustafa says, "I'm always optimistic about everything in life and my future plans, obviously, is to make more such art films. I have ideas of my own and there is no dearth of scripts. However, I need to have luck and opportunity to make another such film.'

TV GUIDE

BTV 11:40amDesher Gaan 11:50 Entertainment Show **12:15** Biswacup Bhalobasha O'

Amader Football World Cup Football 12:20 2002 Live, 2nd round 'E'1st Vs 'B'2nd **News Headlines**

2:45 Kheladhula 3:00 Khabar 3:05 Unmesh 4:00 News Headlines 5:05 Moner Kotha 5:20 World Cup Football 2002 Live, 2nd round

'A'1st Vs 'F'2nd 6:00 Khabar News Headlines 7:00 7:30 Geetimallya 8:00 News in Bengali 8:30 Special on Plantation

Week **News Headlines** 10:00 News at Ten 10:25 World Cup 2002 Highlights 'World Magic'

11:30 Khabar / The News **EKUSHEY** Ekushey Midday

12:05 Ajker Potrikay 12:20 Mukto Khobor 12:50 Bolte Chai 1:20 Classic Cartoons Toyota World of 2:00 Wildlife

2:30 Ei Shoptaho **Ekushey Headlines** Jatra Pala 5:30 Gillette FIFA World Cup 2002

6:00 Ekushey Headlines 6:05 Serial: Alif Laila 6:55 **Ekushey Headlines** 7:00 Shoptaho Ghura Deshjure **Ekushey News Ekushey News** (English)

Tale film : Kurukhttaro 10:00 News: Simulcast from **Ekushey Business** Ekushey Late Night

CHANNEL-i

7:50a.m. Discussion on World cup soccer Program on interior decoration 8:30 Drama: Joar Bhata 9:30 Documentary 10:00 Nilanjona 10:25 Music Plus 11:10 Program on Pahela Aashar Discussion on World cup soccer 12:00p.m. Program on fashion and

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interior decoration Drama: Joar Bhata Film: Raven Bangla feature film Documentary Magazine program Music Plus

Jungle book Channel I News Discussion on World cup soccer Drama serial Music Horizon Ispahani I Telequiz Channel I News Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh Mobile quiz Na bola kotha Ispahani I Teleguiz Channel I News Pepsi Live Concert (Recorded)

12:00 Channel I News **ATN BANGLA** 5:30 Islamic prog: 7:00 Children: Cholo

Gan Gai Viwers opinion prog.: Motamot 8:00 ATN Bangla News Musical Prog: 8:25 9:00 Rabindro sono prog : Getanjoly 9:35 Magazine Tasmerv Kechokhon 10:10 Drama serial Abashese 10:50

Bengali feature film: Raster Raja ATN Bangla News Children prog. Shapla Saluk Viewers request fim songs prog. Anurodher Assor ATN Bangla **Evening News** 4:00

Mage serial: Reporting prog: Ghotona Probaha

Drama Serial

Mamla Hamla

Jamela Sreter Pata Theke ATN Bangla News 10:00 10:35 Drama: Racom Fear 11:15 Bengali feature film: Masal

ATN Bangla News **BBC WORLD BBC News** World Business Report

6:30 **BBC News** 7:30 Asia Today/World **Business Report BBC News** 8:30 Asia Today/World **Business Report BBC News** 9:30 **Business Report** 10:00 **BBC News** 10:30 **Talking Movies**

Asia Today/World 11:00 BBC News 11:30 Simpson 12:00 **BBC News** 12:30 Click Online 1:00 **BBC News** 1:30 Correspondent 2:00 BBC News 2:30 The Rat Pack/The Future Just Happened/The Human Body 3:00 **BBC News**

La Stories Voyager: Heming-4:00 **BBC News** 4:30 The Car's The Star/Top Gear 5:00 BBC News 5:30 This Week **HBO** Sense and

6:30 Sensibility In The Doghouse 11:00 Carlito's Way 1:30 Village Of The Damned 3:30 Spirit 5:30 Autumn in New York 7:45 Eraser A Simple Wish 11:45 Sheena 2:00 Village of the Damned

Mask

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



EKUSHEY: 9:00p.m. Kurukshetra. Amiyo is a graphic designer in England. He rents a house whose owner is a Bengali girl, Tandra. Sometimes later Amiyo falls in love with the girl. In the meantime, when Amiyo returns home his parents settles his marriage with Snova. The couple returns to Englan and now a sensitive situation develops when Amiyo has to face Tandra, his former lover. STAR MOVIES: 7:00 p.m. The Doctor. Every



doctor must eventually become a patient, and in an ironic reversal of professional perspective, Jack MacKee is suddenly faced with an illness that makes him an ordinary patient in his own hospital. For the first time, he is forced to feel what every patient feels, and to blindly rely on a very fallible medical establishment, complete with its endless bureaucracy, humiliating examinations, imposing machinery and overcrowded waiting rooms.



STAR MOVIES

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Thriller: The

Comedy: Mad

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And Hooch

Comedy: Turner

Comedy: Deuce

Bigalow Male

Action: Memory

Comedy: Woman

Thriller: Matthew

Comedy: Woman

Chupa Rustam

Hit Filmein Hit

Kya Film Kya Geet

Family Fortunes

AmulBest of

Cine Jharokha

Special Danger

Chupa Rustan

Eena Meena

Surabhi

Gigolo

Run

On Top

Doctor

Drama: The

Blackheart

Thriller: The

Drama: The

Hurricane

On Top

Aatma

Sangeet

Fox Kids

Hit Geet

STAR PLUS

Keyman

and his cameraman arrive in an African republic. But there they are witness to the murder of Prince Otwani by his brother and are forced to flee into the jungle with filmed evidence of the murder. In the wilderness they find a strange saviour in Sheena, a white woman who lives in the wild and has the power to telepathically communicate with

Indiatimes

Popstars

Sangeet

Kundali

Fox Kids

Bol Baby Bol

Star Superhit:

Kirti Readv)

Star Superhit

Aaj Ki Baat

(Cont.)

Parekh)

STAR GOLD

Tera Jadoo Chal

Gava (Abhishek

Hit Filmein Hit

Kashmakash

Tea Time Cinema

Daadi Maa (Ashok

Kya Film Kya Geet

The Price Is Right

Kumar, Bina Rai)

1:00

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HBO: 11:45 p.m. Sheena. Sportscaster Vic Cases

Deeka

Tu Tu Main Main 11:00 Presents Coke [V] 11:30 Suraj Ka Satvan Ghoda (Rajit Kapur,

> Pallavi Joshi) Futurama 8:00 Beautiful 10:00 Rendezvous With Simi Garewa 10:30 Travel Asia 11:00 Fox Kids 1:00

2:00 4:00 7:30am Love in Tokyo (Joy 5:00 Mukherjee, Asha 6:00 Star Hunter 7:00 **Bollywood News** 8:00

6:30

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Geet Bahar Amanush (Uttam Kumar, Sharmila Tagore) Bollywood News Saturday: Hageegat (Ajay Devgan, Tapu) Geet Bahar Saturday Special

Comedy Special

Lok Parlok (Jeetendra, Jaya Prada) Rajehin Na Rahein Hum Madhumati New Wave Cinema

A Simple Wish

On HBO at 10:00 p.m.

STAR WORLD 3rd Rock From the The Bold & The

World Wildest Police Videos Viper Baywatch Walker Texas Ranger

First Wave Water Rats 9:00 3rd Rock From the 10:30 First Wave 11:30 Star Hunter STAR NEWS 6:00am Star News Hindi

Newshour

Star News English

Star News Hindi

Limelight English

Star News Hindi 11:00 Star News English 11:30 Limelight Hindi 1:00 1:30 Star News English 2:00 Star News Hindi 6:30 Limelight English 7:00 Star News Hindi

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Young Annabel Greening receives a visit from her

male fairy godmother Murray. She decides to use

the wish offered to help her father further his

career and get the big part in a Broadway musical.

But one condition of the wish is that it has to be

placed from within 100 feet of the recipient's per-

PICK OF THE DAY

8:00 Limelight Hindi 8:30 Big Fight 9:30 Star News English 10:00 Reality Bites 10:30 Star Business Week 11:00 Limelight English 11:30 Star News English 12:00 Star News Hindi

Saat Baje Hindi

CHANNEL [V] 8:00 [V] Back To Back 8:30 [V] Best of Jumpstart [V] Saturday Stack [V] Back to Back 10:00 10:30 [V] Saturday Stack 11:00 [V] Back to Back 11:30 [V] Saturday Stack 12:00 [V] Zabardast Hits 12:30 [V] Saturday Stack [V] Zabardast Hits 1:00 [V] Saturday Stack 1:30 2:00 [V] Zabardast Hits

6:30 Bhakti Bhav 7:00 Yoga For Life 7:20 Jagran 7:50 Zee Gym 8:00 Tara Rum 8:30 Ramayan Nick on Zee 9:00 Hum Paanch Hudd Kar Di 11:00 11:30 Zee & You [V] Saturday Stack World Close Up Antakshari [V] Zabardast Hits [V] Back To Back 12:30 Khana Khazana **[V] Saturday Stack** 1:00 Jai Santoshi Ma [V] Zabardast Hits 1:30 Sa Re Ga Ma Pa Saturday Stack Sautan 6:30 Nickeldeon Weekend Spl [V] Zabardast Hits 7:00 Nick on Zee

Asked if he was optimistic about

Despite the heat and congestion at the Public Library during the premiere, and the fact that I'd waited two hours for the film to begin, hoping for an interview with the director meanwhile, the experience was breathtaking indeed.

Niilaam Ghar Bid 8:00 Bid Boom Chandini Bar 11:30 Weekend Cinema

Aalaap Bengali Spl

Purobi Bangla

Bharat Bhraman

Saffalya Bangla

Sur Taal Bengali

Chena Mukher

Aanyaa Bangla

Pratibimba

Pobitra Papi

Upakatha

Bichitra

Jhara Samayer

News In Bengali

Aatpake Bandhe

Sur Taal Bengali

Shudhu Tomake

Bhalobasa

Mandobasa

Saregama

Sat Kahan

Abisasya

Phanke

News in Bengal

Choto Chutir

Ek Akasher Niche

Bangali Tumi

Bhalo Bhasha

Gaan Unltd.

(Bengali)

Abhinetri

Encounter

Football

Shari

[V] Saturday Stack **ALPHA TV BANGLA** Half Chocolaate 6:30 7:00 Shayola

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NATIONAL **GEOGRAPHIC** 6:30 Toyota World of Wildlife 7:00 Wild

[V] Club

Coke [V] Popstars

[V] Karaoke

Billboard US

Countdown

[V] Weekends

7:30 Nat Geo Max 8:30 Endangereed 9:00 Human Edge 9:30 On The edge 10:30 Sci-Files 11:30 People & Place 12:30 Net Geo Genius Human Edge 1:30 2:30

Adventure One Saturday Unlimited NG Classics 6:30 Nat Geo Genius 7:00 Human Edge 7:30 Adventure One 8:30 Saturday Unlimited 11:30 NG Classics **HALLMARK** 6:00 Whiskers 8:00

Caillou

Fidel

Fidel

Yaadon Ke Pal

6:00 Katts and Dog 6:30 Ghostwriter Sesame Street 7:00 Scholastic Clifford 7:30 8:00 A Season of Hope Earth Angel 8:30 9:55 Star Trek: Voyager 10:25 Mcleod's Daughters 11:00 11:30 Star Trek: Voyager Cadfael: One 12:00 Corpse Too Many McLeod's Daughters

Encounter **MUSIC** ZEE Hit Pe Hit 6:30 7:30 Sizzlers 8:00 Zee Music Box Compact Disc 8:30 9:00 9:30 Hit Pe Hit 10:30 Hit Mix 11:00 Taaza Maal 12:00 Dil Se 12:30 Hit Pe Hit Zee Music Box 1:30 2:00 Jharonakha 2:30 Tara Rum Pum Hit Mix 3:30

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Hit Pe Hit

Hit Mix

Dil Se

Hit Pe Hit

Just Jammin

Zee Music Plus

8:30 Music Com 9:30 Sizzlers Dialogue 10:00 Jharokha 11:00 Zee Music Box

11:30 Phoren Maal **ZEE CINEMA** Making of A Legend 7:30 Raja Harishchandra Johar In Bombay 1:30 Main Tulsi Tere

Angan Ki 5:15 Ikke Pe Ikka 6:00 Sanam Bewafa Yaadein Radio Ceylon Ki 9:30 Weekend Cinema

10:00 Baaz 1:15 Yaadein Radio Ceylon Ki

CNBC 6:00 Managing Asia 6:30 Asia Market Week 7:00 Europe This Week 8:30 Asia This Week 9:00 Asia Market Week 9:30 Cutting Edge 10:00 Insurance INT MF Investor 10:30 Taking Stock 12:00 Trendmill 12:30 Volvo Ocean Race 1:00 Asia Sport Show 1:30 Senior PGA Tour Siebel Classic in

Silicon Valley (Fri 3:00 Asia Sport Show 3:30 Asian PGA Tour Casino Filipino Philippine Open **US PGA Tour Bay** Hill Invitational (Thurs & Fri Play) Managing Asia 6:30 7:00 Talking Stock

8:00 **Smart Money** 8:30 Cutting Edge 9:00 Trendmill 9:30 Managing India Storyboard The Tonight Show With Jay Leno Late Night With Conan O'Brien