

RECOMMENDATIONS

Sculpture Exhibition

December 19 January 8
A sculpture exhibition by Hamiduzzaman Khan, titled "An Indigenous Minimalist" featuring his latest works will start at the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts on December 19 at 5.30 p.m. Writer Mizanur Rahman will inaugurate the exhibition as chief guest while architect Rabiul Hussain will be present as special guest. The exhibition will remain open from 12-8 pm, everyday till January 8.

Visions-1

December 10-24
Alliance Francaise de Dacca will host an avant-gardist French exhibition titled, "Visions-1 new vision in fashion", which will present latest new forms of fashion photography. The exhibition will last everyday from 9am-12p.m. and from 5-8p.m. except Saturday (5-8p.m.) till December 24.

Art Show

November 20 January 10
A group art exhibition of four young artists is being held at the American International School at Baridhara in the city and remains open daily throughout the day.

Mexican Film Session

Zahir Raihan Film Society is screening films made by contemporary Mexican filmmakers at the Goethe Institut. Screening schedule:

December 19
Frida (2002) by Julie Taymor at 05.00p.m.
And Your Mother Too (2001) by Alfonso Cuaron at 07.00p.m.

Indian Classical

Shamina Parvin will perform Indian classical music at the Alliance Francaise de Dacca on December 24 at 7.00p.m.

Tapan Sinha Retrospective

Zahir Raihan Film Society will screen nine films made by reputed Indian filmmaker Tapan Sinha at the High Commission of India, Cultural Centre from December 20. Screening schedule:
December 20
5.30p.m. *Kabliwala* (1956)
December 21
5.30p.m. *Jotugriha* (1956)

Music

Unmistakable touch of a maestro

Pandit Vikash Maharaj soothes the soul

SAIFUL ISLAM

IN the nippy comfort of late autumn Indian Council for Cultural Relations & High Commission of India, Dhaka, organised "Sarod Recital" by Pandit Vikash Maharaj at the auditorium of the National Museum. Recently, on a December evening, the audience in Dhaka was completely entranced by the maestro's music.

The beauty, grace and wisdom of Indian classical music emanating from the "sarod" strings of the guru was a welcome delight after the Eid holidays that had been lingering in the public's subconscious mind. The Bangladeshi audience shared the feelings of the "pandit" and his "sarod" and many a music lovers were tossing their heads being enthralled by the depth of the music. Pandit Vikash Maharaj had mingled "taal" and "raag" to present an exquisite touch of his own creative soul. The guru is well-known for the unique blend of melody and fluency in his "sarod" recitals of "ragas" and "talas" in his own style that entirely differentiates him from other "sarod" performers.

Pandit Vikash Maharaj was born in 1957. He is one of the leading "sarod" performers of the prestigious, oldest Benaras "gharana" as well as "Maihar" Gharana. He is one of the leading young maestros of "sarod" from India.

He comes from a family of great performers: Pandit Bade Ramdas Jib, Baba Alauddin Khan Sahib and Rishi Pandit Nanhku Maharaj. One can see in his Sarod recital an excellent combination of 'swar' (tone) and 'tala' (rhythm).

Apart from a large number of concerts in India, he has performed in numerous International Music Concerts held in Europe, UK, USA, Scandinavian countries, Canada, Japan, Singapore and Nepal etc. He has been credited with his own creation of Ragas such as *Shradha, Night Wind, Shanti, Samadhi, Song for my mother, My soul and Hinglaj* etc. He has been honoured with many prestigious awards. He is an approved artist of Radio and Television at the National and International level.

Interview

"Chobi Mela", the media and memorable moments

Crystal Orderson, a TV journalist, speaks of the impressions she's taking back

FAYZA HAQ

WITH a South African origin, earlier working as a young TV journalist there, now operating from Sri Lanka, and recently visiting Bangladesh for the "Chobi Mela"-11 event, said, "I used to work for the south African Broadcasting some months back, beginning at the age of 19, (being once one of the youngest black TV journalists) in 1995, a year after her country had gained its democracy, so that the air waves for TV and radio had to change; this meant that the racial component of broadcasting had to change; I myself had completed my journalism training from 'Peninsular Technician' (Capetown, South Africa), which the only institution to take in black professionals for training. I stress on race without being political about it, is because, the country has been divided into black and white sections, as you can see in the code in my present passport. There is one section that is economically advantaged and the other not so. I left the corporation this year, being one of only five women journalists in my country. It was not easy for me as I spoke with a typical Capetown accent as they said that I don't speak 'proper' English (so that others had to voice my stories as TV is all about pictures and voice). Also, I don't have straight hair and that too was an issue. My body size was in the required size 32 etc. Which is the stereotyped cosmopolitan concept of how a woman should look like. I had to face the uphill battle as a black woman journalist. My white colleagues, in contrast, had no problems. I then began to do my Master's thesis in Gender Transformation in Capetown. My thesis was about being a black broadcasting journalist. I felt that the discrimination was not necessarily about class or race or gender but the paradigm of South Africa's dealing with the post-colonial conflict when for the first time black women have a voice. My grandmothers fought for the liberation, going to marches and I'm the beneficiary of that freedom which, unfortunately comes at a cost. People like me are expected to be something like factory workers and not TV journalists: we're not

supposed to be in the limelight. The new South Africa has given the opportunity for people like me to be what want to be."

Talking about the western media's handling of news from the east, and whether we ourselves in the east tend to highlight catastrophes and scandals which the western media pick up rather than including pleasant elements such as tourism, fashion and art exhibitions in the front pages of broadsheet newspapers, radio and TV, Crystal Orderson said, "I'd have to agree with that point even though there is a reason why that's happening. I've been in south Asia now for seven months, in Sri Lanka and Bangladesh; firstly I worked in Young Asia TV for three months and worked on gender programmes that coincidentally dealt with Bangladesh. I get a tape from a correspondent here in Bangladesh and I do the script; the story is about poor people; I have to do my own research but it is difficult for me to change the story if the Bangladeshi correspondent has already decided a stereotyped poverty story. I did positive stories on 'child marriage', the 'Marie Stopes Clinic', environment, arsenic poisoning etc. Now that I'm here in Bangladesh, I'm now challenging that journalist because almost everywhere in the world there is some element of poverty. The fact that rickshaw-drivers and women brick breakers, domestic workers and factory workers work six days a week and this is an admirable side to the life here. There are 130 million people struggling against natural disasters and accidents with a bravery that is incredible and almost commendable. As an African journalist, I've covered floods and famines in South Africa and Zimbabwe. We in South Africa handle the stories differently from what CNN and BBC do. I do not try to be positive just for the sake of it but I can tell a different story. In the Subcontinent too, we have to take the challenge upon us and change the way in which our countries are being perceived by the west."

Dwelling on the same theme of having beauty contests, fashion flower exhibitions, "ikebana", bonsai etc. on the front pages of the printed news media and highlights of TV broadcasts rather than tail

ending elements -- both in the east and west (instead of in the back pages or intermingled or as tail enders of TV news flashes), Crystal Orderson said, "I and Meo Stomo, another young woman of African origin, have just been discussing how there were long articles on globalization, the reason why the SARC Summit is cancelled: I'm interested in them all but do I have the time to read half a page of this? My concentration level is just not that high. We need to project a balance. Yes, we can have long political articles or globalization but let's try to summarize for people like the older generation who want to get the news too, without undermining the reader with the PhD. I believe that fashion, entertainment, movies etc. need to be reflected in a big way. There are many other things happening in vibrant Bangladesh apart from political mishaps, murder, arson, kidnapping and such violence. Our job as journalists is to entertain too."

Speaking on the same subject of the media in Bangladesh, Crystal Orderson said, "I found the 'Star Weekend Magazine' very interesting with its contents such as the articles on UNESCO, the back page with its colour pictures from all over the world including famous people and the arts. As a foreigner, reading it at 'Café Mango'. There was a long article on painting in the 'Cultural Page' and this was a challenge for me as I sing and dance but am not into paintings all that much. Yes, the 'Chobi Mela'-11 had a good coverage in that particular page."

Crystal Orderson added, "As a Methodist, I still enjoyed Eid shopping and daily 'iftar' etc. I'm now going to a fashion show in Dhanmandi, I feel that elements such as these along with say, the calligraphy exhibit and some painting exhibitions at Baridhara and a dye-exhibit at Banani should have been played up more in the media. Even the colours of the rickshaw hoods and their paintings at their backs are so fascinating but these are showcased only seldom, as I gather. I am used to 'biryani', 'curry' (as I've had it in South Africa too -- although under a somewhat differently pronounced name), the writings of the Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore, along with

more recent famous Bengali writers like Taslima Nasreen -- whose two books I've read completely. I've heard Bengali music at my Bangladeshi female flat-mate, Salima Jahan's place in Sri Lanka and I adore the sari which is a very sophisticated draping costume. I'm also into Sufi mystic poetry through my contact with Salima. I love the 'shalwar-kameez' too and I sport a 'dupatta' wherever I go when in Bangladesh. I don't feel alien here at all and I feel that the rich heritage of Bangladesh showed be exposed more often in the media. I found the most liberal people here in terms of the arts and culture."

Giving her impression of the "Chobi Mela"-11 in the city, Crystal Orderson said, "It was like a cultural evolution for me. I came here initially to do some work with 'Out of Focus' which is the young group of photographers at 'Drik'. I'm a video journalist and they are doing video production as well. The young people were helping put up the exhibition with amazing enthusiasm. In South Africa, photography is seen as very 'white', expensive and for the elite. The six young photographers from Kolkata, who took the pictures of the children of sex-workers, were astonishing for me. The presentation of 'Positive Lives' also struck me as superb as we have the highest rate of HIV/AIDS in the world. The statistics in my country is HIV positive in one in seven. Documenting AIDS as not a doomed disease but reflecting the positive element of it naturally appealed to me immensely. Rain or shine, I'll be taking a positive image of this to South Africa: I find this so refreshing. There was also the exhibition of students of Dhaka at the 'Bengal Foundation', and there one saw the wonderful beauty of Dhaka. Images like women and children seen in the water was tranquilizing indeed."

"Apart from the exhibition there were discussions that took place every evening at the Goethe Institut and there we discussed everything from globalization, corruption, immigration, refugees to fashion. There were debates among the young media professionals. I had been waiting for this for months in South Asia because culturally Sri Lanka has been culturally quiet for years due to unavoidable



Crystal Orderson

circumstances."

Giving her impression of Bangladesh, Crystal Orderson said, "I've fallen in love with your country. I came on the invitation of Wirson Johwa, who is a friend from Zimbabwe, who works for 'Drik', and has been here for two years. When he told me that he was in Dhaka, I asked myself; where is that place? My friend in Sri Lanka, Salima Purba Jahan, a TV producer, was hesitant about my coming here, as she calls me a 'drama queen' (a person who isn't ever satisfied and questions everything). I didn't want to read much about Bangladesh and I wanted to form my own impressions as when I came to Bangladesh. For me the effect was 'Wow!' as regards the energy of the people. Yes, there's poverty and pollution but I love the food (I've put

on a little weight), clothes, the shopping at 'Aarong', 'Probortona', New Market, Elephant Road and most of all loved the imitation jewellery to be found here. I visited Cox's Bazar and there went swimming full clothed like everyone else and that too was a new enervating experience for me. I'm overwhelmed with the amazing warmth and high spirits of the people. I've had my visa extended twice and hope to come back to Bangladesh again some time in the near future."

Meeting and talking to Crystal Orderson at "Patshala" Common Room was interesting indeed. It would be wonderful if all visitors to Bangladesh had such lavish compliments to pay about the country.

TV GUIDE

BTV	12.10 News Headlines	12.15 Desher Gan	12.20 Shangtauthan	1.00 Khabar	1.20 Open University	1.45 Ajker Shanbadpatri	2.00 News Headlines	2.05 Shashita Tattha	2.30 Catoon	3.00 News	3.05 Shotoder Khabar	3.10 Bengali Feature Film	4.00 News Headlines	5.00 Khabar	5.30 Computer	6.00 Khabar	6.10 Mukhomukhi	6.35 Jiboner Alo	7.00 News Headlines (English)	7.05 Weather Report	7.10 Agami Din	7.30 Drama Serial : Tumi Ar Ami Ar	8.00 8 o'clock Bengali News	8.30 Drama Of The Week : Nari	9.30 Chayachando	10.00 10 o'clock English News	10.25 Shangbad Protibedon	10.30 Shamokalin Arthoniti	10.35 Movie Of The Week	11.30 Khabar/The News						
CHANNEL-i	Morning																																			
	7.00	Prothom Sur	9.30	Music Plus	10.50	Drama Serial : Bhul Close Up Juke Box	11.25	Drama Serial : Ak Zalak Alo	1.00	Shanchta	2.00	Bengali Feature Film : Khamataban	Evening																							
	5.05	Documentary Program	5.35	Joto Poth Toto Mot	6.10	Music Plus	6.45	House Full	7.15	Channel I News	7.45	Ispahani Tele Quiz (Question)	7.55	Manimal	8.25	Drama Serial : Grihigla	9.00	Channel I News	9.30	Shangbadpatri Bangladesh	9.40	Ispahani I Tele Quiz (Answer)	10.00	Close Up Hit Wave	10.25	Channel I Mobile Quiz 2525	10.30	Channel I News	11.15	One Man Show	12.0	Channel I News				

ATN	6:00 "Islamic Prog	8:00 ATN Bangla News	8:25 Magazine : Muktho Katha	9:00 Talk show : Face to Face	9:35 Musical prog : Priyo Tarokar Sera Gan	10:10 Musical prog : Music Time	12:00 ATN Bangla News	2:05 Musical prog "ATN Music"	2:30 ATN Bangla News Headlines	2:45 Bengali feature film: Chaderate	5:50 Islamic prog. : Islame Sawal O Jabab	6:25 Islamic prog.	7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News	7:25 Musical prog. : Sandan Baul Mela Mage serial : Kun Semanay Mukte	8:00	8:35 Film magazine : "Hemolux Nenudon Bichitra	9:00 ATN Bangla News	9:15 Reporting prog. : Prekhkhatop	10:00 ATN Bang News	10:35 Drama serial : Sherso Bindo	11:10 Musical prog:	11:30 ATN Bangla News	12:00 Bengali feature film: Beymane																							
BBC WORLD	6:00	BBC News	6:30	Holiday	7:00	BBC News	7:30	Simpson	8:00	BBC News	8:30	Correspondent	9:00	BBC News	9:30	This Week	10:00	BBC News	10:30	Mastermind India	11:00	BBC News	11:30	India Business Report	12:00	BBC News	12:30	Commando!	1:00	BBC News	1:30	Face to Face	2:00	BBC News	2:30	This Week	3:00	BBC News	3:30	Horizon	4:00	BBC News	4:30	Click Online	5:00	BBC News

5:30	Simpsons	6:30	Zebra Lounge	8:15	Rage and Honor : Hostile Takeover	10:15	Friday The 13' : The Final Chapter	12:00	Whispers in the Dark	2:00	Deadly Pursuits	4:00	Night Visions : Cargo/Switch	5:00	Cinema Secrets : Battle Zone	5:30	The Assassin	7:45	3000 Miles to Graceland	10:00	Rush Hour	12:00	The Game	2:30	Whispers in the Dark	4:30	The Assassin	6:15	Bootmen	8:15	Far From Home : The Adventures of Yellow Dog	9:45	Mighty Joe Young	11:45	Doppelganger	1:30	The Mighty Ducks	3:30	Playing Monalisa	5:15	The Match	7:00	Mighty Joe Young	9:00	Stepfather	12:30	Night Shadow	2:15	Return of the Living Dead-3
STAR PLUS	(Thirty minutes plus)																																																
06:30	Geet Bahar	07:00	Shaka Laka Boom Boom	07:30	Aatma	08:30	Hit Filmein Hit	09:00	Fox Kids	09:40	Hit Geet	09:55	Kya Film Kya Geet	10:00	Maal Hai To Taal Hai	10:30	Hera Pheri	11:00	Meri Saheli	11:25	Film Toppers	12:00	Hit Filmein Hit	12:30	Kasauti Zindagii Kay	13:00	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	13:30	Bhabhi	14:00	Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	14:30	Titus	15:00	Two Guys And A Girl	15:30	Suddenly Susan	16:00	Bold&Beautiful	16:30	Hollywood Squares	17:00	The Brady Bunch						
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06:30	Geet Bahar	07:00	Bharat Ke Shaheed	07:30	Hit Filmein Hit	08:30	Sangeet	09:30	Ally Mc Beal	10:30	Oprah Winfrey	11:28	Star Asia Travel	12:00	Titus	12:30	Two Guys And A Girl	13:00	Suddenly Susan	13:30	Hollywood Squares	14:00	The Brady Bunch																										
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06:30	Oprah Winfrey Show	07:28	Star Asia Travel	07:30	Bugs	08:30	Charmed	09:30	Ally Mc Beal	10:30	Oprah Winfrey	11:28	Star Asia Travel	12:00	Titus	12:30	Two Guys And A Girl	13:00	Suddenly Susan	13:30	Hollywood Squares	14:00	The Brady Bunch																										

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

STAR MOVIES: 7:00p.m. *Mighty Joe Young*
The movie opens with poachers attacking a group of gorillas. Animal preservationists fight the poachers, which ends with one gorilla and a young girl's mother dead. In the melee, a particularly large gorilla baby attacks the head hunter and bites his thumb and forefinger off. The films immediately passes into the future and the young girl has grown up to be Charlize Theron and the gorilla has grown to be 15' tall and weighs 2000 pounds.

AXN: 10:30p.m. *Shadow of the Vampire*
Shadow of the Vampire is a film about the making of a German all time classic silent horror-movie from 1922 called Nosferatu-Eine Symphonie des Grauens (Nosferatu-a Symphony of Horror). The production of Nosferatu had to deal with a lot of strange things (some crew members disappeared, some died). This movie focuses on the difficult relationship between Murnau, the director, and Schreck, the lead actor.

PICK OF THE DAY

Rush Hour
On HBO at 10:00p.m.
Realizing that the FBI and their by the book tactics may be unsuccessful, the Chinese consul recruits the aid of a loyal Hong Kong inspector to help rescue his kidnapped daughter. Outlawed by the FBI, the inspector must form an unlikely partnership with a cocky, street smart LAPD officer who prefers doing things his own way.

10:00	of Captain Planet	10:30	Courage the Cowardly Dog	10:30	Jetsons	11:00	The Perils of Penelope Pitstop	11:30	Josie and the Pussycats	12:00	The Looney Tunes Show	1:00	Tom & Jerry Kids	1:30	The Powerpuff Girls	2:00	The Scooby Doo Show	2:30	Addams Family	3:00	Flintstones	3:30	The Mask	4:00	Swat Kats	4:30	Centurions	5:00	Dexter's Laboratory	5:30	Jackie Chan Adventures	6:00	All New Popeye	6:30	Scooby Doo Hour	7:30	The Powerpuff Girls	8:00	The Looney Tunes Show	9:00	The Cartoon Cartoon Show	10:00	Johnny Bravo	10:30	Sportscenter Hindi (T)	11:00	Yakky Doodle	12:00	Swat Kats	12:30	Centurions	13:00	Rolex Awards 2002	14:00	Mummy Road Show	14:30	Tales Of The Living Dead	15:00	Science Of Love	16:00	Secret China	17:00	Human Edge	17:30	Mission Wild	18:00	Dogs With Jobs	18:30	Tomorrow's World	19:00	Behind The Summit	20:00	Indonesia Beyond The Reefs	20:30	Rolex Awards 2002	21:00	WildLife Adventures Ser 1	22:00	Science Of Love	23:00	Satoyama 01:00	07:00	Cheerleading Div. Iii	7:30	National High Sch	8:30	The Right Stuff	9:30	Beastmaster	10:30	Cold Squad	11:30	Martial Law Trackdown	12:30	Guinness World Records: Primetime	1:30	Beastmaster	2:30	Movie: Back to the Future Part II	3:30	The Green Hornet	4:30	Guinness World	5:30	Guinness World	6:30	Martial Law Take Out	7:30	The Right Stuff	8:30	Pacific Blue	9:30	On Namay Shivay	11:30	Thu Horror Movie: Shadow of the Vampire	SONY	6:00	Music Mantra	6:30	Just Mohabbat	7:00	Dil Ka Dwar Khol	7:30	Amrit Varsha	8:00	Sant Asaram Vani	8:30	Charbusters	9:00	Good Morning Disney	10:00	Music Mantra	10:30	Shaheen	11:00	Chamatkaar	11:30	Family No. 1	12:00	Hum Sab Ek Hain Hum	12:30	Bachke Rehnaa Zara	1:00	Kkusum	1:30	Current Bollywood	2:00	Kutumb	2:30	Kuchh Jhuki Palkain	3:00	Om Namay Shivay	3:30	Thoda Hai... Thod Zarurat	4:00	Just Mohabbat	4:30	Kahin Diya Jale Kahin Jiya	5:00	Dil Hai Ke Manta Nain	5:30	Star Yaar Kalakaar	6:30	Disney Hour	7:30	Charbusters	8:00	Music Mantra	8:30	Boogie Woogie	9:00	Goong Ateet Ki	9:30	Kkusum	10:00	Kutumb	10:30	Achanak 37 Saal Baad	11:00	Aahat Dehsat Ke 6 Saal	11:30	Kuchh Jhuki Palkain	12:00	Chhoti Si Asha	SAT MAX	7:30	Mini Movies: Zimbo Finds A Son	8:30	Current Bollywood	9:00	Hotlist	9:30	Chaitali	1:00	Cricket Masala	1:30	Imaan Dharam	5:00	Hotlist	5:30	Aankhon Aankhon Mein	9:00	KPFH-Satyam Shivam	9:30	Utsav	1:00	Hotlist	1:30	Tere Ghar Ke Samne
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