

RECOMMENDATIONS

Tapan Sinha Retrospective

Zahir Raihan Film Society December 23 Hately Bazarey (1967) at 05.30 p.m. December 24 Sagina Mahato (1970) at 05.30 p.m. December 25 Atanka (1986) at 03 p.m. December 26 Harmonium (1975) at 05.30 p.m. December 27 Bancharner Bagan (1980) at 05.30 p.m. December 28 Adalat O Ekti Meye (1981) at 05.30 p.m.

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.

Exhibition

December 20-31 Solo painting exhibition of Rafiqul Islam at Divine Art Gallery.

Indian Classical

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

Music

December 24 Classical Indian music concert at Alliance Francaise. Singer: Shamima Parveen with Dipon Sarkar on the guitar and Sayed Sajid Hossain on the tabla at 7p.m.

Paintings

December 26-30 Exhibition of paintings of Rohena Alam Khan and Lamia Wajehah Hossain at Drk Gallery.

7th Berger Young Painters' Art Exhibition

December 22-26 The 7th Berger Young Painters' Art Exhibition 2002 opens today at the Zainul Gallery of Institute of Fine Arts, University of Dhaka at 11 a.m. The exhibition will remain open for visitors from 11 a.m. to 7.30 p.m.

Films

Tapan Sinha Retrospective

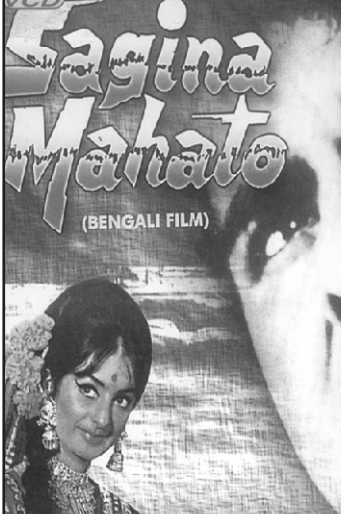
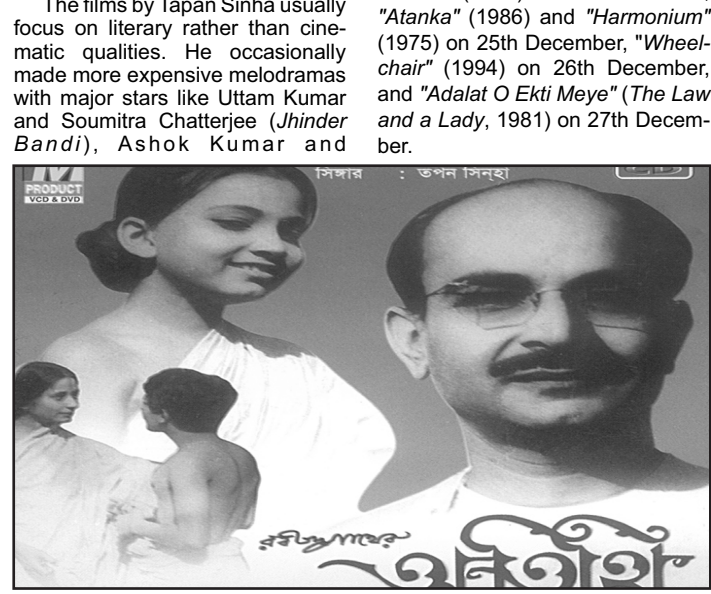
Zahir Raihan Film Society screens nine films made by Tapan Sinha

SABBIR CHOWDHURY TAPAN Sinha has been making films for the last 48 years. In association with the High Commission of India Zahir Raihan Film Society screens nine films by this veteran Bengali filmmaker from Kolkata. A total of nine films will be screened till 27th December 2002 at the High Commission of India Cultural Centre at Satmasjid Road, Dhanmondi.

Mukherjee's Krishna (Upahar), Jarasandha (Louha-Kapat), Tarashanker Bannerjee (Hansuli Banker Upakatha), Banaphul (Hatey Bazarey), Indramitra (Apanjan), Ramapada Choudhury (Kalapati, Ekhan), Samaresh Bose (Nirjan Saikate), Shankar (Ek Je Chhilo Desh), Sunil Ganguly (the children's film Sabuj Dwiper Raja), Jhinder Bandi was adapted from John Cromwell's The Prisoner of Zenda via Sharadindu Bannerjee's translation.

Tapan Sinha was born in Bihar, India where his family owned much land. He graduated in Science from Kolkata University in 1945. His apprenticeship in film started as a sound engineer at New Theatres in Kolkata in 1945, immediately after his graduation, where he observed Nitin Bose and Bimal Roy. He worked as the sound recordist in Satyen Bose's film 'Paribartan' (1949). On invitation, he went to London Film Festival where he stayed and spent a few months at Pinewood Studios (1950-51).

Tapan Sinha is committed to making mid-budget 'honest entertainment'. He worked in many genres including comedies and children's films. His best known works are adapted from: Rabindranath Tagore (Kabulivala, Kshudhita Pashan, Atithi), Narayan Ganguly's short story Sainik (Ankush), Sailajananda



Personality

Destiny plays with "Dadamoni's" life

Six decades of Ashok Kumar

AC TULI IT was perhaps destiny that inspired 22-year-old Ashok Kumar Ganguly, when he was a student of law at Calcutta University, to give up studies midway and go to Bombay to carve out for himself a career in film direction. Little did he know then that destiny had already decreed that he would one day become a great film actor, not a great film director.

pleaded desperately with Himanshu Rai. But Rai waved away his fears and asked him to report for shooting the next day. So, Ashok Kumar made his debut as hero in 'Jeevan Naiya', which was released in 1936. The film was just average and Ashok Kumar was not very happy with his performance in it.



Ashok Kumar

He hoped to progress to film direction in due course of time. As regards acting, he was not in the least interested in it. Coming from a rather conservative Brahmin family of Khandwa in Madhya Pradesh, where his father Kunjalal Ganguly was a practicing lawyer, Ashok Kumar had often heard people making disparaging remarks about the private lives of actors and actresses. He, therefore, thought that acting in films was a disreputable profession.

But he had perhaps not reckoned with what the future held in store for him. A year or so after his joining Bombay Talkies, "Jeevan Naiya" was to be made by this concern with Devika Rani as its heroine and Najmul Hussein as hero. But just four days before the shooting of the film was to begin, Najmul Hussein disappeared, leaving Himanshu Rai and Franz Osten, the German Director of "Jeevan Naiya," in the lurch.

What was to be done now? Himanshu Rai was known for taking quick decisions. He had all these months observed his laboratory assistant, Ashok Kumar, very closely and liked him. So he asked Osten to go ahead with the shooting of the film. "But where's the hero?" Asked Osten. "Ashok Kumar replaces Najmul Hussein," replied Himanshu Rai. "He'll be the hero of our film," Osten agreed, but very reluctantly, for he had not a very high opinion of Ashok Kumar's potential as an actor.

Critics, however, still found a certain awkwardness in Ashok Kumar's acting style. They that felt he was not very comfortable before the camera and his dialogue delivery was also faulty. But, in the Bombay Talkies' films that followed it "Angan" (1939), "Bandhan" (1940) and "Jhoola" (1941) - Ashok Kumar was no longer the gawky tyro that he first two films. There was now a natural style about his acting that charmed the viewers. And by the time he came to act in "Kismet" (1943), a stupendous box-office hit, he had already honed his acting style to perfection. The film, in which Ashok Kumar acted as a golden-hearted thief-cum-pickpocket, ran for more than three years at the Roxy theatre in Kolkata. The only other Hindi film to beat this record is Ramesh Sippy's "Sholay".

In the 1940s, Ashok Kumar took to freelancing. Mehboob cast him in "Nazma" (1943), a Muslim social that was an out-and-out money-spinner at the box-office. A year or so later, Ashok Kumar appeared in Mehboob's "Humayun". All over the country, the film was shown to packed houses.

When Devika Rani left Bombay Talkies in 1947, Ashok Kumar and his friends bought it and worked hard to revive its sagging fortunes. The films that Ashok Kumar produced after taking over Bombay Talkies "Majboor", "Ziddi", "Mahal", "Mugaddar", "Tama-sha" and "Maa" - were hits. But the Bombay Talkies was plagued by so many ills that it never regained its old glory.

Ashok Kumar had a unique rapport with some film directors about whose calibre he had a very high opinion. Bimal

Roy, BR Chopra, Phani Majumdar, Satyan Bose, Tapan Sinha, Shakti Samant, Basu Chatterji and Hrishikesh Mukerjee were some of those in whose films he enjoyed working. In Bimal Roy's "Parineeta", "Bandini" and "Benazir" he gave memorable performances. BR Chopra began his career as film director with Ashok Kumar as hero of his first film "Afsana" (1951).

Thereafter Ashok Kumar starred in his films: "Ek Hi Rasta", "Kanoon", "Gumrah" and a few others. With Satyan Bose, he did "Sitaron Se Aage", "Masoom", "Ansoo Ban Gaye Phool" and "Chalti ka naam Gadi".

Ashok Kumar appreciated Basu Chatterjee's flair for making comedy films. The films directed by him, "Choochi Si Baat", "Khatta Meetha", "Safed Jhooth", "Tumhare Liye" and "Shaukeen", had Ashok Kumar in the lead. In "Choochi Si Baat", Ashok Kumar as Col JNW Singh, who teaches shy young men like Amol Palekar how to love a girl, was simply unsurpassable.

Ashok Kumar held Hrishikesh Mukerjee in high esteem. In "Ashirbad" (1968) directed by Hrishikesh, Ashok Kumar as music-lover Shrivath who leads a carefree, unconventional life, gave one of the finest performances of his career. And the comic, whimsical song, "Rai gaadi, rai gaadi..." sung by him in the film has now become an all-time favourite of children.

In a career spanning six decades, Ashok Kumar acted in more than 300 films. Of these, more than 50 were hits and super hits. In his lifetime, a number of awards were conferred on him. In 1962, he received Padmashri. In 1964, National Award for best actor was given to Ashok Kumar for his role in "Gumrah". Sangeet Natak Academe also honoured him with their award. Above all, Ashok Kumar received Dada Saheb Phalke Award in 1989. The government of Maharashtra gave him Maratha Gaurav Award.

He kept working in films till advanced old age. He also acted in a few TV serials: "Bahadur Shah Zafar", "Bhim Bhavani" and "Dada Dadi Ki Kahani". For the popular TV serial "Humlog", he performed the role of a "Sutradhar".

Ashok Kumar had varied interests in life: he was a good chess player, a knowledgeable homeopath, and an astrologer. Besides, he painted portraits and landscapes.

On December 10, 2001, at the age of 90, he died in Mumbai, mourned not only by the film industry but also by millions of his fans in India and abroad.

TV GUIDE

BTV 12.00 p.m. Opening 12.10 News Headlines 12.15 Patriotic Songs 12.20 Magazine Show 01.00 Khabar 01.20 Health Bulletin 01.45 Aiker Shangbadpara 02.00 News Headlines 02.05 Cartoon Show 02.30 Open university 03.00 News 03.05 Children's News 03.10 Amar Desh 03.35 School Debate Competition 04.00 News Headlines 04.30 Selected Programme 05.00 Khabar 05.05 Selected Programme 05.30 Shukhi Panbar 06.00 Khabar 06.10 Nazrul Sangeet: Dolon Champa Nupur Nikkan News Headlines (English) 07.05 Weather Bulletin 07.10 Drama Serial: Abosheshey Ekdin Protisrutry 07.30 Bangla News of 8'o clock 08.00 Shamokaleen Natak 09.30 Shur O Chhobi English News of 10'o clock 10.25 News Report 10.30 Shamokaleen Arthoneeti 10.35 Chaowa Paowa Khabar/ The News

ATN BANGLA 5:30 Islamic Prog 8:00 ATN Bangla News 8:25 New Singer competition prog: Nabin Boran 9:35 Musical prog: Surer Madure 10:10 Talk Show: Alokat 12:00 ATN Bangla News 2:05 Film Song's prog: Surchobi 2:30 ATN Bangla News Headlines 2:45 Bengali feature film: Rup Nogorer Rajkna 5:50 Islamic prog: Islame Sawal O Jabab 6:25 Children Prog: Sapla Saluk 7:00 ATN Bangla Evening News 8:00 Reporting prog: Ghotonar Nephathree 8:35 Magazine Prog: Suturang 9:00 ATN Bangla News 9:15 Musical prog: Music Time 10:00 ATN Bangla News Drama serial: Brether Balobasa 11:15 Musical prog: 11:30 ATN Bangla News 12:00 Bengali Feature Film: Chadne Ratey

11:30 Cotton Club 1:45 Desert Blue 3:30 Night Shadow 5:15 Ticker 7:00 The X-Men 8:45 Bulletproof 10:30 Return of the Living Dead-3 12:15 Eyewitness 2:00 Doppelganger

CARTOON NETWORK 5:00 The New Scooby Doo Movies 6:00 The Perils of Penelope Pitstop 6:30 Josie and the Pussycats 7:00 Dexter's Laboratory 7:30 The Scooby Doo Show 8:00 The Ku Koo Du Koo Show 9:00 The Mask 9:30 The New Adventures of Captain Planet 10:00 Mike Lu & Og 10:30 Jetsons 1:00 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 Power Zone 4:00 ThunderCats 4:30 G I Joe 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 9:30 Johnny Bravo 10:00 Johnny Bravo 10:30 Superfriends

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS AXN: 10.30 p.m. Twister. TV weatherman Bill Harding is trying to get his tornado-hunter wife, Jo, to sign divorce papers so he can marry his girlfriend Melissa. But Mother Nature, in the form of a series of intense storms sweeping across Oklahoma, has other plans. Soon the three have joined the team of storm chasers as they attempt to insert a revolutionary-measuring device into the very heart of several extremely violent tornadoes. STAR MOVIES: 8.45 p.m. Bulletproof. Rock Keats and Archie Moses are the best of friends and have spent the past year together performing various small time criminal acts. This all changes when they become involved in a major drug smuggling operation. Rock Keats turns out to be Jack Carter, an undercover police officer and tries to arrest Moses during a failed attempt to catch criminal mastermind Frank Colton. However, Moses ends up shooting Carter and makes an escape. Moses is later caught and agrees to turn state's evidence on Colton with one condition Carter escorts him in. PICK OF THE DAY Sleepy Hollow On HBO at 10.00 p.m. The classic story of 'The Legend of Sleepy Hollow' is brought to life by the gothic filmmaker Tim Burton. Johnny Depp plays Ichabod Crane, and to win the heart of Katrina Van Tassel (Christina Ricci) he will have to brave the nearby woods, even though several decapitated bodies have been found.

Motorsports News 2002 (T) 01:00 Asia Sport Show (R) 17:30 New Zealand Cricket National Bank Series 02/03 Hamilton, NEW ZEALAND New Zealand Vs India 2nd Test, Day 5, High-lights(R) 19:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (L) 20:00 New Zealand Cricket National Bank Series 02/03 Hamilton, NEW ZEALAND New Zealand Vs India 2nd Test, Day 5, 1st Session(R) 22:00 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (T) 22:30 New Zealand Cricket National Bank Series 02/03 Hamilton, NEW ZEALAND New Zealand Vs India 2nd Test, Day 5, 2nd & 3rd Session(R) NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 6:00 Riddle Of The Dead 7:00 Lions Of Darkness 8:00 The First Human 9:00 Kabul Zoo Rescue 18:00 Dogs With Jobs 00 18:30 Tomorrow's World 19:00 Going To Extreme 20:00 Wild 01:00 Nat Geo Max 21:00 Scientific Am 23:00 People&Places STAR PLUS 6:00 Geet Bahar 6:30 Geet Bahar 7:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 7:30 Aatma 8:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet 9:00 Fox Kids 9:40 Hit Geet 9:55 Kya Film Kya Geet 10:00 Maal Hai To Taal Hai 10:30 Hera Pheri 11:00 Meri Saheli 11:25 Film Toppers

9:30 Traders 10:30 Oprah Winfrey 11:28 Star Asia Travel 11:30 World's Wildest Police Videos 12:30 Suddenly Susan 13:00 Bold&Beautifu 13:30 Hollywood Squares 13:30 The Brady Bunch 14:30 Baywatch 15:30 The Simpsons 16:00 Cheers 16:30 Starnews Asia 17:00 Frasier 17:30 That 70s Show 18:00 Everybody Loves Raymond 18:25 Starnews Asia 18:30 Grounded For Life 19:00 Becker 19:30 Boston Public 20:28 Star Asia Travel 20:30 Frasier 21:00 That 70s Show 21:30 Grounded For Life 22:00 Everybody Loves Raymond 22:30 Becker 23:00 Boston Public ADVENTURE ONE 6:30 Arctic Flyer 7:00 India Diaries 7:30 Different Ball Game, A 8:00 Surfer's Journal 8:30 Explorer's Journal 9:30 Out There 10:00 Next Wave 10:30 Korubu: First Contact 11:30 Danger Diaries 12:30 On Assignment 13:00 India Diaries 13:30 Different Ball Game, A 14:00 Surfer's Journal 14:30 Explorer's Journal 15:30 India Diaries 16:00 Different Ball Game, A 16:30 Surfer's Journal 17:00 Explorer's Journal 18:00 Out There 18:30 Next Wave 19:00 Miracle At Sea 20:00 Danger Diaries 21:00 Arctic Flyer 21:30 Out There 22:00 Next Wave