

RECOMMENDATIONS



Thailand through my eyes

March 1-10
Bengal Gallery of Fine arts is holding a photography exhibition by Dr Rashid Un Nabi titled, 'Thiland through my eyes' at 6:30p.m. The exhibition will continue everyday from 12-8p.m. till March 10 (Closed on public holidays).

Concert

March 10
Goethe Institut presents a musical concert by Stefan Hussaong and Michael Suoboda. The programme starts at 7 p.m. at the Osmani Memorial Hall.

Exhibition

February 28-March 9
A solo exhibition by artist Tahera Khanom is being held at the Gallery Chitrak on February 28 at 5:30p.m. The exhibition will continue everyday from 10a.m. - 8p.m. till March 9.

Exhibition

February 28-March 6
Drik Gallery holds an exhibition of paintings, sculptures and architecture by five young architects. The exhibition continues up to March 6 from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Exhibition

March 2-16
The Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University and the Embassy of Japan is jointly holding a painting exhibition by Bangladeshi artists who studied in Japan. The exhibition takes place at Zainul Gallery of the Institute. The show is open from 2 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Music

March 6
Dhahot Sangeet Niketan arranges an evening of instrumental music by its students at Mohila Samity. Ustad Motiul Haque Khan, one of the leading sitar players in the country, will also play the sitar at the event. The programme will start at 7 p.m.

Heritage

Tuning off...

The neglected Bangladesh Betaar

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

WHEN was the last time you switched on the radio? If you cannot remember, you are probably part of a million-strong group of people who have opted to let the dust settle on their sets. And sadly, rightly



so.

For those who see our cultural legacy on a steady downward slope, this can be a timely reminder that we need a spark to rekindling our fading heritage. For a nation to thrive and take pride in its roots, its mass media needs not only to be managed with total commitment; it needs a soul.

Tragically, Bangladesh Betar with its countless listeners seems destined for an early death.

Nowadays the immense pressure of television, cinemas, cassettes, VCD's internet have pushed down the role of the radio to a minimum. Even then to people all around the city, in the small tea shops, in the mufassils and villages, the radio is still a very popular means of entertainment and education. While it presents songs and drama it also regularly presents educational programmes on family planning, agriculture, students forum and most importantly the news.

At present there are approximately 98 lakh licensed owners of a radio set in Dhaka alone. The unlicensed users may be many times more. Besides

Dhaka, the other stations are situated at Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet, Chittagong, Barisal, Thakurgaon, Rangpur, Rangamati and a relay station at Comilla. With its tremendous reach, it is not surprising that it attracts advertisers. In spite of its demand both locally and internationally, the radio centers themselves are in miserable condition due to sheer negligence.

Ironically the establishment of the Radio station was an occasion of national pride. After the partition of 1947 the first Radio station was centered at Nazimuddin road at Old Dhaka the erstwhile city center. After a few years it was shifted to Shahbagh. In 1980 the main station was transferred to Agargaon to the north of the Sangsad Bhaban. Today, the commercial service and the transcription service are carried on from the Shahbagh center.

The station at Agargaon was built to modernize the facilities and broadcast technically-sound programmes. On the first floor are the offices, tape library and small studios from where news and other educational programmes are conducted. The three main studios are on the second floor. At present there are as many as 3500 enlisted artists at the Dhaka radio station.

During the embryonic stage, vocalists like Abbas Uddin Ahmed, Abdul Ahad, Feroza Begum, Jahanara Ahsan, Abdul Halim Chowdhury, Full Jhuri Khan, Ustad Gul Md. Khan, Yusuf Khan Koraisi and others came from India and filled up the vacuum created from the migration of non-Muslim artists to India. Artists like Afsari Khanam, Anjali Mukherjee, Laila Arjumand Banu, Malika Perveen were already performing here.

Around 1955-60 the Golden



Snapshots from the past

This is how a popular children's programme *Khelaghar* was conducted by Dr. Fyzzenessa way back in 1964 at the Shahbagh radio centre.

era of music was led by Ferdousi Begum, Anjuman Ara Begum, Mahbuba Rahman, Farida Yasmeen, Asafuddowlah, Anwaruddin, Abu Baker, Nina Hamid, Abdul Alim, Sanjida Khatun, Farida Bari Malik and a host of others. This lineage was carried on from the pre-liberation period of Bangladesh by Sabina Yasmeen, Abdul Hadi, Shahnaz Rahmatullah, Runa Laila, Khondokar Faruk, Abdul Jabbar to Papaya Sarwar, Nilufar Yasmeen, Shubir Nandi and a host of internationally reputed artists.

The Dhaka radio center which was the birthplace of such talent is beset with innumerable problems resulting from negligence and is now tottering on the edge of ruins. Almost in unison its facilities, infrastructure, creative team, technical team seem to have regressed into a shadow of its former self.

Everyday 30-35 artists gather to record songs at the center. In

absence of a waiting room the artists have to sit inside the studio's tattered and unclean carpets. The bulbs are often missing making it impossible for the artists to see he songs from their books. In the absence of expert recordists the untrained people have to operate the equipment. Of the set of dubbing machine, only one is in working state while the others are run down and kept in a dilapidated stage at the tape library.

Besides "hard equipment" even the tapes and recorded pieces have not been preserved well. Most of the tapes are now worn out. In the process many invaluable songs have been erased or lost. Such is the way many famed artists have exited forever, the music world.

There is a dearth of musicians as well. In place of 60 there are now about 30 musicians. Musicians like Ustad Fuljhury Khan, Mir Kasem Khan, Modhu Babu, Motiul Huq Khan, Abdur Rahman,

Yasin Khan and so many of them were the heart and soul of the immortal songs of yesteryears. Musicians are mostly untrained and have very little incentive to develop their skills further. At present there is only one professional Sarode player, Yousuf Khan, in Bangladesh. Music directors like Abdul Ahad, Dhir Ali, Monsur Ali, have passed away and Shujao Shyam Azad Rahman, Khondokar Nurul Alam, Ojit Ray have retired long ago. There is at present a serious shortage of music directors prevailing at the stations.

Yet, so many of the problems could be easily addressed. The huge advertising funds itself could be re-invested in the stations by the Cultural Ministry. With better services they would only attract more advertisements. So in a way, the money spent is not "wasted". The directors who are still able to contribute could also be brought in contractual service and made to train the newcomers. The Shilpo Kola Academy is best placed to address the problem of dearth of musicians. With its huge setup, management, they can quite easily take steps to train and support budding talents. And the funds needed can come from the grants that it receives from donors for this very purpose.

The radio station is the birthplace of so many talents. Let us not only pay tribute to the legends posthumously, but try to preserve their work, so that newer generations can be trained and can woo back the lost audience. An important media like the radio can influence the national psyche and it is a dangerous gamble to leave it neglected.

Music

Eagles hatch summer farewell tour

REUTERS, NEW YORK

THE Eagles will spread their wings at least one more time this summer for their "Farewell 1" concert tour, as Monday turned into a rather popular day to announce summer concert gigs.

Other tours announced were those of Peter Gabriel, Annie Lennox and a double bill of Matchbox Twenty and Sugar Ray.

The Eagles tour is set to kick

shows.

Eagles reunions have proved a potent draw for concertgoers in recent years. The band's most recent live outing, hitting mainly smaller and midsize cities in North America last year, grossed \$35 million from 31 sold-out shows.

Gabriel, who toured the U.S. late last year, will play amphitheaters in 16 U.S. cities beginning June 7 in San Francisco.

Lennox, whose album



The Eagles

PHOTO: KEVIN MAZUR

off at Richmond, Va.'s Coliseum on May 9 and continue at least through mid-July.

The outing reunites the "The Long Run" version of the band with Don Henley, Glenn Frey, Joe Walsh and Timothy B. Schmit sans Don Felder to reprise the group's cadre of mega-hits such as "Hotel California" and "Take It Easy." (Felder is suing the band after being ousted in 2001.)

The Eagles have scheduled 19 dates so far, including stops in Philadelphia, Boston, Dallas, Atlanta and Nashville, among others, with another 20 or so engagements yet to be announced. Fans who sign up at the group's online fan club site (<http://eagles.yahoo.com>) will get a shot at advance-sales windows for many of the

"Bare" will be released June 10 by BMG's J Records, will play 18 cities between March 26 and April 30, including intimate gigs at New York's Apollo on April 14 and UCLA's Royce Hall on April 29. More dates will be announced for shows after the release of "Bare."

Matchbox Twenty and Sugar Ray are teaming for a 49-concert run in arenas that starts in Little Rock, Ark., on April 26. (Matchbox Twenty will play a solo show the day before in New Orleans.) The double bill, which will feature Maroon 5 as the opening act through May 31, is booked through early July with a stop June 14 at L.A.'s Staples Center.

TV GUIDE

BTV

12.10 pm News Headlines
12.15 *Shubhechha Nin*
12.30 *Ajker Shangbadpatro*
12.40 Health Bulletin
01.00 Khabar
01.05 Selected Programme
02.00 News Headlines
02.05 Cartoon Show
02.30 Open University
03.00 English News
03.10 Bangla Feature Film
04.00 News Headlines
05.00 Khabar
05.30 Magazine Show: *Ityadi*
06.00 Khabar-Desh *Janopad*
06.35 Islamic Programme: *Jiboner Alo*

07.00 News Headlines (English)
07.05 *Boi Patro*
07.30 Film Show: *Three Stooges*
08.00 Bangla Shangbad at 8'o clock
08.30 Drama of the Week: *Ami Joddhya*
09.30 *Chhaya Chhindo*
10.00 English News at 10'o clock
10.25 News Report
10.30 Movie of the Week
11.30 Late Night News/News Headlines

CHANNEL-i

07.15 *Prothom Shur*
09.30 *Music Plus*
10.00 *i Sports*
10.50 Drama Serial: *Durer Aakash*
11.30 Mega Serial: *Grihalgalpo*
12.10 pm Drama Serial: *Prothom Chunia*

02.00 Bangla Feature Film: *Palabi Kothay*
05.00 Rabindra Sangeet Show: *Gaan-er Oparey Janopad-er Khabar*
05.35 *Jato Pad Tato Mat*
06.10 Music Plus
06.45 *House Full*
07.15 Channel-i News
07.45 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Questions)

07.55 Jui Priyo Natak: *Haowa Ghar*
09.00 Channel-i News
09.31 Ispahani-i Tele Quiz (Answers)
09.35 Drama Serial
10.00 Band Music Show: *Close Up Heat Wave*
10.25 Channel-i Mobile Quiz
10.30 Channel-i News
11.15 *Shangbadpatrey Bangladesh*

11.30 Live Telecast of BTV Late Night News
Telecast of Recorded BTV News at Ten
12.15 am Channel-i News

HBO

7:00 Alive
9:30 Snow Falling on Cedars
12:00 K-911
2:00 Blade Squad
3:45 Daughter of Darkness
5:45 Brother's Keeper
7:30 Batman
10:00 Cobra
11:45 3000 Miles to Graceland
2:00 Alive
4:30 Posse
AXN

6:30 Movie: Slow Burn
8:30 Rescue
9:30 Queen of Swords: Destiny
10:30 Seven Days: The Collector
11:30 Drama of the Week: *Ami Joddhya*
12:30 Guinness World Records: Primetime

1:30 Martial Law: Lock-up
2:30 Movie: Slow Burn
4:30 The Right Stuff
5:30 Guinness World Records: Primetime
6:30 Farscape: The Choice
7:30 Core Culture
8:30 Queen of Swords: Death to the Queen
9:30 Now See This!
10:30 Thu Horror Movie: Alien

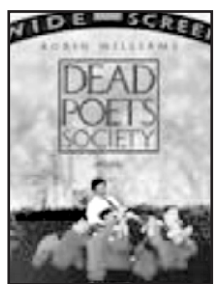
SONY
6:30 Just Mohabbat
7:00 Dil Ka Dwar Khol
7:30 Amrit Varsha
8:00 Sant Asaram Vani
8:30 Chartist
9:00 Good Morning Disney

10:00 Music Mantra
10:30 Milan
11:00 Chamatkar
11:30 Family No. 1
12:00 Hub Sub Ek Hain
12:30 Devi
1:00 Kkusum
1:30 Gonj-Atet Ki
2:00 Kahani Terri Merri
2:30 Hubahu
3:00 Om Namah Shivay
4:00 Just Mohabbat
4:30 Chhoti Si Asha
5:00 CATS
5:30 Star Yaar Kalakaar
6:30 Disney Hour
7:30 Chartbusters

8:00 Music Mantra
8:30 Meri Biwi Wonderful
9:00 Current Bollywood
10:00 Kkusum
10:30 Kahani Terri Merri
11:00 Achanak
11:30 Aahat Dehshat Ke 6 Saal
12:00 Dil Vi Pyar Vyar
STAR MOVIES
6:15 Mad About Mambo
8:15 Wall Street
10:30 The Fly II
12:30 Moms On Strike
2:15 Scenes From A Mall
4:00 Pearl Harbor
7:00 Crazy In Alabama
8:55 Dead Poets Society
11:15 Leaving Las Vegas
1:15 U-571
ADVENTURE ONE
(30 Minutes +)

6:30 Quest For K2
7:00 Out There
7:30 Next Wave
8:00 Surfer's Journal
8:30 Explorer's Journal
9:30 Last Of The Aznacs
10:30 Death Zone
11:30 Danger Diaries
12:30 Quest For K2
13:00 Out There
13:30 Next Wave
14:00 Surfer's Journal
14:30 Explorer's Journal
15:30 Out There
16:00 Next Wave
16:30 Surfer's Journal
17:00 Explorer's Journal
18:00 King Of The Outback
19:00 Action Asia
20:00 Challenge
21:00 Danger Diaries
21:30 Quest For K2
22:30 King Of The Outback
23:00 Skies
23:30 Action Asia
24:00 Challenge
24:30 Danger Diaries
HALLMARK
7:00 Scholastic Clifford - Best Paw Forward/Then Came Bob
7:30 Caillou - Episode # 3
8:00 Sesame Street - Episode # 123 Barge
9:00 Love In Simla
10:00 Night Of The Wolf
11:00 Mcleod's Daughters

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



STAR MOVIES: 8:55 p.m. *Dead Poets Society*. Painfully shy Todd Anderson has been sent to the school where his popular older brother was valedictorian. His roommate, Neil, although exceedingly bright and popular, is very much under the thumb of his overbearing father. The two, along with their other friends, meet Professor Keating, their new English teacher, who tells them of the Dead Poets Society, and encourages them to go against the status quo.

AXN: 7:00 p.m. *Alien*. When commercial towing vehicle Nostromo, heading back to Earth, intercepts an SOS signal from a nearby planet, the crew are under obligation to investigate. After a bad landing on the planet, some crewmembers leave the ship to explore the area. At the same time as they discover a hive colony of some unknown creature, the ship's computer deciphers the message to be a warning, not a call for help. When one of the eggs is disturbed, the crew do not know the danger they are in until it is too late.

PICK OF THE DAY



3000 Miles to Graceland

On HBO at 11.45 p.m.
It was an ingenious enough plan: rob the Riviera Casino's count room during an Elvis impersonator convention. But Thomas Murphy decided to keep all the money for himself and shot all his partners, including recently-freed ex-con Michael Zane.

(22 Episodes X 1hr)
- Episode # 4 -
Who's The Boss
Adoption Number
Episode Number 00001
3:00 Scholastic Clifford - Best Paw Forward/Then Came Bob
3:30 Caillou - Episode # 3
4:00 Flipper - Episode # 1
5:00 Sesame Street - Episode # 25
6:00 Star Trek: Voyager - Episode # 120
Equinox Pt. 1
7:00 The Great Outdoors
The Guardian - Episode # 14 Family
Star Trek: Voyager - Episode # 123 Barge
Of The Dead
The Great Outdoors
STAR GOLD
(30 Minutes +)
6:00 Bollywood Beats
6:30 Geet Bahar
7:00 Daadi Maa
10:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
10:30 Hit Filmein Hit
Sangeet - 20 M
10:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
11:00 Love In Simla
13:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit

14:00 Geet Bahar
14:30 Hit Filmein Hit
Sangeet - 20 M
14:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
15:00 Satyakam
18:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
18:30 Hit Filmein Hit
Sangeet - 20 M
18:55 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
22:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
22:30 Flashback
23:00 Hit Filmein Hit
Sangeet - 20 M
23:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit
23:30 Ram Bharose
STAR PLUS
(30 Minutes +)
6:00 Star Geetmala
7:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
7:30 Aatma
8:30 Taaza Hits
8:35 Hit Filmein Hit
Sangeet - 20 M
9:00 Fox Kids
9:40 Hit Filmein Hit
Sangeet - 20 M
10:00 Kabhiekbahiemereg
harmeinbhuchha
Meri Saheli
Kabhi Sautan Kabhi

7:00 Truth Files
8:00 Mummy Road Show
8:30 Tales Of The Living Dead
9:00 Wild Man Of The Himalayas
10:00 5 Weddings Couple Of Funeral
10:30 Revolutionary Rhythms
11:00 Dogs With Jobs
11:30 Earth Pulse
12:00 Cry Of The Wolves
12:30 The Dragons Of Galapagos
14:00 Dolphins The Wide Side
15:00 Twenty (20) Years With The Dolphins
16:00 Truth Files
17:00 Sea Stories
17:30 Mission Wild
18:00 Dogs With Jobs
18:30 Earth Pulse
19:00 Top Cat
20:00 Tigers Of The Snows
21:00 Yellowstone Realm Of The Coyote
22:00 Living With Lions
23:00 Truth Files

CHANNEL [V]
(30 Minutes +)
7:00 [V] Hit Machine
7:30 [V] Back To Back
8:00 [V] Jumpstart
9:00 [V] Hit Machine
9:30 [V] Back To Back
10:00 [V] Special Program
10:30 [V] Back To Back
11:00 [V] Hit Machine
11:30 [V] Zabardast Hits
12:00 [V] Jungli Jukebox
12:30 [V] Fdfs
13:00 [V] Hit Machine
13:30 [V] Zabardast Hits
14:00 P0 [V]
15:00 [V] Back To Back
15:30 [V] Hit Machine
16:00 [V] Hotline
17:00 Vtop5@5
17:30 [V]Ideo War
17:45 [V] Hit Machine
18:00 Very V
19:00 Ctrl [V]
19:30 [V] Zabardast Hits
20:00 [V] Back To Back
20:30 [V] Zabardast Hits
21:00 [V] Jungli Jukebox
21:30 [V] Fdfs
22:00 [V] Hit Machine
22:30 Late Night [V]
23:00 V Rated R
23:30 [V] Back To Back

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
(30 Minutes +)
6:00 Time Of The Elephants
6:30 Sportscenter Hindi (R)
Auto Racing 2002

Pikes Peak International Hill Climb Pikes Peak, Co Usa (R)
Asa World Tour Asa Pro Tour - Sickest Tricks '02 (R)
Pool Mosconi Cup 2002 (R)
The Expn Invitational Expn Invitational - Compilation Show
Grand Prairie, Tx Usa
English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2002/03 London, England Arsenal Vs Charlton Athletic (R)
Pro Wakeboard Series 2002 Pro Wakeboard Series (Women's)
Orlando, Fl Us (R)
Motorsport Asia (T)
Winter X Games Classix Winter X Games Vi Classix - Positive Id Mt. Aspen, Co Usa (T)
Pool Mosconi Cup 2002 (T)
Ama Motocross Ama Motocross (125 Cc)
Buchanan, Mi Usa (R)
Goals! (R)
Asa World Tour Asa Pro Tour - Street Finals Del Mar, Ca Usa (R)
Pro Wakeboard Series 2002 Pro Wakeboard Series (Women's)
Detroit, Mi Usa (R)
Asian X-Games Qualifiers Asian X Games V Presented By Toyota Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
Episode Three
English Premier Football League 2002/03 Manchester, England Manchester United Vs Leeds United (R)
Sportscenter Hindi (L)
Spanish League Highlights 2002/03 Spanish League Highlights (T)
Taking Guard Super Six Series Preview(R)
Taking Guard Super Six Series Preview(R)

ESPN
(30 minutes +)
6:00 Sportscenter Hindi (R)
Auto Racing 2002

22:00 Western Union World Football (T)
22:30 Best Of Pga Golf Best Of Streaks (T)
23:00 Sportscenter Hindi (T)
23:30 Taking Guard Super Six Series Preview(R)
STAR SPORTS
(30 minutes +)
6:30 Cricket Talk Show Best Of Harsha Online (R)
7:00 Indoor Athletics laaf Indoor Athletics Gp 2003 Stockholm, SWEDEN (R)
9:00 English Premier League Highlights English Premier League Highlights 2002/03 (R)
10:00 Golf Tournament Bali Invitational 2003 Highlights(R)
11:00 Equestrian Fei World Cup Jumping Series 2002/03 Geneva, SWITZERLAND Highlights(T)
12:00 English Premier Football League English Premier Football League 2002/03 London, ENGLAND Arsenal Vs Charlton Athletic (T)
World Wide Rugby Super 12'S Rugby Christchurch, NEW ZEALAND Canterbury Crusaders Vs Queensland Reds Round 2(T)
16:00 Yachting Spirit Of Yachting (T)
16:30 Watersports World (T)
17:30 Gillette World Sports Special Gillette World Sports (R)
18:00 Futbol Mundial (T)
18:30 Sports Unlimited (T)
19:30 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (L)
20:00 Pga Tour Highlights Chrysler Classic Of Tucson (T)
21:00 Taking Guard Super Six Series Preview(L)
21:30 Taking Guard Super Six Series Preview(R)
22:00 Sportsline Tonight Sportsline (T)
22:30 Pool Rack 'Em Up - 1999 St Andrews Cup Mariusz Roter Vs Steve Davis Finals(T)