

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

May 16-20
Women's Initiative for Peace in South Asia holds a group painting exhibition at the Bengal Galley of Fine Arts, Dhamondi at 5 pm, featuring art-works by 28 women artists of the country. The exhibition continues until May 20 everyday from 12 pm to 8 pm.

May 22-June 5
The inauguration of a painting exhibition by Kakoli and a sculpture exhibition by Reaz will take place at the Alliance Francaise de Dhaka on May 22 at 6:00 p.m. The exhibition will continue till June 5.

Book launching

May 19
Society for Promotion of Bangladesh Art (SPBA) arranges the launching ceremony of the book *Bangladesh Art-a Collection of Contemporary Paintings* on May 19 at the Grand Ball Room of the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel. The programme starts at 3:45 p.m.

Theatre



Drama festival in Kushtia

CULTURE DESK

WITH a cordial arrangement of Kushtia District Shilpkala Academy a ten-day drama festival ended recently. A drama titled *Manush Bholoye Sonar Manush Hobi* (If you adore human being, you would be a man of gold) was staged on the closing day.

The inaugural ceremony was attended by the Deputy Commissioner of Kushtia M Makbul Ashraf, Director, Drama and Film section of Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy S M Mohsin, Secretary of Kushtia Shilpkala Academy Amirul Islam and others.

The ten participating teams were Bodhon Theatre, Nandan Theatre, Anannay-79, Darpan from Kushtia, Desh, Shanglap, Jionkathi, Art Unit, Chitra Theatre from Narail and Lok Nayadal from Dhaka.

Exhibition

Keen insight into photography

Regina Schmekens exhibition at the Goethe Institut

FAYZA HAQ

THE black and white photographs, under the title "The New Centre", presented Berlin as a central European city as well as the artist's life with herself in the centre. These, recently seen at the Goethe Institut, were pictures taken by Regina Schmekens, a photographer who has left an indelible mark on the readers of "Suddeutsche Zeitung." Her works are not a documentary report but a lasting impression of current events. The photographs are quiet comments on great events, tracking down the atmosphere of an entire decade and provide a breakup of traditional patterns of observation.

The photo of Munich, November 1997, which brought in a party conference showed a CSU leader, where we saw only part of the bodies of the other people gathered for the occasion. The men had their trousers somewhat askew as they were slightly folded but the lady appeared neat in her skirt. In another picture the Cologne cathedral was brought into focus and this presented the Ladies' Choir at the World Economic Summit. One admired the presentation of regu-

lated life in the neat clothes and bobbed hair of the lined up singers, as they proceeded about their task with promise and composure. Behind the road on which the young women were walking was the cathedral with its enormous door and its metal bars.

In the picture labelled Paris May 1995, Arc de Triomphe, ceremony on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, one saw the neat flanks of marching soldiers in black, white and gray, with police in front, and behind the gathered people, who had come to see the march past of this historic occasion. The picture dating June 1999, showed the World Economic Summit with Gerhard Schroder and Jacques Chirac. The leaders were face to face, one feeling the other's back, the politicians standing out against the shadow of the building at the back. Next we could see Cologne 1999, World Economic Summit, with Bill Clinton and Gerhard Schroder in focus. Clinton's youth, buoyancy and charm were quite apparent as the German leader smiled at him. There too the figures stood out large against the background.



Paris, Januar 1993, Haute-Couture-Schau



Brod, Kosovo, Dezember 1999

Film

Faithful get an eyeful of 'Reloaded'

USA TODAY

FORST-night fans of *The Matrix Reloaded* filled theaters across the country Wednesday night to see whether the much-anticipated sequel lived up to hype.

More than 2,700 theaters across the country started showing *Reloaded* at 10 p.m. ET Wednesday. The movie officially opens today.

Early critical response was mixed to positive, similar to the original, which became the surprise hit of 1999. Its stunning technical effects and story of a world in which computers have enslaved humans captured moviegoers' imaginations.

USA Today and *The Philadelphia Inquirer* both gave *Reloaded* three stars out of four. *The Los Angeles Times* called it a disappointment lacking emotional power. *The New York Times* hailed its elegant special effects but noted an element of 'more of the same.' Fans in Alexandria, Va., didn't seem affected by the criticism.

The 22-screen AMC Hoffman had 17 screens showing *Reloaded* Wednesday night, and all seats were sold out.

Stephen Dunkel of Alexandria, Va., said he had ordered the video game *Enter the Matrix* and had watched *The Matrix* a few days earlier to prepare. He said he wouldn't try to download the film, if it were available. 'No way. You've got to experience this kind of thing first-hand.'

Tim Madigan and his sister, Kathleen, of Falls Church, Va., were in line two hours before the 10 p.m. screening.

'We first-night stuff like this all the time, because the crowds are so much fun,' Kathleen said. 'It's fun to hang with the faithful. We've



done this kind of thing since the first *Star Wars* movie in grade school.'

Larry Hunter of Annandale, Va., said he read the *Time* magazine article about *Reloaded*, but 'I skipped through the (plot) spoilers. I didn't really think it was playing fair. I don't know why they (the creators, Andy and Larry Wachowski) allowed it. You come out to these things, there's an energy to the people and the movie.'

Jennifer Elkhoury of Fairfax, had watched *The Animatrix* animated

online series to prepare. Her Samsung cell phone had an image from *The Matrix* as a background for its screen. She said she planned to see the movie four times by Friday.

In New York, lawyer Michelle Walsh, 30, said she saw *The Matrix* 30 times. 'I love movie sequels, and I wanted to be here opening night because *The Matrix* is just amazing. I won't be disappointed, because I'm a huge special-effects person.'

Source: Internet

Annual function

Childhood with the rhythm

Cultural programme of Maple Leaf Int. school on stage.

CULTURE DESK

ANNUAL cultural programme of Maple Leaf International School was held recently at the Shishu Academy Auditorium. The programme was limited within the junior section of the school.

Little jewels were on stage to entertain the audience while other children were sitting on the laps of their parents. Prominent teachers

dance as well as English songs, drama on fairytale were on stage. When they recited *Thakbo na kobo bodhno ghorey*, it seemed that the children were prepared to build their own future. They really will be able to represent our future proudly if they would work on extra curricular activities besides their studies. The programme came to an end with the song *Alo amar alo ogo aloy bhuban bhoru*, sung by the participants with their teachers.

TV GUIDE

ATN BANGLA

2:00 Bengali Feature Film

6:00 Islamic Prog

4:30 Manabi

8:00 ATN Bangla News

4:57 Jhankar

12:30 Shangbadpoter Pata Theke

5:00 Bichitra

1:00 News

5:30 Sandhatara

1:05 E-Shaptaher Natok

6:00 Swapno

2:00 News headline

6:30 Niya/Safallya

2:05 Tata Thai Thai

7:00 Mojari Khela Kobitay

2:30 Documentary

7:00 Bhraman Kachey

3:00 News in English

7:00 Chaleta Ferechay

3:05 Cultural Programme

7:00 Durey

3:30 Shukhi Paribar

7:00 Jhankar

4:00 News headline

7:00 Sa Re Ga Ma

4:05 Brorer Pakhi

8:00 Ek Akasher Niche

4:30 Amoni Bangla Bhasa

8:00 Prapto Baeskoder

5:00 News

9:20 Andolol

5:05 English Debate Programme

9:20 Jhankar

6:00 News Desh Jonopodh

9:20 Shapla Shakul

6:10 Wrestling

10:30 Ekantore Assor

7:00 Gramgnger

10:30 Janyo

7:25 Islamic Prog

10:30 Santan Jakhon

8:00 News

10:30 Satru

8:05 E-Shaptaher Natok

10:30 Shapla Shakul

8:10 News headline

11:00 Ekantore Assor

8:15 News

11:00 Gramgnger

8:20 News

11:00 Gramgnger

8:25 News

11:00 Gramgnger

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