

RECOMMENDATIONS

World Press Photo

January 07-29  
DRIK Gallery inaugurates prestigious photojournalistic exhibition titled *World Press Photo* today at 4 pm. The display remains open for all from 3 to 8 pm everyday.

Exhibitions

January 04-15  
A joint exhibition title *Buthan: an Act of Offering* by Kama Wangdi of Bhutan, Deepa Islam and Jasim Uddin Xecon of Bangladesh, and Yannick Jooris of Belgium is going on at the gallery of Alliance Francaise at 6:00 pm. The show remains open for all from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm and 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

January 08-22

The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts will hold a solo exhibition, titled *Evidence* of artist Mohammad Eunus, featuring his works on oil, acrylic paints and acrylic sheets, starting from January 8 at the gallery premises. The show will remain open for all from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm everyday.

January 04-February 04

Russian Cultural Centre holds a month-long children's book exhibition dedicated to the 100th birth anniversary of the prominent Russian writer A P Gaidar at the centre's library.

Film show

January 11-12

Russian Cultural Centre in cooperation with the Zahir Raihan Film Society will hold a Retrospective of Russian films dedicated to the 80th birth anniversary of russian film director Serge Barajtanor at the auditorium of the centre.

January 11

04:00 pm *A Chef In Love*  
6:00 pm *The Colour of Bomb Grenades*

January 12

4:30 pm *The Legend of The Suram Fortress*  
6:00 pm *Ashik Kerib*

January 13-14

A two-day-long Russian film session and photo exhibition dedicated to the 3000th anniversary of the Russian Northern Capital St. Petersburg at the Jahangirnagar University, Savar.

January 13

2:00 pm *Vor* (The Thief)  
4:00 pm *Dersu Uzala*

January 14

2:00 pm *Sisters*  
4:00 pm *The Odyssey*

Film Festival

January 05-11

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy holds a week-long film festival at the Experimental Theatre Hall of the academy's Jatiyo Natyashala Bhaban at 6:00 pm everyday. The schedule is as below:

January 10 *Golapi Ekhon Trainey*  
January 11 *Shimana Periya*

Album review

Dark Syed

Ditio's 1st project Prothom

FAIZUL A TANIM

THE perception of new-genre music is expressed to a relationship consisting of composers, performers, musical diversification and everyone involved in the production of contemporary music. The present-day westernised music is progressively more involved in the fusion with music of other traditions and cultures with variety of popular music. We (the Bangladesh based music fans) continue to encourage this varying perspective of new breed music, which depicts and discovers a brand new taste welcoming each new endeavour.

One such expatriate musician is Ditio, who once was involved in the Dhaka rock scene in the company of band Sweet Venom but presently dwells in London. His most recent project is Dark Syed--a band having Eastern *Jibon Mukhi* influenced vocals backed by music that focuses heavily on rhythm guitar. He has that *Baul dhong* in his choral lines, which he tries to blend with western style music making his own authentic venture.

Born to eminent authors of the country Syed Shamsul Haq and Anwara Syed Haq, Ditio's songs are heavily influenced by the likes of Bob Dylan. The theme-based songs are lyrically powerful in an effort to explore various socio-political themes and that talk about life having folk influences.

One might find the tunes monotonous on first hearing, but it gradually swings to a more composed array of compositions. The compilation is launched from CMV record label.

The album *Prothom* has a diverse outlook as



Ditio

the first track--*Rasta'r Chele*--releases with a rockish type song being very nostalgic about the past childhood of the singer. Followed by rather a more contemporary song--*Chabbishe*, it articulates about our struggle for freedom even after we won our liberation in 1971. Two songs *Othocho* and *Irsha* sound like emblematic Ditio-type music with catchy tunes and guitar strum-

ming.

*Shohor* is like 'one of those divisive songs whose video was withdrawn from airing minutes before transmission as the censors regarded the starkness of the lyrics to be unsuitable for national broadcast', remarked the artist. The way the song was performed in a Dhaka concert raised the same atmosphere as if the audiences felt a message of social consciousness. *Bishal* is a song dedicated to a late talented fellow musician. The album is itself a remembrance of Bishal Khaer.

The compilation nearly closes with a sophisticated song *Bichar*. It reminds one how the final judgement always rests in the hands of God.

Ditio feels the need for international record labels to commence operation in Bangladesh. 'Our local record labels should sign up with International Association of Record Labels for our music to be recognised. It is the entry point factor, which still is not letting our music videos to be aired in international music channels like MTV,' he opines. All the songs reflect aspects of life, from happiness to sadness and the dark tinge of melancholy giving rise to the band name.

Aspecial mention here for the band:

Ditio Syed-Haq: Vocals, Lyrics, Guitars and everything else with strings

Max Zastiera: Drums and percussion

Brian Bogdanovic: Keyboards and programming

Readers can know more about the band logging on to [www.darksyed.com](http://www.darksyed.com).

Anniversary

Famed cartoon character Tintin turns 75

AP, Brussels

Forever young, the beloved European cartoon character Tintin turns 75 today, without a hint of gray and the same youthful bounce in his step. Tintin--whose adventures as a cub reporter take him around the world--has become an icon in Belgium, where the perception is the French tried to usurp him.

Reflecting his appeal in both countries, two papers in Belgium was fully illustrated with Tintin cartoons yesterday and in France, *Le Figaro* is to publish a special 114-page paper with 250 illustrations.

'Don't forget Tintin was a journalist,' said Ivo Vandekerckhove, chief editor of *Het Belang van Limburg*. 'He was born in a newspaper, so he is made for the paper.'

Tintin first appeared in the *Brussels Le XXme Siecle* newspaper on January 10, 1929. His 23 adventures have sold over 200 million of copies worldwide and have been translated into 55 languages. It's not surprising that anniversary celebrations will spill beyond



Evergreen Tintin (C) with his all-time companion dog Snowy and comical Captain Haddock

Belgium, with exhibitions planned in countries including the Netherlands, Britain and Spain.

In Brussels, an exhibition and tour will visit some of the Tintin scenery and the home where cartoon artist Herge was born as Georges Remi in 1907. He died in 1983, meaning Tintin will get older than his creator this year.

From Belgium, Tintin first went to 'the Land of the Soviets' to put the dastardly Communists in their place. Then he helped spread colonialism in the Belgian-Congo before trekking to the capital of crime, Chicago. Before World War II, he added Egypt, India and China, where the classic *The Blue Lotus* is set.

'Tintin is a very important person for Belgium,' said Finance Minister Didier Reynders, 'not only in Belgium, but across the world.'

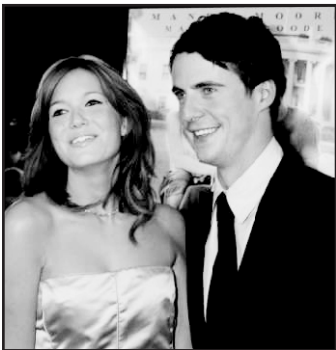
The books also have a political quality beyond the endless debate about Herge's relations with German occupiers during World War II.

No new adventures have been published since Herge's death 20 years, but Tintin hardly disappeared. His face now appears on everything from watches to mugs to T-shirts.

Around the world

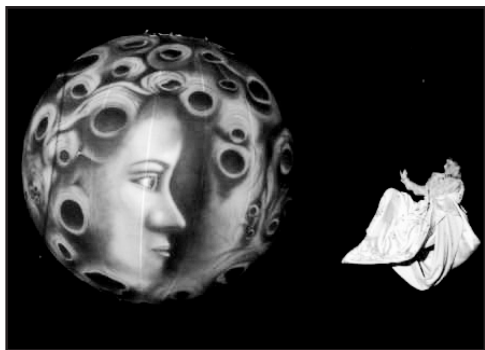
Singer-actress Mandy Moore and co-star Matthew Goode pose at the premiere of their new romantic comedy *Chasing Liberty* in Hollywood on January 7. The film opened on January 9 in the United States.

PHOTO: REUTERS



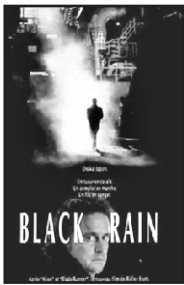
An acrobat suspended from high-wires floats past a helium-filled balloon during a performance called *Of Angels and Light*, as part of the Sydney Festival at Olympic Park on January 7. The performers of the Studio Festi Italian acrobatic-dance troupe seemed free of gravity.

PHOTO: REUTERS



TV GUIDE

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



AXN: 8:30 pm. **Black Rain.** Genre: Action / Crime / Drama. **Michael Douglas, Andy Garcia, Ken Takakura.** Two New York cops get involved in a gang war between members of the Yakuza, the Japanese Mafia. They arrest one of their killers and are ordered to escort him back to Japan. In Japan, however, he manages to escape. As they try to track him down, they get deeper and deeper into the Japanese Mafia scene.



STAR MOVIES: 10:45 pm. **Anythin'.** Genre: Drama / Romance. **John Cusack, Ione Skye, John Mahoney.** High school senior Lloyd Dobler wants nothing more than to go out with beautiful and intelligent Diane Court. Lloyd attempts to win her heart over the objections of her over-protective father Lloyd Dobler is an average kick boxer with a good heart but limited ambition. Diane Court is an aloof genius when she gets a scholarship to study in England, she has a weighty decision to make.

7:00	Iron Maze	12:30	The Saint Of Fort Washington
9:30	Pinnocchio (Roberto Benini)		
11:30	Ruby Cairo (Andy McDowell)		
<b>STAR MOVIES</b>			
8:45	Say	2:30	Robocop
10:30	Mr. Jones	3:00	X - Men
12:30	Kiss Of The	3:30	The Kumars At No. 42
2:00	Guarding Tess	4:00	Cops
3:45	Down Periscope	4:30	World's Wildest Police Videos
5:15	Prince Of Darkness	6:30	The X Files
7:00	Spider	7:30	Xena: Warrior Princess
8:45	Original Sin	8:30	Tna Wrestling
10:45	Say Anything	9:30	Mutant X
		10:30	Adventure Inc
		11:30	Baywatch Hawaii

PICK OF THE DAY



**The Forsaken**  
On HBO at 9:30 pm  
Genre: Horror / Thriller  
**Kerr Smith, Brendan Fehr, Johnnath Schaech**  
Driving from LA to Florida attend his sister's wedding, Sean does the one thing he isn't supposed to - pick up a hitch-hiker. He soon discovers that Nick has a little secret-he's not the aimless traveler that he seems to be but a blood sucking vampire. Who is looking for Kit the ring leader of a deadly gang of blood sucking vampires who prey on innocent hapless victims.

10:30	Chor Aur Chand (Aditya Pancholi, Pooja Bhatt)	7:30	Khichdi
1:30	Ali Baba Marjina, Nagina, Hatim Tai	8:00	Jaadu
5:30	Deewane (Ajay Devgan, Urmila Matondkar)	8:30	Vikraal Aur Gabraal
9:30	Aankhen (Govinda, Chunky Pandey)	9:30	Gharwali Uparwali
		10:30	Khullji Sim Sim
		11:30	Mamla Gadbud Hai Kahani Jurm Ki
<b>STAR PLUS</b>			
2:30	Mirch Masala	9:00	Vijeta
3:00	Musafir Hoon Yaaron	12:30	Bade Miyan Chote Miyan
3:30	Jubilee Film	4:30	Himalayputra
6:30	Kya Baat Hail	8:00	Startoons Countdown
7:00	Yatra	8:30	Dreadnaught - Hindi Duubed

11:00 Maya  
11:30 Without Ticket

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

12:30	National Geographic Special
1:30	National Geographic Special
2:30	Vietnam's Unseen War: Pictures Fm The Other....
3:30	Mission Wild
4:00	Return To The Wild
4:30	National Geographic Special
5:30	On Assignment
6:00	Tomorrow's World
6:30	Dogs With Jobs S3
7:00	Toyota World Of Wildlife
7:30	Ethel Report
8:00	Earthpulse
8:30	Raiders Of The Lost Gold
9:30	Raiders Of The Lost Gold
10:30	On Assignment
11:00	On Assignment
11:30	Forgotten Rhino

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

12:00	Splat! Oddworld, Whirl Girl
12:30	Discovery Wings A Celebration of Flight Air Traffic Control
1:30	Friday Spotlight Spies in the Sky
2:30	Friday Spotlight CIA: Hollywood Spytek
3:30	Classic Discovery Great Sphinx: Lord of the Pyramids
4:30	Science Frontiers
5:30	Engineering against Earthquakes
6:30	Extreme Engineering
7:30	Transatlantic Tunnel
	Secrets of the Ocean
	Realm/Triumph of Life
	Discovery Showcase

Planet Plastic The 4<sup>th</sup> Kingdom

ANIMAL PLANET

8:30	Ultimate Guide Ultimate Guide: Pyramids
9:30	Discover India Natural World: The Tigers' Fortress
10:30	Survivor Science Cold Water Killer
11:30	Fashion Street Dazzled
2:30	Wild Encounters Bush Babies
3:00	W E Otters The Truth
3:30	W E First Breath
4:00	W E Breaking Through
4:30	W E Vivien Bristow's Movie Cats
5:30	Cats Gone Wild Danger in Tiger Paradise
6:30	C G W City of the Wild Cats
7:00	C G W Night of the Leopard
7:30	C G W Tiger Hunted Majesty
8:30	C G W Big Cats
9:30	C G W Cats Under the Serengeti Stars
12:30	W E City of the Wild Cats
1:00	W E Real Macaw

STAR SPORTS

4:57 am.	New Zealand Vs Pakistan 3rd Odi 1st Session(L)
9:00	Pakistan Tour Of New Zealand National Bank Series Christchurch New Zealand New Zealand Vs Pakistan 3rd Odi 2nd Session(L)
1:00	English Premier League Preview(T)
1:30	Return To Athens(R)
2:00	Nba Inside Stuff(T)
5:30	Tata Open Chennai Tn India Semifinals(L)
11:30	Dakar Rally Telefonica

Dakar 2004Day 9 Highlights(S)  
English Premier Football League 2003/04 LondonEngland Arsenal VsMiddlesbrough (S)

ESPN

1:00	Australia Cricket Vb Series Melbourne Australia Vs India 1st Odi 1st Session(R)
4:30	Australia Cricket Vb Series Melbourne Australia Vs India 1st Odi 2nd Session(R)
8:00	Sportscenter Sportscenter Week-end(T)
8:10	Epl Saturday Premiership Saturdaypreview English Pleague 2003/04 Arsenal Vs Middlesbrough (L)
8:55	Epl Postshow Postgame(L)
11:30	English Premier Football League 2003/04 Liverpool Vs Aston Villa (S)

TEN SPORTS

11:00	Microsoft Halo
1:00	Pakistan v India
1:30	Football week UK
2:00	MUTV: Red Hot News
4:00	MUTV: The Match Bolton Wanderers v Man United
4:30	MUTV: Match Highlights
5:00	Football week UK
5:30	Gillette Word Sport
8:30	Heat
9:30	Pakistan v India
11:00	Winning Post
11:30	NZ Tour of Pak 03: 1st ODI, H/Ls
12:00	Heat
1:00	Pick of the Week