

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibitions

January 15-31
The 11th Asian Art Biennale begins on 15th. It is being held at Osmani Memorial Hall, Shilpa Kala Academy and National Museum. The show will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm evryday.

January 08-22
The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts holds a solo exhibition, titled Evidence of artist Mohammad Eunos, featuring his works on oil, acrylic paints and acrylic sheets 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.

January 13-February 12
Saju Art Gallery will hold the 50th Grand Group Art Exhibition of Reputed Bangladeshi Artists 2004 with 128 art works by 87 artists beginning from today at 4:30 pm at the gallery premises (F/40-41, DCC, North Super Market 2nd Circle, Gulshan). The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 8:30 pm everyday except Fridays.

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

Solo Oriental Painting Exhibition

January 18-27
Dhrupad Gallery will hold an exhibition titled Solo Oriental Painting Exhibition by Cacoly, starting January 18 at 5:30 pm at the gallery premises (House- 36, Road-5, Block- G, Banani). The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 8 pm everyday.

Drama Lane

Bangladesh Mahila Samity
4 Natok Soroni, New Baily Rd.

Evening show at 7:00 pm

Group	Play	Date
Caiz	Protishoron	16
Mahakal Natya	Shunai	17
Shomproday	Konyar Pala	
Theatre	Festival	18, 19, 20
(Arambugh)		
Shomoy	Shada Ghora	21
Dhaka Theatre	Festival	22
Dhaka Theatre	Festival	23, 24
Mancha		
Natyachakra	Festival	25
Natya Kendra	Festival	26
Aronyak	Festival	27
Natyadal		
Sthwagatam	Festival	29
Theatre		
Desh Natya	Anniversary	30
Shangshad	special	
Batikram	Phire Dekha	31

Interview

Popularising shows on current affairs

Muhammad Jahangir speaks his mind

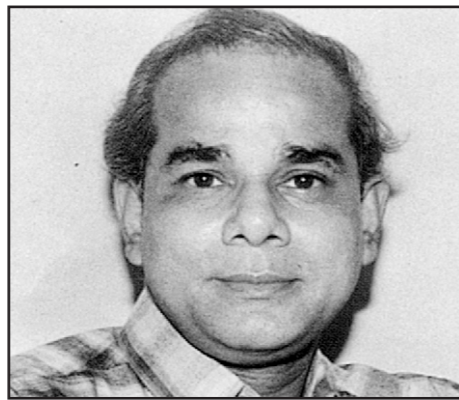
HARUN UR RASHID

THERE has always been a general opinion regarding TV programmes that discussion orientated shows have fewer audience than the others. And this notion has often worked behind putting such programmes at odd times in the daily menu of the TV channels. But whoever has watched programmes like *Obhimit* on BTV, or *Tele Shomoy* of present time on Channel-1, must agree on their considerable popularity. Muhammad Jahangir, the moderator of both the shows, is a very familiar face to them.

In fact, it is Muhammad Jahangir who deserves the entire credit in this regard. For, he introduced the idea of a programme that let the viewers instantly present their opinions over the telephone and ask questions to the discussants on various selected issues. Jahangir named the programme *Obhimit*, the Bangla for opinion, and it was aired live on BTV.

The programme ran for about six years before it was suddenly stopped during the Awami League regime, Jahangir informs. 'Later I approached the Ekushey Television with a similar idea, but didn't get any response'. After the change of government, Jahangir wrote to the BTV about his interest in reviving *Obhimit*. But again, he was disappointed.

Regarding *Tele Shomoy*, Jahangir says that it was Faridur Reza Sagar of Channel-1 who approached him for the programme. And he somewhat admits that the timing of the show--



Muhammad Jahangir

Friday, 10:30 am--is not so bad as BTV's 10:30 pm for *Obhimit*.

However, Jahangir is not entirely happy about everything regarding his present show. The promotional for *Tele Shomoy* are very few in number and cannot be much effective, as they are not shown at proper times, he says. 'Since the programme is a topic based one and the main attraction of it lies in the audience's participation, it is very much important to inform the viewers about the topic well ahead of the next show,' Jahangir explains.

Jahangir's greatest regret is, however, that he is not getting enough freedom in selecting the

topics. 'I have wanted to conduct programmes on several current issues like the corruption, the Transparency International report on Bangladesh, the 'Third Force', two years of the coalition government, export of gas etc., but failed. The Channel-1 authority has told me that there are 'pressures from the higher level', 'Jahangir informs. 'From this, I must say that my experiences of working for both government and private TV channels are the same,' he concludes.

As long as audience participation is concerned, Jahangir points to two aspects. 'Firstly, those who make phone calls cannot always express their views properly because most of the times they don't have enough preparation due to the lack of effective publicity of the topics. Secondly, those who are learned do not participate in the debate--perhaps they don't like the idea of calling up to a TV programme.'

Jahangir opines that the electronic media is not yet independent in Bangladesh. 'Neither is the audience concerned enough regarding the role of the media,' says Jahangir. 'Television is meant for people, therefore they also have a role to play. If our people had wanted it honestly, ETW wouldn't have been stopped!'

Although we propagandise the television as a medium of education and constructive public opinion, along with entertainment, the 'magic box', it seems, is still largely used and believed to be meant for the latter alone.

Screen-venture

Gibson Film Passion to debut on 2,000 Screens

REUTERS, Los Angeles

SOMETIMES a little faith can go a long way. Mel Gibson's controversial new film, *The Passion of Christ*, which at first had a hard time finding a distributor, will be independently released on about 2,000 screens in the United States next month, a Gibson spokesman said on January 14. A release on 2,000 screens is similar to what a major studio release would receive.

The movie, whose dialogue is in Latin and Aramaic, covers the final 12 hours in the life of Jesus Christ and has come under fire from some Jewish groups who claim its story could foment anti-Semitism by tying Christ's death to Jewish

authorities.

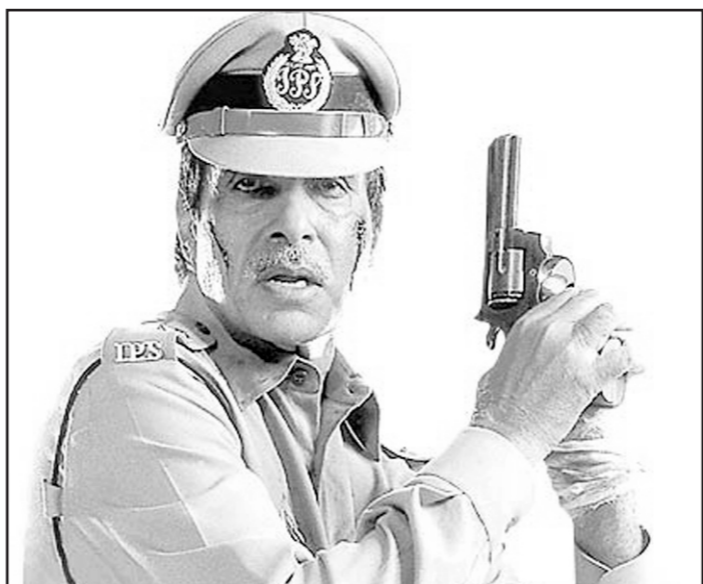
But Catholic and Protestant groups, as well as biblical scholars, have defended the film, saying it sticks closely to accounts of the crucifixion as told in the New Testament. Pope John Paul saw the movie in December and told his longtime Polish secretary Archbishop Stanislaw Dziwisz, 'It is as it was,' meaning he considered it an authentic portrayal of Gospel accounts, a Vatican source told Reuters.

Even though Gibson is a high-profile actor and Oscar winning director of films such as *Braveheart*, *Passion of Christ* could not find a major motion picture studio that would distribute it due to the controversy.



Back in uniform

The Big B returns as the angry cop



THE angry cop of yore is back. Only, inspector Vijay, as you knew him in the seventies, is 61 years old now and has been rechristened Anant Shrivastava. What's more, the inspector has risen in ranks - he's a DCP this time around.

Rajkumar Santoshi's ambitious multistarrer *Khakee* marks the return of Amitabh Bachchan as the righteous and brave upholder of the law, and you won't miss that vintage brood and strut that patented the honest policeman act for Bollywood decades ago. Little wonder, as *Khakee* readies to open amid hoopla, the towering DCP in the promos draws a fascinating parallel with the angry young cop of *Zanjeer* in action and dialogue.

At 61, placed on solid ground as a saleable star post Baghban, this is perhaps the best time for the Big B to rediscover the brooding man of action who catapulted him to iconic heights (saleable counts, because despite heavyweights in the cast as Ajay Devgan, Akshay Kumar and Aishwarya Rai and a wild grind in the disc by Lara Dutta *Khakee* bears the stamp of the vintage Big B action film all over).

Agrees Santoshi: "When I started out with *Khakee* I had just one actor in my mind, and that was Amitji and this was the perfect script."

Get set then, as the Big B spells big action again.

Source: Hindustan Times.

East meets West

Fusion at its best with Habib

The Electronic music era

FAIZUL A TANIM

THE newest collection of music from *Habib* featuring *Kaya* features the grand twosome of electronic or fusion music by Habib--the music producer, and *Kaya*--the singer whose popularity can be counted on the huge album sales--almost 300,000 copies sold all over Bangladesh till now.

Habib, producer of *Krishno*, however, says 'the compilation itself was meant for fun. It was bits and pieces of tryouts from the semester-end assignments from my last year of college 2002--School of Audio Engineering (SAE), UK. The album was released officially in mid-June 2003 and it was then that the velocity of the album sales left us totally dumbfounded.'

The next venture will be that of blending fusion music with old Bangali modern songs. And his third compilation would consist of his original compositions.

As he was approached with a list of questionnaires, the debutant voiced out his opinions.

TDS: It is a rare case where musicians studying abroad return home. Why is that an exception in your case?

Habib: Let's say that I am a patriot. I love my country and would like to contribute something for its musical augmentation.

TDS: Who would be your greatest influences?

Habib: I do not have a lot of influences, however, would particularly like to mention A R Rahman. The man is an example by himself. I first met him in an airport before a transit flight. He was going for his Umrah, which made his personality a more gleaming one in my opinion. The fact that music is not a forbidden item in religion became clearer. He is a dutiful Muslim, a great composer, singer and a great personality of our time--all the components combining together make him a great



Habib: fusing east and west to a single audible pleasure

musician and my absolute idol.

TDS: We all know that your musical career just began. But in this short duration, do you have any achievements to talk about?

Habib: During my school years in London, I used to work with a well known DJ *Ges-e*. It was a mixed Indian compilation called the 'Bombay Dreams' which was to be redone in English. An authentic track *Shakalaka-baby* was given to four renowned music production groups for a remake--1. Badmarsh & Shri (their *signs* album became very popular), 2. Nitin Sawhney, 3. Fatboy Slim and 4. Nasha--a group where my diminutive capabilities were considered by *Ges-e*. Nitin's track obviously got chosen for the final compilation, but the fact that our work was awarded with a spot to compete for the album-track became a great achievement. Working with the three other big names actually gave us a higher sense of satisfaction.

TDS: How does your working style differ from other conventional artists?

Habib: I usually catch the singer in his spree, ask him to sing the whole song and then based on his raw vocal lines arrange the track

and compose the musical arrangements. That's how my combination with *Kaya* on *Krishno* came out to be a success.

Habib seems to be happy with the rock scene of Dhaka mounting up. 'It is a good sign that one section of our music is improving and time has come for fusion or electronic music to reach its goal. The fact about *Krishno* winning minds of both the prince and the pauper was amazing--It was a night in Chittagong when getting into a cab, to my surprise the chauffeur played a tape, which happened to be my *Krishno*. I love the fact that right from the slums up to the New Year's ball of International Club, my track *Krishno* was much appreciated and reached out to all levels of people. This truly is a revolution proving Bangladeshi music fans, irrespective of class and creed, will accept anything innovative and fresh. Their taste will not be dominated by conventional commercial music. Anyone listening to *Kala* and *Din Geley Din* from the album would understand my efforts of fusing east and west to a single audible pleasure' commented the emotional artiste leaving a smirk of satisfaction.

Film

Urmila Fida's new pick

AFTER Madhuri Dixit and Tabu, MF Husain has set his sights on Urmila Matondkar, who will star in a film directed by the octogenarian painter.

Speaking to reporters at the launch of a painting exhibition at the National Gallery of Modern Art here on Wednesday, Husain said that his third film - the first was with Madhuri and the second with Tabu - would be a comedy.

The painter said that he chose Urmila since "her body language conveys something very funny. Her face has that kind of expression".

Insisting that his new film would be a comedy with a difference, Husain said "humour is a very serious aspect and real humour is when people are brought to tears after a bout of laughter".

He remarked that his film would not be a loud slapstick comedy but would draw inspiration from everyday life.



Source: Times of India

TV GUIDE

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme.

News Bulletin

BTV
News Headlines (Bangla) at 9:40 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:10 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm.
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 1:00 pm, 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm.
News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.
Late Night News (Bangla and English) 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-i
Breakfast News 07:15 am, 9:00am
News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
CHANNEL-i
Breakfast News 07:15 am, 9:00am
News (Bangla) at 7:15 pm, 9:00, 10:30, 12:15 am.
ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 8:00 am, 12:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 09 a.m, 10:00 a.m, 11:00 am, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm, and 8:00 pm.
n tv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00pm, 5:00 pm, 6:30 pm, 9:45 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30am, 2:00pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
TARA BANGLA
News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm, 9:30 pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.
BBC World
Every hour on the hour

ATN BANGLA
10:15 Talk Show : Anandristee
10:30 Islamic prog : Drama Bebamoo Basor
3:40 Musical Competition prog : Shes Akhor
5:10 Children prog: Amra Karbo Joy
6:20 Drama serial : Poramon
7:40 Drama serial: Khuwab
8:15 Mega Serial: Lal Neel Bagunee
8:50 Mega serial: Baba
9:25 Film Magazine: Streter Monokubal
10:35 Bengali feature film : Sukher Ghore Dukher Agun
12:20

CHANNEL-i
08:00 Musical Show
09:45 *Trilia Matra*
10:30 *Tele Shomoy*
12:00 *Islam Ki Boley*
12:30 Thief Of Baghdad
02:00 Islamic Programme
03:00 *Islam Ki Boley*
05:45 *RC Tones And Tunes*
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Talk Show
07:50 Drama Serial: *Dwanda Shranghat*
08:25 Drama Serial: *Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roudur*
09:35 Drama Serial: *Ekannoborti*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Kaapurusu*
ntv
08:00 *Ajker Sakal Ganer Mala*
08:30 Crime Watch
09:00 *Ei Shomoy*
09:30 *Hello Music*
10:02 Tele Film: *Amar Prio Bandhobi*
10:30 *Potrikar Khabor*

02:30 *Apnar Jigyasha*
03:00 Movie Of The Month: *Basundhara*
05:02 *Potrikar Khabor*
05:20 *Ithasher Ei Diney*
06:00 *Tiffiner Phake*
06:35 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:55 *Shoptaher Khabor*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Ronger Manush*
08:35 *Pepsi Music Express*
09:10 *Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan*
09:47 Drama Serial: *Aronyer Shukh Dukkho*
11:15 *Ithasher Ei Diney*
11:20 *Din Darpan*
12:00 *Ei Shomoy*
HBO
8:15 The Ladies Man
10:00 Wendigo
12:00 Bicentennial Man
2:45 Batman
5:15 Loner
7:15 Center Stage
9:30 The Specialist
11:45 Blackheart
1:30 Bicentennial Man
STAR MOVIES
8:45 Down Periscope
10:15 Brave New World
12:00 Guarding Tess
1:45 Detour
3:15 Princes Of Darkness
5:10 Original Sin
7:00 The Order
8:30 Rats
10:00 Wolves Of Wall Street
11:30 Puncture
1:30 Focus
STAR WORLD
9:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 Roswell
11:30 Dark Angel
12:30 Love Shack
1:30 Mac Gyver

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

AXN: 11:30 pm. *Kiss the Girls*. Action / Drama / Mystery / Thriller. **Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd, Cary Elwes.** Washington DC detective Dr. Alex Cross travels to North Carolina to investigate the apparent kidnapping of his niece. Aided by escaped kidnapee Kate McTiernan, Cross hunts down the kidnapper, who operates under the pseudonym "Cassandra".
MGM: 9:30 pm. *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*. Comedy. **Jim Carrey, Courtney Cox, Sean Young.** To be a Pet Detective, you have to understand both the criminals and animals. Ace Ventura goes even further... He behaves like a criminal animal. When a football team's mascot (a dolphin) is stolen just before the Superbowl, Ace Ventura is put on the case. Now, who would want to steal a dolphin, and why? He's the best there is. In fact, he's the only one there is! He's Ace Ventura: Pet Detective.

ZEE CINEMA
10:30 Tamanna (Pareesh Rawal, Pooja Bhatt)
1:30 Masoom (Inder Kumar, Ayesha Jhulka)
5:30 Aarzo (Akshay Kumar, Madhuri Dixit, Saif Ali Khan)
9:30 Satya (Chakraborty, Manoj Bajpai, Urmila Matondkar)
STAR GOLD
9:00 Avtaar
12:30 Watan Ke Rakhwale

PICK OF THE DAY



Center Stage
On HBO at 7:15 pm.
Genre: Drama
Amanda Schull, Zoe Saldana, Susan May Pratt
After competitions, 12 young dancers make it to the American Ballet Academy. They'll prepare for a recital to determine who will be asked to join the American Ballet Company. Tensions mount between Jonathan, the company's aging choreographer, and Cooper, his best dancer, who also wants to choreograph. The brilliant Maureen seems poised for success.

6:30 Challenge Circle of Ice
7:30 Wild Discovery Mzima : Haunt of the River
8:30 Friday Spotlight Closing in on Cancer
9:30 Friday Spotlight Cancer Self-Defense
10:30 Future Perfect Future Wars
11:30 Great Crimes and Trials The Assassination of John F. Kennedy
12:00 Thirsty Traveller Ireland : Stout
ANIMAL PLANET
1:30 Blue Planet Open Ocean
2:30 The Protectors
3:00 Bushfires Emergency!
4:00 The Protectors Horse Neglect
4:30 Wild Encounters Babies of the African Plains
5:00 Vets in Practice
6:00 Wild Rescues Jet Ski Cowboys, Deer Delivery, Wheely Willie
7:00 Emergency Vets
7:30 Breed all about it English Fox Hound
8:30 Amazing Animal Videos Planet's Funniest Animals
9:30 Life of Birds Mastery of Flight
12:30 The Protectors Ebby The Blind Kangaroo
2:00 The Protectors One Camper Van, Seventeen Animals
2:30 Wild Encounters Babies of the Tropical Forest
3:30 Wild Encounters Man Eaters of Tsavo
10:00 Sshhhhh...Koi Hai...
11:00 Jeet
12:00 Kya Baat Hail
DISCOVERY CHANNEL
12:30 Planet Food Morocco
1:30 21st Century Medicine/Alternatives
2:30 Uncovered ER Medicine
3:30 New Detectives Dead Wrong
4:30 Wild Discovery Big Cats with Nigel Marven
5:00 Truth or Scare
5:00 Split! Cartoon
5:30 Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz
5:30 Travellers Miami

1:30 Scientific American Frontiers
2:30 Tomorrow's World
3:00 Human Edge
3:30 Making Babies
4:30 National Geographic's Taboo
5:30 Return To The Wild
6:00 Animal Edens
6:30 Dogs With Jobs S3
7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
7:30 Out In Nature Homosexual Behavior In Animal Kingdo
8:30 Scientific American Frontiers
9:30 Tomorrow's World
10:00 Human Edge
10:30 Trainer Mania
11:30 National Geographic's Taboo
STAR SPORTS
10:30 Entertainment Sports Mania (R)
11:30 Pakistan Tour Of New Zealand New Zealand Vs Pakistan 4th Odi
Highlights(S)
1:00 West Indies Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series
2:25 South Africa Vs West Indies 4th Test Day 1 1st Session(L)
3:30 Sportsline(L)
4:00 Dakar Rally Telefonica
4:30 Dakar 2004 Day 15 Highlights(S)
5:30 Sportsline(R)
6:30 Tennis Adidas
11:00 International 2004 Sydney Australiamen's Singles Semifinals(S)
ESPN
8:30 Australia Cricket Vb

Series Hobart
Australia Vs Zimbabwe 4th Odi (L)
Asian Bowling Tour Aviva Asian Bowling Tokong Women's Highlights(R)
Goals(R)
2:30 Football Focus(R)
3:00 International Ironman Triathlon 2003
3:30 Internatironn Triathlon - Ironman's 25th Anniversary Sh Ow (T)
Pga Tour Golf Sony Open Honolulu Hi Round(S)
7:30 Here We Go(S)
8:30 Sportscenter
9:00 Sportscenter India (L)
Sunny Programming
Sunny By Night
Hobaraustralia Vs Zimbabwe 4th Odi Highlights(S)
11:00 Sportscenter
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
Sunny Programming
Sunny
TEN SPORTS
9:30 Fitness Beach
10:00 European Tour Weekly 2004
10:30 Football Week Uk
1:30 European Pga Golf 04: South African Airways Open
3:30 Spain V India
4:00 Football Week Uk
4:30 Fitness Beach
5:30 Extreme Sports
6:30 Velocity
7:30 Microsoft Halo
8:00 Speed
8:00 Legends: Pakistan Great Performers
10:30 Spain V India
11:00 Icc Cricket World
12:00 Velocity