

RECOMMENDATIONS

Theatre

January 28

Vision Theatre premieres its third production *Chourasta* on January 28 at the Central Shahid Minar premises at 6 pm. The drama is written by Moloy Bhownik and directed by Rehana Yasmin. Liyakat Ali Lucky and Akteruzzaman of Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation will be present at the opening show of *Chourasta*.

Exhibitions

January 15-31

The 11th Asian Art Biennale 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 everyday.

January 13-February 12

Saju Art Gallery is holding the 50th Grand Group Art Exhibition of reputed Bangladeshi artists with 128 art works by 87 artists 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 is holding prestigious photojournalistic exhibition titled *World Press Photo* from January 4. The display remains open for all from 3 to 8 pm everyday.

January 18-27

Dhrupad Gallery holds an exhibition titled *Solo Oriental Painting Exhibition* by Cacoly 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.

January 19-29

Goethe-Institut holds an exhibition titled *Along the Rivers* by German artist Hans Benda at the exhibition hall. The display will remain open from 2pm to 8pm everyday except Fridays and Saturdays.

January 23-30

Mokhesur Rahman's solo art exhibition is being held at Shilpangan Art Gallery (Road 5 House 25, Dhanmodi) from January 23. Titled *Ruposhi Bangla*, the exhibition is open for all from 10 am to 9 pm.

CD Launching

January 27

Meeta Haque: *Chirobondhu Chironirbhor*

Venue: Bengali Foundation

Time: 6:00 pm

Music

PHOTO:AFP

US singer Madonna performs after receiving an award during the NRJ awards ceremony 24 January, in Cannes.

Art

Waves of woodcut

Mokhesur Rahman's exhibition at "Shilpangan"


FAYZA HAQ

IN his recent exhibition at "Shilpangan" Mokhesur Rahman had brought in water colour, oil and oil pastel apart from his usual woodcut print. He enjoys every medium specially in which he works but enjoys the print medium as he has his academic training in that in particular. His training under Karen Kunc from Nebraska guided him in particular. He had worked in a workshop that she had conducted in 1995, learning new techniques in the process. Mokhesur explains that the woodcut is a surface print while etching involves ink going into lines which you then press in order to get out the print. In woodcut, on the other hand, he explains, the ink is on the surface. "As you cut away the wood in woodcut the designs are

formed, following the image in mind. You have to decide what tools you have to use and from which angle you are going to cut to bring in the colours, one after another. Sometimes you camouflage the colours below and sometimes you play them up in the game of arranging colours. After cutting you take a print and then you work on it and take a print again. You may have more than one colour in each plate." All the works in this exhibition deal with nature. "It is through loving nature that you love the world around you," says Mokhesur, "as well as yourselves. Instead of wasting time in destroying nature and life around you can take pleasure in it."

In an oil pastel you find a delicate bird, the black "finger", set in a background of gray, green and black. The paper on which it is painted is itself a dark mossy green. The same bird is repeated in a water colour and it has been done with mauve, blue, green and a touch of red. In another painting we see an eagle with its feathers being done in details in certain portions. The orange of the sunlight in the sky matches with the hues used on the wings and in the grass. A heron is shown in the next work with the surrounding shimmering water being included in the work. The many mustard fields that we see outside Dhaka is shown in yet another painting with its expanse of yellow which runs in parallel with blue and mauve waves.

"Sandy shore" brings in the land and water around the Padma. The



Bird-3, wood cut print on paper

prints have been done on bits of paper and then put together carefully. It has beige, brown, blue, gray, silver and black waves in it one enveloping the other. Through the wood textures you see the different colours. In the delineation of birds in another painting, we see that the colours have been poured at will, so that they swirl with one another while depicting three birds. The paper used is local hand-made one. Mokhesur says that he would love to experiment with lithography too if he had access to the particular stone that is required for it. He says that he is not concerned whether there is a demand for his type of work or not; he enjoys it and so he keeps himself busy with it. He says that painting is like a song: it could be classical, folk or pop as long as it pleases you

carry on with it.

Asked how he had felt about winning the Grand Prize in the 10<sup>th</sup> Asian Biennale for his print work, Mokhesur says, "I was pleased to get it at the outset but with it went the responsibility that I would always have to maintain the standard." Apart from painting Mokhesur does computer designing. He has taken part in more than 20 joint exhibitions in Japan, Europe and Bangladesh and has had two solos of his own. The teachers who have moved him the most are Karen Kunc, Rafiqun Nabi, Abdus Sattar, Safiuddin Ahmed and Mohammad Kibira, who taught him how to combine colours, when he was a student. Among the young print makers he likes Rafi Haque and Anisuzzaman.

Awards



PHOTO:AFP

Peter Jackson holds his Golden Globe award for best director of a motion picture for 'The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King,' at the 61st Golden Globe awards in Beverly Hills, California.



PHOTO:AFP

Actor Jack Nicholson poses with actress Charlize Theron as she holds her Golden Globe award for best actress in a motion picture - drama for her role in 'Monster,' at the 61st Golden Globe awards in Beverly Hills, California.

Drama

Jatra Pala

A decaying art form

ERSHAD KAMOL

MANY art forms of the rural areas of Bangladesh are on the verge of extinction. We often talk about the rural artistes in seminars or symposiums, but do we really care for those who put in efforts to popularise the major folk cultural forms of Bangladesh? Undoubtedly one such form, *Jatra Pala*, has now become one of the neglected and decaying art forms of the country.

It is admirable on the part of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy to have arranged a weeklong Folk Drama (*Jatra*) festival at the Academy's stage. In the festival, Protyasha Opera from Meherpur, Kushtia Lokonatyia Dal from Kushtia, Ekota Opera from Mymensingh, Desh Opera from Dhaka, Binodan Lokonatyia Dal from Tangail, Janata Yatra Unit from Narayanganj and Bhodra Jatra Unit from Satkhira are taking part.

The plays are directed towards growing awareness among the people through their typical rhythmic voice modulation. However these modest shows, which are common now, do not belong to the traditional forms. The conventional forms are rather getting extinct. A few decades ago, *jatra* was a popular art form amongst the commoners for its power to strengthen rationality through a character known as *Bibek*.

There is controversy about the beginning of the art form in the Indian sub-continent. The common people claim that it was introduced in the early 19th century. While others believe that it was in practice before the advent of European Imperialists in the sub-continent. Dr. Afsar Ahmed, a professor in the department of Drama and Dramatics at Jahangirnagar University says, *Jatra* was first introduced in our country probably in the early 14th century. In *Chaitonya Bhogabota*

there is an indication of performing *jatra*. In those days it was practiced as rituals like other performing arts -- *Pala Gaan*, *Bangla Drama*, *Kabi Gaan*, *Kirtan* and others. And there was a thin margin among these forms.

In the religious ceremony, *jatra*, migration of legends from one place to another, was shown which is still found in the *Roth Jatra*. There is a similarity between this form and the early Egyptian drama where the migration of the god Osiris was shown. The theme of *jatra*, in those days, was myth based. Later on, in the early 19th century, because of the successful cultural diffusion, *jatra* took the form of European *Opera* and human being became the characters of *jatra*. In the 19th century, it was the most popular art form in the Indian sub-continent. Even the maximum artistes who performed in the first Bangla play on a proscenium stage directed by Russian Lebedev were traditional *jatra* players.

*Jatra Pala* has a glorious history. It was considered as a sharp criticism against all kinds of injustice. The artistes were a threat to the



Protyasha Opera of Meherpur performing Bedkonya

British rulers for the social messages they delivered through the theme of a *Pala*. To restrict them, the Imperialists introduced Dramatic Performances Act in 1876.

*Jatra* artistes practiced such art forms as a family tradition. But now, they are reluctant to continue this as a source of earning. Out of many problems that the *Jatra* artistes face, logistic support is a major obstacle. As they fail to get sponsors, it is difficult for them to continue with the art form. As a result, some corrupt people are misusing these artistes to earn money in an illegal and indecent way. Moreover, the number of the call shows, which is their main source of income, have decreased to a great extent. Once the owners of a *jatra* troupe or the *Pala* writers were affluent but times have changed now. Some of the promising performers have now entered the film industry or have gone into other professions. As a result this rural art form is facing a threat and may not make its way to the future.

Music

An evening with expatriate singer Moureen Rahman

NOVERA DEEPTA

MOUREEN Rahman, an expatriate singer, came up with a very different kind of performance for the packed audience at the National Museum Auditorium recently. Draped elegantly in a saree, long black hair falling over her shoulders, giving a traditional Bangali look, it seemed that she was there to offer only Bangla songs as mentioned in the invitation cards. For the first

ten minutes she rendered Bangla songs, but soon she started to render old Hindi film songs.

Deputy Minister for land Ministry Ruhul Kuddus Dulu inaugurated the programme. After her first two Bangla numbers- Hemanta Mukharjee's *Nijhumo shondhyay pantho pakhira* and Chitra Singh's *Amar chokher joler majhe*- she started to perform Hindi numbers. One must agree that the Hindi numbers suited her nasal voice much more than the Bangla ones.

Settled in Australia with her parents for the last fourteen years, Moureen bore the Bangali culture at heart. She learned Bangla songs from many prominent artistes including Manna Dey. She was nominated as the best singer of the sub-continent at the Multicultural Music Competition in Australia. She also performed with many reputed artistes of the sub continent and now she aspires to become a successful singer.

TV GUIDE

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

News Bulletin

BTB

News Headlines(Bangla) at 9:40 am.12:10 pm. 2:00 p.m 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.

Telecast of BTB news(Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News(Bangla) at 8:00 am. 12:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

Telecast of BTB News(Bangla and English) l 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.

ntv

08:00

Ajker Sakal

08:30

Gombhira

09:30

Ei Shomoy

10:02

Hello Music

10:30

Ekhaney Amar Desh

11:00

Chilekotha

11:30

Pryio Mukh

12:02

Drama: Jodi

02:30

Cine Gaan

03:00

Drama Serial: Teen Purush

03:30

Labh Khoti Jhuki

04:00

Natoker Gaan

04:30

Drama Serial: Amader Golpo

05:25

Kor Be Bajmat

06:00

Apar Jigyasha

06:35

Shubho Shondhya

06:55

CNN Documentary

08:00

Drama Serial: Ebong Ami

08:35

Taray Taray

09:10

Drama Serial: Shongshoy

09:50

Drama Serial: Amader Golpo

11:20

Dindarpan

ATN BANGLA

10:15

Talk Show: Annodristee

10:45

Talk Show: Katha Mala

12:40

Musical Prog: Uro Cola Saat Rang

Bengali feature film: Tume Sundor

04:20

Talk show: Samosamoyek

05:15

Computer Based porg: Amar Computer

Islamic porg: Islamee Sawal O jawab

05:50

Talk show: Annodristee

07:40

Musical prog: Drama Serial: Nolak

08:15

Drama Serial: Nolak Magazine Prog:

09:25

Musical prog: Surer Madure

10:35

Bengali feature film: Premier Samadi

HBO

6:30

The Ladies Man

8:15

Shredder

10:00

The Heist

10:00

Stealing Beauty

2:15

Romeo Must Die

4:30

The Screaming Room : Hannibal the Cannibal

5:00

Finding Forester

7:45

The Forsaken

9:30

28 Days

11:30

Turbulence

MGM

9:00

Small Time Obsession

2:00

Theodore Rex

4:30

Birthday Girl

7:00

House on Haunted Hill

9:30

Zee MGM Select

11:30

The Man Without A Face (Mel Gibson)

ZEE CINEMA

10:30

Aasman (Rajeev Kapoor, Tina Munim)

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

HBO: 9:30 pm: 28 Days. Drama. Sandra Bullock, Viggo Mortensen, Dominic West. After getting into a car accident while drunk on the day of her sister's wedding, Gwen Cummings is given a choice between prison or a rehab center. She chooses rehab, but is extremely resistant to taking part in any of the treatment programs they have to offer, refusing to admit that she has an alcohol addiction. After getting to know some of the other patients, Gwen gradually begins to re-examine her life and see that she does, in fact, have a serious problem.

Star Movies: 10:15 pm: Fatal Beauty. Action / Comedy / Crime / Drama. Whoopi Goldberg, Sam Elliott, Rubén Blades. Rita Rizoli is a narcotics cop with a plethora of disguises. When a drug shipment is hijacked, the thieves don't know that the drug is unusually pure and packs of 'Fatal Beauty' begin turning up next to too many dead bodies. Mike works for the original owner of the drugs and tries to tell himself that since he doesn't handle the drugs, he is 'clean'.

1:30

Balmia (Avinash Wadhawan, Ayesha Julka)

5:30

Yeh Vaada Raha (Rishi Kapoor, Padmini Kolhapure)

9:30

Mujhe Kucch Kehna Hai (Tushshar Kapoor, Kareena Kapoor)

STAR MOVIES

9:30

Surviving Gilligan's Island: ThincredStory Of The Longest Three-In History

11:00

The Alarmist

12:30

Pretty Woman

2:30

Twenty Bucks

4:00

Scent Of Murder

5:25

Raising Arizona

7:00

My Best Friend's Wedding

8:45

Rats

10:15

Fatal Beauty

12:00

Beaches

STAR PLUS

2:00

Bhabhi

2:30

Shagun

3:00

Kabhi Aaye Na Judai

3:30

Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi B

4:00

Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

4:30

Kaahin To Hoga

5:00

Kaahin Kissii Roz

6:00

Hum Saath Aath Hain

6:30

Fox Kids

7:30

Kumkum - Pyara Sa Ban

8:00

Shaka Laka Boom Boom

8:30

Khichdi

9:00

Kasautii Zindagii Kay

9:30

Kehta Hai Dil

10:30

Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii

11:00

Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi B

11:30

Kaahin To Hoga

12:00

Kaahin Kissii Roz

STAR WORLD

1:30

Mac Gyver

5:00

Two Guys And A Girl

5:30

Knight Rider

6:30

The Simpsons

7:00

Home Improvement

7:30

Friends

8:00

Just Shoot Me

PICK OF THE DAY

The Forsaken

On HBO at 7:45 pm

Genre: Horror / Thriller

Kerr Smith, Brendan Fehr, Izabella Miko

Sean is driving cross-country to deliver a vintage Mercedes and attend his sister's wedding when he picks up a hitchhiker, Nick , who just happens to be a vampire hunter, tracking down a group of youthful vampires that feed on unwary travelers. As the plot thickens, they run into Megan, who has been left for dead by the vampires.

8:30

The Drew Carey Show

9:00

Whose Line Is It Anyway?

9:30

Monk

10:30

Law & Order: S.V.U

11:28

Star Asia Travel

11:30

Baywatch

NATIONAL

3:30

Rwanda's Forgotten Tribe

4:30

Chasing Time

5:00

\$100 Taxi Ride

5:30

Return To The Wild

6:00

Animal Edens

6:30

Dogs With Jobs

7:00

Toyota World Of Wildlife

7:30

Africa From The Ground

8:00

On Assignment

8:30

Beetle Battles: Kwang Ba

9:30

Different Ball Game

10:00

Rite Stuff

10:30

Myths & Logic Shaolin K

11:30

Chasing Time

12:00

\$100 Taxi Ride

ANIMAL PLANET

4:30

Animal Planet Showcase Fighting Bears of the Punjab

5:30

Vets in Practice

6:00

Wild Rescues Helicopter

6:30

Horse Rescue, Keno the Police Dog

7:00

Emergency Vets

7:30

Breed all about it

8:00

Cardigan Welsh Corgi

8:30

Amazing Animal Videos

9:30

Killing for a Living

10:00

Hunters of the Underworld

12:30

Profiles of Nature Tiny

2:30

Perfect Predators : Mantids & Dragonflies

3:30

Wild Encounters

4:00

Ravening Hordes

Wild Encounters

Spiders From Mars

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

3:30

Wild Discovery Predator Bay

4:30

I Love My Music

5:00

Buck Slaghorn's Animal Bites Night Bites

5:30

Travellers Klondike Days Exposition : Alberta, Canada

6:30

Speed Fast Cars : The Power and the Passion

7:30

Wild Discovery Elephant's Empire : The Long Childhood

8:30

Science Frontiers Cold Embrace

9:30

Science Mysteries Open to Suggestion

10:30

Junkyard Wars

11:30

Visionless Valet

12:00

Mystery Night Mysteries of the Smithsonian

STAR SPORTS

6:00

Australian Open Presented Men's/Ladies Singles Quarte Rfnals(L)

2:30

Australian Open Men's Singles Quarterfinal (L)

4:00

Adventure X Terra World Championships 2003 Maui Hawaii Highlights(T)

7:00

Australian Open Day #9 Highlight S(S) Sportsline (L)

8:00

English Premier League Archive Programming Ten Seasons - A Decade Of Great Goals Highlights(R)

8:30

Australian Open Night #9 Highlight Hts(S) Sportsline (R)

10:30

Australian Open

Men's/Ladies Singles Quarte Rfnals(R)

ESP

3:00

West Indies Tour Of South Africa South Africa Vs West Indies 1st Odi 2nd Session(R)

6:30

Football Focus (L)

7:30

English Premier League Archive Programming Ten Seasons - A Decade Of Great Goals Highlights(T)

8:30

Sportscenter India (L)

9:00

West Indies Tour Of South Africa South Africa Vs West Indies 1st Odi Highlights(R)

10:30

Cricket Show Espn Presents Samsung Cricket Show (T)

11:30

Sportscenter India (R)

12:00

Australia Cricket Vb Series Australia Vs Zimbabwe 9th Odi1st Session(R)

TEN SPORTS

3:00

MUTV

3:30

Gamer TV

4:00

World Football News

4:30

Fitness Beach

5:30

Extreme Sports : Ep 19

6:30

After Burn

7:30

The Bottom Line : Ep 86

8:00

Indian Football Show

8:30

ATP Tennis

9:00

Royal Enfield Rider Mania

10:30

Cricket Classics

11:00

ICC Cricket World After Burn