

RECOMMENDATIONS

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

CD Launching

January 31
The second CD and audiocassette titled *Chena Pothor Baire* by Nazrul Islam will be launched formally at the VIP Lounge of National Press Club at 4:00 pm. Singer Husna Banu Khanom, Abdul Hadi, Poet Asad Choudhury, K G Mustafa and Subal Das will be present at the occasion.

Music musings

A rage for ragas

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

EVER heard a rooster during afternoons? It's not totally unheard of --but unusual isn't it? It is a common phenomenon that roosters do crow at dawn and that also is heard mostly in the villages. The city has lost its charm of any natural music. How about a cuckoo cooing in the hot sultry summer afternoon? That too goes for a seasonal imbalance, as cuck-



Pandit Bhimsen Joshi in a concert

oos do sing, but only in spring. How about the croaking of the toads or the hooting of the bats...these all have a discordant and eerily musical effect, creating uneasiness doesn't it?

Now if that is not music, what is? Music is a melodious tune often hummed or played in the instruments. Once the tunes are set with 'words' it becomes a song. So songs are possible or sung only by humans.

Now what is a Raga? Ragas are in simple words our emotional expression either through the instruments or vocals depicting various 'moods'. This might be seasonal, or it may vary according to the time of day. Like I said, it will be discordant if the rooster crows at any time other than dawn or if even the birds chirp en mass any time after dusk. This is because it will go against nature.

So ragas are basically set musical notes attuned with nature.

Lets compare a Raga with that of a flower in full bloom. Firstly it has to belong to a particular species like a Rose, a Marigold, or a

Dahlia. This can be compared to a *Gharana*, meaning that it has certain characteristics and belongs to a certain school of thought. *Gharanas* or styles emerged from certain areas or developed according to certain Ustaads. This developed during the reign of Alauddin Khilji in the late 13th Century. After the death of Mia Tansen, there emerged the Seni Gharana.

Just as the characteristics of a flower may vary from colour to its size; petals maybe round shaped or edged, fragrance could be mild or overwhelming; some bloom in autumn while others in monsoon or spring.

Similarly compared to *Gharanas* some are styled with intricate filigree work like that of the *Patiala Gharana* or *Kirana Gharana*, the *Tappa* based *Rampur* or *Lakhnao Gharana*, the *Agra Gharana* to name a few. Some ragas are less complicated than the others.

While the petals begin to bloom, it can be compared to *alaap* in a raga. The *alaap* explains the mood of the raga. It is a prelude to the whole raga. *Alaap* is the tune

This is followed by *Bandish* or the lyrics which are the visual presentation of the mood accompanied by variety of rhythms.

If a raga is based on a season, for example the *Megh* it has the gentleness of a rainy season. Similarly the raga *Basant* depicts the full flurry of spring depicting the emotions of a lover. Ragas are categorised through different moods or *ras* like *Stringaar* (romantic), *Koran* (sad), *Bir* (heroic), *Odhbhu* (queer), *Shanto* (mild) *Bibho* (grim), *Bathshollo* (child-like) etc.

In ancient times Dhruapads reigned the classical music scenario. Depth, control and combinations are the qualities of *dhrupada* music. But its slow tempo and style was soon over shadowed by *Khayal*. Amir Khushro of the late 13th century was the propagator of the style. *Khayals* were very popular with its regal lyrical beauty as it unfolded the various moods firstly in *vilambit* (slow) and later in *drut* (fast) rhythm.

Thumri and Tappa are the typical presentation of light classical songs. Its tunes are melodious,



Ustad Alla Rakha Khan, and Pandit Ravi Sankar

expressed by the performer without lyrics. It is through the *alaap* that a musician begins to explore any raga. It helps one to understand the technical nuances and mystical depths.

sweet and depict the emotional outbursts of a lover. This was sung mostly by the songstress at the courts, known as *Baiges*.

The great masters Bade Gulaam Ali Khan, Amir Khan, Omkarnath



A Bharat Natyam exposition by Leela Samson

Thakur, Bhimsen Joshi, Bala Murali Krishna, Ravi Shankar, Ali Akbar Khan, Malkaye Mousequi Rowshan Ara, Amanat Ali, Fateh Ali, Allah Rakha, Zakir Hossain and many more of the finest musicians have enriched pure classical music in the subcontinent.

'It is not just about knowing when the alaap ends and the composition begins or how many notes the ragas have, or about knowing which raga it is. It's about developing a psychological status. That demands love, attention and self forgetfulness.'

And just as the cooing of the birds have blended into our psyche, the ragas have over the ages, blended into our sense of what is truly a work of art.

Even though classical music has been a long cherished tradition in Bangladesh, one wonders if it is fated for an early death. There seems to be no meaningful local programs to excite the young or mature listeners. But there is hardly any dearth in interest. Many of you will remember, how a few years back, hundreds of people crammed into the Osmani Memorial Hall everyday on the aisles, on the seats, the floor in front of the stage listening to the great masters of Indian classical music. From instrumentals of Allah Rakha, Zakir Hussain, Hari Prasad Chaurasia, Sultan Khan to the vocals of Jasraj there was never an inch of space left in the hall.

Ragas, like the different melodies of nature, have an incredible range of compositions to appeal to all of one's emotions. But unless we make it more accessible to listeners, it will remain enigmatic and unappealing, not very different from the birds chirping long after the sun has set.

PHOTO: INDIA: CONTINUITY IN CHANGE

CD launch

New Nazrul and Rabindra albums from Bengal Foundation

HARUN UR RASHID & NOVERA DEEPTA

IN line of its launching four new albums, Bengal Foundation released Nazrul Sangeet album *Obhishar* of Shahin Samad and Rabindra Sangeet album *Chirobandhu Chironirbhar* by Mita Haq on January 26 and 27. Eminent Nazrul singer Sohrab Hossain and editor of *Prothom Alo* Matiur Rahman unwrapped the CD covers to mark the launching.

Shahin Samad is a popular name in the music world of the country. A direct student of Sohrab Hossain, Shahin has completed a five-year course at Chhayyanaut. Later, she took another special training of three years on Nazrul Sangeet. Shahin has also been under the tutelage of Ustad Mashkur Ali Khan, an exponent of classical music in the subcontinent. The workshop titled *Parampara* is being organised by Bengal Foundation.

Apart from Nazrul Sangeet, Shahin is also an



Mita Haq enthraling the crowd at the launching



Shahin Samad rendering a lively performance at the ceremony

acclaimed performer of the Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendro that had operated during the Liberation War of Bangladesh.

The present album contains fourteen Nazrul songs including *E ankhiyal mochho priya*, *Dur bonanter path bhuli*, *Jai go chole jai*, *Amar hatey kali mukhe kali*, *Priyo emono raat*, *Aji nishithe obhishar*, *Nurjahan* and a few more.

After the launching ceremony, Shahin performed a few songs including *Pohalo pohalo nishi*, *E ankhiyal* and *Shiyama namey laglo agun*.

When Mita Haq presented *Akash bhora shurjo tara*, the whole audience listened to her with rapt attention. The audience was engrossed in her melody which moved from one song to the other. Mita Haq has the power to fascinate any listener with her outstanding vocal and flawless style.

After the formal launching of the CD Mita rendered many songs including *Dhay jeno mor shakol bhalobasha*, *Tumi je amare chao*, *Path diye ke jay go chole*. She performed *Ami marer shagar pari debo go* in Taa! Dadra in the style of Konika Bondyapadhyay instead of the popularly sung Taa! Kaharba. The audience enjoyed the show thoroughly.

Eid menu

Channel-i ready with its Eid schedule

10 plays, 6 tele-films, 2 feature films and many more—

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

CHANNEL-i is now prepared for a five-day special programme for the upcoming Eid-ul-Azha. The schedule of the channel, contains premiere of a feature film on Eid day. *Bachelor* the sequel of the telefilm *Charuibhathi* will be aired on the Eid day just after a few hours of its release in cinema halls. Channel-i will also repeat the telefilm *Charuibhathi* for the audience, on the day before Eid. Mostofa Sarwar Farooki directs the film and Anisul Hoque has written the script of the film. The cast of the film includes Humayun Faridi, Ferdous, Shabnur, Aupey Karim, Sumaya Shimu, Ilora Gahor, Joya Masood, Moutushi Bishwash, Ahmed Rubel, Hasan Masood.

The Eid Day schedule includes *Tritia Matra Eid Special*, Film *Bachelor*, special plays by Humayun Ahmed named *Chhabish Caret Goldman* and *Ei Jey Dunia* script by Pranab Bhatta and directed by Kazi Morshed—the cast of the drama contains Tony Diaz, Ishita and Tuskar Khan.

On the 2nd day of Eid, the viewers will enjoy Cute Channel-i Cine Award -1409, tele-film *Auggyan Party* directed by Monir Hossain Jibon, *Suashur Bari Jindabad* a film by Debashish Biswash, special drama *Shudhu Ekbar Bolo* script



Oindrila and Riaz in Anurager Chhoan, directed by Bulbul Ahmed

and directed by Progga Laboni. The cast of the drama includes Afzal Hossain, Tarana Halim and others. *Sonar Moina Pakhi* a drama by Ferdous Hasan will be also aired on the same day.

The third day is scheduled with special drama *Korani Dot Com*, *Anandabhuban Beauty Contest*, Special tele-film *Bairati* by Shakur Majid the cast of the telefilm includes Srabonti, Mahfuz Ahmed and others. *Anurager Chhoan* a drama directed by Bulbul Ahmed acted by Riaz, Oindrila and many more, Shabuddin Naggar's *Biyei Piri* are also scheduled for the day.

On the fourth day of Eid two telefilms *Roudra Chhair Lukochuri*

and *Jorr Badoler Diney* will be aired. Special drama *Ekto* by Mostofa Sarwar Farooki and *Bhalosha Bangladesh* a special magazine programme hosted by Zillur Rahman are the main attractions of the day.

On the last day of Eid special programme the channel will telecast tele-film *Dhorachoar Bairey* and special dramas *Bhalobashar Ushono Chhoyan* and *Money Chaar Porchey*. Among other programmes *Tritia Matra* and *Music Plus* will be aired every day with special contents for the Eid. The channel has also planned to telecast many music-based programmes, magazine shows with celebrities and special programmes for the children.

Portrayal



PHOTO:AFP

Spaniard Armando Valles shows a carnival mask representing former Iraq's President Saddam Hussein (after he was captured by US soldiers) 27 January, 2004 in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Valles hopes that the mask will be well accepted at the 2004 Carnival.

Campus chronicles

Musical presentation of Coleridge's The Rime of the Ancient Mariner

TAKAD AHMED CHOWDHURY

ENGLISH Department Drama Society (EDDS) of Dhaka University organised two presentations of Samuel Taylor Coleridge's classic creation *The Rime of the Ancient Mariner* as a musical at the TSC auditorium recently. Directed by Tahmina Ahmed, an Associate Professor of the Department, the production was undertaken with a view to highlighting the musical quality of the classical piece that bears the message of humanity and respect for ecological balance.

The ballad reveals the tale of an 'ancient mariner' whose experience of a journey leads to an invaluable realisation, which changes his entire life. While on a sea-voyage, the mariner's ship gets lost in the cold northern hemisphere; the miraculous advent of an albatross saves them; but the mariner whimsically kills that very albatross. All the other mariners are punished through death for justifying the killing, but the mariner is punished with Life-in-Death. As the mariner suffers utter loneliness and isolation, he gradually understands the enormity of his action. He suffers and he learns, till

ultimately he rejoins the cycle of life. The bond that he broke by killing the albatross is restored by blessing some water snakes. He returns home and spends the rest of his life travelling and teaching the lesson of universal love.

This 7th EDDS production created huge enthusiasm not only among the English department and Dhaka University students but also among the students of other institutions like the University of Asia Pacific (UAP) and Bangladesh International School (BIS), who enjoyed the presentations. The excellent acting, wonderful narra-

tion and music composition, superb light designing and light projection—all done by the students and an alumnus of the department, received huge appreciation from the audience present in both the shows.

Encouraged by the cheerful feedback, EDDS is now thinking for few more staging of its production besides planning for organising Shakespeare festival in April, the month in which the great poet and playwright was born.

Takad Ahmed Chowdhury, President of EDDS, teaches English at the University of Asia Pacific (UAP).

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 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 BTV 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 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 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm.
News (Bangla) 7:30 pm. 10:30 pm.
TARA BANGLA
News Headline (Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 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

BTV
07:35 *Suprobrhat Bangladesh*
08:25 *Selected Modern Songs*
09:15 *Anya Bhuban: Sea Is Green*
12:15 *Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke*
01:05 *Selected Programme*
02:05 *Cartoon Show: Samurai X*
02:30 *Open University*
03:05 *Bangla Feature Film*
06:10 *Shoptoshur*
07:00 *Share Market, Weather Forecast*
07:30 *Film Show: The New Adventure of Superman*
08:30 *Drama of The Week*
10:30 *Selected Programme*
CHANNEL-i
09:45 *Tritia Matra*
12:00 *Chithi Pelam*
01:00 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
02:00 *Priyo Natak*
05:45 *Joto Pod Toto Mot*
06:10 *Shoptoshur*
07:00 *Share Market, Weather Forecast*
07:30 *Film Show: The New Adventure of Superman*
08:30 *Drama of The Week*
10:30 *Selected Programme*
ATN BANGLA
10:15 *Annodristee*
10:50 *Drama Serial: Danob*
12:20 *Ajker Sangbadpotro*
12:40 *Uro Cola Saat Rang*
1:20 *Bengali Feature Film: Grina*
4:20 *Sundor Jeboner Janne*
5:10 *A Sapteher Chobi*
5:50 *Islamee Sawal O Jawab*

6:25 *Annodristee*
Drama Serial: Tana Puren
7:40 *Drama Serial: Kamini O Keya*
8:15 *Prekhhapot*
8:50 *Mega Serial: Bazpakhee*
9:25 *Bengali Feature Film: Asha Nirasha*
ntv
08:00 *Ajker Sakal*
08:30 *Musical programme*
09:30 *Ei Shomoy*
10:02 *Bangla Feature Film Potrikar Khabor*
10:30 *Cine Gaan*
10:30 *Drama Serial: Ebong Ami*
04:30 *Drama Serial: Chena Chene Lagey*
05:02 *Potrikar Khabor*
05:20 *Ithasher Ei Diney*
05:25 *Ke Korbe Bajimat*
06:00 *Apnar Jigyasha*
06:32 *Shubho Shondhya*
08:00 *Drama Serial: Ronger Manush*
08:35 *Shankskriti Ey Shaptaha*
09:10 *Drama: Tarkey Bahadur*
11:15 *Ithasher Ei Diney*
12:00 *Ei Shomoy*
HBO
10:15 *Love and Treason (Suspense Thriller)*
12:00 *The Masque of the Red Death Suspense Thriller*
2:00 *Dinner With Friends Drama*
4:00 *Bicentennial Man Drama*
6:45 *The Screaming Room: War Time Thrillers*
7:15 *The Associate Comedy*

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 7:15 pm: The Associate. Comedy. Whoopi Goldberg, Dianne Wiest, Eli Wallach. Whoopi Goldberg stars in this comedy about making it on Wall Street. Prejudices are hard to break and Goldberg's character quickly learns that in order for people to take her seriously she has to work for an older white man or be one.



Star Movies: 8:35 pm: Deuces Wild. Drama / Crime / Action. Stephen Dorff, Brad Renfro, Fairuza Balk. Two brothers, Leon and Bobby are members of the street gang in Brooklyn known as the deuces. Their brother was killed by a drug overdose a few years earlier and the gang is determined to keep drugs off their block. Another more vicious gang known as the vipers is a possible threat to Leon and Bobby's efforts. The deuces are determined to do whatever is necessary to keep drugs off their block even if that means dying.

9:30 *Shark Hunter Horror SCI-FIC*
11:30 *Exit Wounds action Adventure*
1:30 *Bicentennial Man Drama*
ZEE MGM
9:00 *The Telephone*
11:30 *House On Haunted Hill*
2:00 *The Most Dangerous Woman Alive*
4:30 *ZMS 4*
7:00 *Homage*
9:30 *Total Action*
11:55 *Hudson Hawk*
1:30 *Mockingbird Donji*
3:15 *Sing*
5:00 *Cocktail*
7:00 *Sins Of The Father*
8:35 *Deuces Wild*
10:15 *Cupid's Trick*
11:45 *The Ticket*
12:30 *Mockingbird Donji*
Sing

PICK OF THE DAY



Exit Wounds

On HBO at 11:30 pm
Genre: Action / Thriller
Steven Seagal, DMX, Isaiah Washington
Orin Boyd (Seagal) is a Detroit cop who doesn't follow rules. After he saved the Vice President by violating every order he received he is transferred to one of the worst precincts in the city. There he quickly encounters some corrupt cops selling heroin to drug dealers. The problem is, it's very difficult to tell who is the bad guy and who you can trust.

ZEE CINEMA
10:30 *Gaja Gamini (Shahrukh Khan, Madhuri Dixit)*
1:30 *Kabhi Naa Kabhi (Jackie Shroff, Anil Kapoor, Pooja Bhatt)*
5:30 *Criminal (Nagaruna, Manisha Koirala)*
9:30 *Parinda (Anil Kapoor, Jackie Shroff, Madhuri Dixit)*
STAR WORLD
2:30 *Oprah Winfrey*
3:00 *Bold And Beautiful*
4:00 *Hollywood Squares*
5:00 *Two Guys And A Girl*
6:30 *Knight Rider*
7:00 *The Simpsons*
7:30 *Home Improvement*
8:00 *Friends*
8:30 *Just Shoot Me*
9:30 *Roswell*
10:30 *Dark Angel*
For Love Or Money

11:30 *Baywatch*
STAR PLUS
3:30 *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi B*
4:00 *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii*
4:30 *Kaahin To Hoga*
5:00 *Kaahin Kissii Roz*
5:30 *Hil Fitein Hit Sangeet-*
6:00 *Hum Saath Aath Hain*
6:30 *Fox Kids*
7:30 *Kumkum - Pyara Sa Ban*
8:00 *Shaka Laka Boom Boom*
8:30 *Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr*
9:00 *Kasautii Zindagii Kay*
9:30 *Saara Akaash*
10:30 *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii*
11:00 *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi B*
11:30 *Kaahin To Hoga*
12:00 *Kaahin Kissii Roz*
NATIONAL
GEOGRAPHIC
2:30 *Wild Asses*
3:30 *Time Of The Elephants*
4:30 *Cheating Death (Aka Dan*
5:30 *Return To The Wild*
6:00 *Animal Edens*
6:30 *Dogs With Jobs*
7:00 *Toyota World Of Wildlife*
7:30 *Saving The Jackass*
8:30 *Pengu*
9:30 *To Love Honour And Truth Files*
10:30 *Realm Of The Lobster*
11:30 *Cheating Death (Aka Dan*
DISCOVERY CHANNEL
1:30 *Fitness Fantasy*
Elizabeth
Koopman/Rappelling
2:00 *Fitness Fantasy Eliot*
Popkin/Relay
2:30 *New Detectives False*

Witness
Wild Discovery Fish
Among the Tree Tops
Zack's Ultimate Guide
Big Cats
Real Kids Real
Adventures Apartment
Rescue
Travellers Virgin Islands
Folklife Festival: St. Thomas
6:30 *Junkyard Wars*
Visionless Valet
7:30 *Wild Discovery The Electric Eel*
8:30 *Secrets of the Ocean Realm/Triumph of Life*
9:30 *Wild Asia/Wild India*
Creatures of the Thaw
City Cats Paris, France
11:00 *Celebrity Slimming*
Beach Hour Starting
Over
ANIMAL PLANET
3:30 *The Human Touch Eye of the Tiger*
4:30 *Wild Encounters Jules most Dangerous: African Bush*
5:30 *Vets in Practice*
6:00 *Wild Rescues Pesky Critters, Tiger Haven*
6:30 *Emergency Vets*
7:00 *Breed all about it Boston Terrier*
7:30 *Amazing Animal Videos*
8:30 *Planet's Funniest Animals*
9:30 *Wildlife Specials Leopard-Agent of Darkness*
12:30 *The Human Touch Gorilla Encounters*
ESPN
9:15 *Australia Cricket Vb Series Australia Vs Zimbabwe 10th ODI (L)*
5:00 *Australia Cricket Vb Series Australia Vs Zimbabwe 10th Odi*

Review(L)
Goals! (T)
West Indies Tour Of South Africa South
Africa Vs West Indies
2nd Odi Highlights(S)
Cricket Show Espn
Sportscenter India (L)
Sunny Programming
Sunny By Night
Sportscenter India (R)
STAR SPORTS
8:30 *Australian Open Women's Singles Semifinals (L)*
Entertainment Sports
Mania (T)
2:00 *Harsha Online (R)*
2:30 *Australia Men's Singles Semifinal(L)*
6:00 *Hitz (R)*
6:30 *Harsha Online (R)*
7:00 *Australian Open Highlights*
8:00 *Sportsline (L)*
8:30 *Football Mundial (T)*
9:00 *Return To Athens (T)*
9:30 *Australian Open Highlights*
10:30 *Sportsline (R)*
11:00 *Australian Open Women's Singles Semifinals(R)*
TEN SPORTS
10:30 *Trans World Sports*
11:00 *Chilli Factor*
11:30 *ATP Tennis*
12:00 *European Tour Weekly 2004*
4:00 *European PGA Golf 04: Johnnie Walker Classic Day 1*
4:30 *Fitness Beach*
5:30 *Extreme Sports : Ep 21*
7:30 *Raw*
Bharis Greatest Games
10:00 *Football Week UK*
11:00 *Trans World Sports*