

RECOMMENDATIONS



Exhibitions

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.

February 8-20

A solo photography exhibition by renowned portrait photographer Nasir Ali Mamun is going on at the Goethe-Institut. The exhibition will remain open till February 20, from 2pm to 8pm. Venue: House 10, Road 9(new) Dhanmondi R/A.

March 1-31

A month long photo and book exhibition dedicated to the International Women's Day will be held at the library of the Russian Cultural Centre.

February 11-24

A painting exhibition by Russian artist Natalia Brazhnikova, will be held at the Russian Cultural Centre. The display will be inaugurated at 5:30 pm on February 11 and will be open for all till February 24, 11:00 am to 7:30 pm.

Painting and recitation competition

February 21
A painting and recitation competition for children dedicated to the International Mother Language Day will be held at the Russian Cultural Centre at 10 am.



A stylist works on a creative hairstyle given for free to singles ahead of Valentine's Day, February 10, in Hangzhou, eastern China. Valentine's Day is becoming increasingly popular with China's younger generation.

Celebration

Rhythm of life at Shaheed Minar

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

THE long cherished February has begun at last. The Ekushey Book Fair as well as other cultural activities commemorating the language martyrs of 1952 and honouring and celebrating the International Mother Language Day have begun in full swing. After the inauguration of the 12-day long programme by Shammilito Shangkritik Jote at the Central Shaheed Minar premises on February 8, the second day's programmes began with the ganasangeeet by a popular group named Kranti. Some of the popular tunes - Altaf Mahmood's 'Ghumer deshe ghum bhagante', DL Ray's 'Moder gorob moder asha', Anifal Haq's 'O Aalor pothe jatri', Shudhin Das Gupta's 'Ujjal din dake swapno rangeen' -

touched all the listeners' hearts. Runa Jahan, Niloufar Banu Lily, Mahbulul Haider Mohan, Arif Rahman, Biman Chandra all the well known artistes in the cultural circle presented the songs and received great appreciation from the audience. As the time passed, the Shahid Minar premises filled with people from all sections of the city...

Then Shayannika performed their patha natak (street drama) 'Tumi ki keboli chobi', written and directed by Khairul Alam Choudhury. The play reflected human nature and its earnest need for freedom by way of insinuation. It revealed the truth that even the so-called democracy of our country could not give, emphasising on the actual freedom, namely freedom of speech. The audience gave a round



Book worms through the stalls at the Ekushey Book Fair

of applause to the actors and the director.

Katha Abbritti Shanganthan performed the solo and group recitations. Finally, the theatre group Dhaka Padatik came up with their piece of satire 'Takar Naal'. The play was a mockery of our socio-economic state. Debashish Ghosh who directed the play tried to create some sequences where the crude reality was shown in a very light tone. When a man went to buy kerosene for his lamp, the shopkeeper gave him a bottle of 'Jonaki' (glow-worm), as the price of kerosene was too high! Thus the drama unfolded itself and the director and the dramatists tried to depict the actual condition of the middle class families.

Apart from that, the regular

discussion and the cultural programme were held at the Bangla Academy premises around 4:00pm which started with the conventional opening song. Then the usual discussion programme began with the presenting of the keynote paper by Dr. Muhammad Shahjahan Mia on 'Madhyajuger juddha kabya Jang Nama'. Professor Mansur Musa, Director of Bangla Academy, presided over the programme. Other speakers were Tosikul Islam, Sajjad Kadir and Aniruddha Kahali. Though the discussion was on medieval war epic, all the speakers dealt with that the same old medieval time exists in our present world as well, citing the Iraq war and other evils. A wonderful cultural programme followed the discussion.

Endeavour

Rare films to be donated to Bangladesh Film Archive by Iftekharul Alam

KAUSAR ISLAM AYON

IT is very distressing to note that very little interest is shown to preserve films in the Bangladesh Film Archive, which is under the Directorate of the Information Ministry.



Rare films by Zahir Raihan to be preserved at the Archives

The Film Archive celebrates its silver jubilee which started from yesterday.

The objective of the archive is to preserve the culture and the heritage using film as the media. Collecting both local and foreign films and film related objects and preserving them in a scientific way is



one of the main tasks of the organisation. But the number of films preserved in the Bangladesh Film Archive, very disappointingly, is only 909, of them 240 are feature films and 769 are documentary films. Even an ordinance, Copyright Act 2000, was passed with the purpose of increasing the number of films in the archive. According to article 38(Ka) of that act, everyone making film publicly is bound to submit one print of the film to the archive. But if we look at the number of films submitted to the archive from 2000 to 2003 the number is once again disappointing. Only 20 to 30 films have been given to the film archive within this period. But it is a matter of inspiration that Iftekharul Alam, a prominent film producer and distributor of Bangladesh film, has a rich personal collection of films from home and abroad, which he has decided to do-

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Patriotic songs presented by Kranti at the Central Shaheed Minar

Interview

'I don't want to be a show-piece actress', says Damitha Abeyrathne

SOHEL HAIDER CHOWDHURY

DAMITHA Abeyrathne, a famous Sri Lankan actress, was recently awarded the best actress title in the 8th Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF) organised in the capital by Rainbow Film Society. She earned this honour for her performance in Sulang-Kirilli (The Wing Bird) directed by Inoka Sathyangani. Notably, The Wing Bird is the film, among the 78 tele-drama and 7 feature films of Abeyrathne, in which she has acted in the central character's role for the first time. The acclaimed film The Wing Bird in which she starred could not be screened due to the interference of the Censor Board. Abeyrathne spoke on various subjects to Sohel Haider Chowdhury recently.

Sohel Haider Chowdhury (SHC): What is your feeling after becoming the best actress?

(DA): I feel delighted. The award has increased my enthusiasm as well as responsibility about my career as an actress. I'll have to step forward very cautiously from now. It's my 7th movie and for the first time I played the central role. My characters in the previous six films were all important ones but not the principal character. Perhaps I've performed well in The Wing Bird, because Inoka Sathyangani has selected me for his next film too. I believe, that's a great achievement for me.

SHC: How did you get into acting?

DA: I started the journey by acting in a tele-drama named Passe Gena Manamali in 1987. So



Damitha Abeyrathne

far I have acted in 78 tele-dramas. My first feature film Meeharaka was directed by Hewawasam.

SHC: Have you had any institutional training in acting?

DA: Not in acting, but I have had long course in music.

SHC: Without any training, how do you act so well?

DA: I have to work very hard, of course. For any character, first I try to understand the psychology of the role. Then I try to visualise the surroundings of the character. In short, my practice, endeavour and devotion help me advance.

SHC: How successful do you think is the 8th DIFF?

DA: I would say, it has been 100% successful! To hold such a festival without any government patronisation is a very brave task, and Rainbow Film Society has done a good job. A good number of internationally acclaimed films and film-personalities participated in the festival. This surely tells of Rainbow's success.

SHC: Have you watched any Bangladeshi films at the festival? What do you think of them?

DA: I have watched Aadhar and Hasan Raja. I have liked the making and acting of both the movies. I believe there are many talented directors and actors in Bangladesh.

SHC: Will you perform in Bangladeshi films if you are offered?

DA: Of course, I will. But the film must be good and my role must have scope for good acting. I don't want to be a show-piece actress."

SHC: What is the secret of your success?

DA: I just maintain some regularity to keep fit. I also do some recitation in my free time.

SHC: Tell us about your future plan.

DA: For myself, I want to become a good actress. I'm also planning to bring out an audio album this year. And for my country, I want to help the poor and the children.

Film don

Vintage & suave: That's Kabir for you

KABIR Bedi describes his character of Shah Jahan in Akbar Khan's forthcoming screen epic, Taj Mahal, as his dream role. He is still charming and suave, and doesn't decline a request for an interview even though he has planned his evening with friends at Olive. "I'm here for an event, but I stayed back because I wanted to check out this place as Sabina, wife of Olive's co-owner AD Singh, is my first wife Protima's sister," he says.

He is excited about the six Bollywood projects he has in hand. "Among them is my dream role 'Shah Jahan' in Taj Mahal, a role I always wanted to essay," he says.

But don't all these projects keep him away from his family? "Nikki and I live apart but have a great relationship. I travel every six weeks to London and she travels to meet



Kabir Bedi

me whenever she can," he says. "It keeps the relationship strong. It's never like ghar ki murgi dal barabar," he smiles, as he bursts

into Punjabi with friends. "Punjabi is my language and I love to speak in it," he says.

Kabir is happy that his son Adam and daughter Pooja are doing well in life. "I share a warm relationship with both of them," he informs. What excites him these days? "The new genre of films in Bollywood," he replies. "I recently saw Waista Bhi Hota Hai Part II, which gave a fresh look to Mumbai underworld. The new genre of films will give a new look to the industry."

Kabir Bedi loves Thai, Indian and Italian cuisine. He loves to wear Giorgio Armani labels besides Tarun Tahliani and Rohit Bal creations. He believes in the cocktail of a philosophy taken from the best of every religion.

Source: Internet

Cultural delegat

Bangladesh cultural team in Australia

A cultural team comprising 14 prominent artistes, headed by Shahidul Islam, left for Canberra recently, to attend a 10-day cultural programme, says a press release.

Teams from about 40 countries have participated in the programme. The artistes plan to portray elements from the Bangladeshi culture, like various musical compositions and traditional dances on February 11, 12 and 13. These will also include patriotic and folksongs and dances, straight from the core of the villages. The team will also visit Sydney and Melbourne, and work with the local Bangladeshi cultural teams based in the cities.

The artistes are Baby Nazneen, Piyal Hassan, Nadia ahmed, Salma



Begum Munni, Bushra Ahmed Tithi, Mehjabeen Ahsan Munmun, Syed Muhammed Talut, Abdul Bari

Siddiqui, Zahid Hossain and Liton d'Costa.

TV GUIDE

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

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, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am. 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 a.m, 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 Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm. Tara News Bangla-desh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm. BBC World Every hour on the hour

BTV 07:35 Suprabhat Bangladesh Documentary Film 09:15 Quiz Quiz 12:15 Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke Harano Diner Gaan 02:05 Khetle Khetle Computer 03:05 Open University 03:35 Geetobitan Samakalin Orthonity 06:10 Shilpo O Shahityo Prog of Chittagong Centre Share Market, Weather Forecast 07:30 Film Show: Mortal Combat Conquest 08:30 Drama Serial: Ohangkar Drama Serial: Shamudra Shimanay 09:30 Drama Serial: Oshomoy 10:30 Amader Aien Ganer Bhela 11:00 ATN BANGLA 10:15 Talk Show: Annodristee Uro Cola Saat 12:40 1:20 Feature Film Motamot 05:10 Islami Sawal O 05:45 6:20 Talk Show: Annodristee Gondoraz Samsung Cine Aaha 8:15 Drama Serial: Khuwab 8:40 Drama Serial: Nayeeka Sangbad Drama Serial:

Danob Talk Show: Face to Face Feature Film: CHANNEL-i 09:45 Tritia Matra Chithi Pelam 12:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 02:00 Feature Film: Sukher Swapna (Babita/Faruque) Sa Re Ga Ma 05:10 Boi Ebong Boi 05:45 Music Plus 06:10 Chaya Janker Taray On 08:25 Drama Serial: Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roddur 09:35 Drama Serial: Rangdhanu Rang Drama Serial: Jugalbandi ntv 08:00 Ajker Sakal Baul Gaan 08:30 Ei Shomoy 09:30 Hello Music 10:30 Shur Ananda Tele Film: Antare Nirantar 02:30 Cinegaan Drama Serial: Ebong Ami Rang 03:30 Taray Taray Drama Serial: Shongshoy 04:30 Drama Serial: Amader Golpo 05:25 Ke korbey Bajimaath 06:00 Apnar Jigyasha 06:35 Shubho Shondhya 06:55 Sports World 08:00 Siddiqua Kabir's Recipe 08:35 Shurer Jalsha 09:47 Drama Serial: Chena Chena

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

STAR MOVIES: 8:55 pm. Apocalypse Now. Genre: Action / Drama / War / Adventure Marlon Brando, Robert Duval, Martin Sheen. Based on Joseph Conrad's Heart Of Darkness, this is a controversial addition to the multitude of Vietnam war movies in existence. We follow Captain Willard on his mission into Cambodia to assassinate a renegade Green Beret who has set himself up as a God among a local tribe. Notes taken by Coppola's wife have recently been used to create "Hearts Of Darkness" - MGM: 9:30 pm. Sleepless in Seattle. Genre: Comedy / Romance / Drama. Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan, Bill Pullman. Sam is a recent widower who is seeking someone new. Sam's son Jonah, is also looking for a new mother, so when Jonah puts his father on national radio, hundreds of women write to him. One of the women is Annie. She's engaged to

PICK OF THE DAY



Angel Eyes On HBO at 7:30 pm. Genre: Drama / Romance Jennifer Lopez, James Caviezel, Jeremy Sisto While pursuing a suspect one night, Chicago Police officer Sharon Pogue nearly becomes the victim of a fatal ambush until a mysterious stranger, Catch intervenes, disarms the assassin and saves Sharon's life. Is it a stroke of luck? A twist of fate? Or just a concerned citizen who

Lage Dindarpan HBO 8:30 Cyborg 10:00 The Laramie Project 12:00 The Next Karate Kid 2:30 King Kong 5:00 Pollock 7:30 Angel Eyes 9:30 The Matrix 12:30 Young Sherlock Holmes 2:30 King Kong MGM 9:00 Tadpole 11:30 Jackie Brown 2:00 Matilda 4:30 Love & Rage 7:00 Fever 9:30 Love Bug Sleepless in Seattle (Tom Hanks, Meg Ryan) 11:30 Decadence (Stephen Berkoff) STAR MOVIES 9:00 Cabin By The Lake 10:30 If Lucy Fell 12:00 Driven To Succeed 1:30 Mr Destiny 3:20 Crazy/Beautiful 5:00 The Ticket 5:30 Jaws: The Revenge 7:00 Twister 8:55 Apocalypse Now Redux 12:00 Leprechaun 3 9:00 Do Qaidi 12:30 Mughal -E- Azam 4:30 Ram Shastra 8:00 Gaane Bhi Do Yaar 8:30 Aapko Pehle Bhi Kabhi Dekha Hai STAR WORLD 1:30 Mac Gyver 2:28 Star Asia Travel Oprah Winfrey Show 3:30 Bold And Beautiful 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway Knight Rider 5:30 The Simpsons 7:00 Home Improvement Friends 7:30

8:00 Just Shoot Me 8:30 Out Of Sight 10:30 Two Guys And A Girl 11:00 Titus 11:30 Baywatch STAR PLUS 3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Kahaani Ghar GharKii 4:00 Kaahin To Hoga 4:30 Kaahin Kissii Roz Hum Saath Aath Hain 6:30 Fox Kids 7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan Shaka Laka Boom Boom 8:00 Sonpari 9:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay 9:30 Sanjivani - A Medical Boon Kahaani Ghar GharKii 10:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Kaahin To Hoga 11:30 Kaahin Kissii Roz Ghos, Ghana Wild Discovery Lethal & Dangerous : Venomous Snakes 8:30 Extreme Engineering Holland's barriers to the sea 9:30 Extreme Machines Race Cars 10:30 Dinosaur Planet Valley of the T-Rex 11:30 Martial Arts Martial Arts Journey with David Carradine ANIMAL PLANET 11:30 Animals A-Z : Reefwise 12:00 Global Swarming 12:30 Animal Planet Reveals Spidermania 1:30 A Spider's World 2:30 The Awesome Opposum 3:30 Vets in Practice One of the Pack Emergency Vets Mamma's Girl 4:30 Breed all about it Poodle 5:30 Amazing Animal Videos 6:30 Planet's Funniest Animals 7:30 Blue Planet Coral Seas 8:30 Animal Planet Reveals Charging Back 9:30 Animal Planet Reveals George and the Rhino Wild Encounters Wild Fathers 10:30 Killing for a Living Flight to the Death NATIONAL 12:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife 12:30 Mother Bear Man li 1:30 Cheating Death (Aka Dangerous) 2:30 Seismic Seconds 3:30 Seismic Seconds Mysterious Life Of Caves 4:30 Hidden Genders 5:30 Return To The Wild 6:00 Animal Edens 6:30 Dogs With Jobs S3 7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife 7:30 Guardians Of Eden 8:30 Cheating Death (Aka Dangerous) 9:30 Seismic Seconds 10:00 Seismic Seconds 10:30 Extreme Detectives 11:30 Guardians Of Angkor STAR SPORTS 8:30 Gymnastics Grand Prix 03/04 (T) 11:30 Lg Action Sports Championships 2003 Skate-board(R) 12:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04 Manchester England Manche Ster City Vs Birmingham City Watersports Programming Hot Water (T) 5:00 Entertainment Endzone - Way Of The Exploding Fist Boxing Wrestling Fighting(T) 6:30 Gillette World Sports Special Max Power 2004 (T) 7:00