

Exhibitions

February 13 Asma Sultana's solo art exhibition titled 'Trapik' will start on February 13 at 6:00pm at the Zainul Art Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, DU. The exhibition will be inaugurated by Andrey A Starkov, counselor, Russian Embassy and renowned artists Rafiqunnabi, Mahmudul Haq and Shishir Bhattacharya will be present as respected guests.

February 8-20

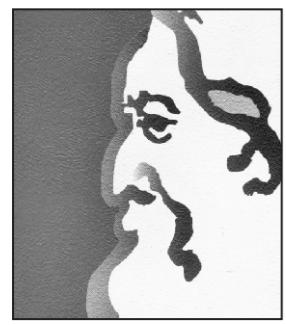
A solo photography exhibition by renowned portrait photographer Nasir Ali Mamun is going on at the Goethe-Institut. The exhibition will remain open till February 20, from 2pm to 8pm. Venue: House 10, Road 9(new) Dhamondi R/A

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.

February 16-March 1

The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts holds a solo exhibition of Monsurul Karim on February 16, at 6:30pm. Dietrich Andreas, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany will inaugurate the exhibition. Artist Qayum Chowdhury will be the special guest. Venue: 275/F Rd.



27, Dhamondi, Dhaka

Musical soiree

February 14 Rabiraag presents 'Bhalobashar Gaan' at the WVA auditorium on February 14, at 6:30pm. Venue: Rd 27(Old) House 20 Dhamondi R/A.

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.

Interview

Voice of the inner conscience

Bhaswar Banerjee, a leading figure in poetry recitation and dramatics, speaks on his specialised subject and issues regarding the mediums in Bangladesh

AZIZ AMIRUL

As a sense of distinctly unperturbed harmony splices the tone, as the refined accomplishment of poetry recitation goes on; an atypical vocal art, one that guides both the performer as well as the listener to delve deep into the intricacies of the human soul to sieve out and reveal the purest of psychic joys and emotional values. Such is felt by Bhaswar Banerjee, a leading cultural figure of the country, a celebrity in the field of poetry recitation and theatrical movement in Bangladesh.

Born in an educated family of Khulna in the early 50's, Bhaswar Banerjee, from his childhood, has been a spirited personality with strong endurance and challenging attitude. Bhaswar fondly recollects his early years and close attachment with his elder sister, Dipa Banerjee and father, Late Lohit Kanti Banerjee, a dedicated drama personality.

Ever since his student years, Bhaswar has had experiences of performing in both Khulna and Dhaka stations of Betar Bangladesh as well as in Bangladesh Television, also as a renowned news caster, announcer and commentator in different programmes and workshops.

Bhaswar Banerjee, a devoted cultural activist since university days, proudly remembers intensive associations with organisations like 'Natyachakra' founded by reputed cultural personality, M. Hamid. Dhaka University Sangskriti Sangsads' that had a truly combined activity in various spheres of culture including poetry recitation, drama, music and classical dance had also been a soul-searching refuge for Bhaswar. 'Organisation like DUCSU had never been accustomed with the idea of professionalism in theatrical works and this very attitude was injected into the mindset of the then-cultural wings by activists of our circle'.

After getting a Diploma in Dramatics from the National School of Drama (NSD), New Delhi, during the late 70's, Bhaswar Banerjee is currently the Deputy Director at the National Institute of Mass Communication (NIMCO) besides being a regular teacher and trainer at 'Theatre School'.

'It is a matter of great elation to teach in the academy alongside famed personalities like Professor Kabir Chowdhury, Ramendu Majumdar, Abdullah Al Mamun, Ferdousi Majumdar, Ataur Rahman, Mustafa Monwar, Professor Syed Manzurul Islam, besides a host of other noted cultural and literary gurus of the country', says the humble orator. Bhaswar has recently been awarded Ph.D in drama from Rabindra Bharati University of India with thesis subject, 'The impact and influence of folk theatre tradition in modern Bengali theatre'.

While reminiscing about his student days at NSD, Bhaswar said, 'The three-year course that I completed comprised of a variety of theatrical

disciplines and branches to deal with.' He further adds, 'Apart from methods of physical acting and building up of a better psychological stance, we learn designing of sets, lights, stage direction, make-up, costume, script writing, thus the overall basics of theatrical production'.

Whilst replying on a query about the progress of poetry recitation in our country, Bhaswar Banerjee seems quite delighted and expresses high hopes about the younger generation that is into it.

'I feel that the youth who are now putting their efforts into poetry recitation should continue to do so rather with a stronger devotion and vigour'. One negative practice, which he believes is quite rampant here, is that young enthusiasts often join a socio-cultural group and begin to recite poetry but leave the scene after a short period to join another group. 'Poetry recitation to many is like a pastime, the notion of which should permanently be ousted for the betterment of the art form in bringing a degree of professionalism'.

Bhaswar Banerjee currently runs his own poetry recitation organisation, 'Kotha', besides being the founding President of 'Abriti Sammonoy Parishad', a leading organisation of the country.

A quite alarming information is that neither any television channel nor the radio has any provision of grade system for the artistes of poetry recitation, though, the art form is widely presented in the electronic media, laments a bit dejected Bhaswar. 'Besides, the media has lately been filled up with lots of new programmes including band music etc, yet it is a pity that there is not the same appreciation for poetry recitation'.

Bhaswar Banerjee likes to extend his gratitude to organisations like Bengal Foundation for its support and sponsoring works of art and music but, he feels, it should also help flourish mediums like poetry recitation.

The inner strength of poetry and its recitation is immense, provided it is implemented in the right place at the right time', feels Bhaswar.



Bhaswar Banerjee

Celebration

Book Fair and other cultural events on Ekushey

ERSHAD KAMOL

As part of the month-long Ekushey celebration, people from all walks of life, thronged the venues from the Bangla Academy premises to the Shaheed Minar to enjoy the ongoing book fair, cultural events and seminars.

Bangla Academy inaugurated a month-long book fair, the most significant event of our national and cultural life. Like other days on Wednesday evening, the Academy held a seminar followed by the 'Inauguration Song'. The topic of the seminar was 'Kabya Shomalochok Sayed Ali Ahsan' Rabey Moin read out the essay while Abdur Rahim, Mahmud Shafique and Abdul Hai Shikdar took part in the discussion. Al Mahmood, a renowned poet, presided over the seminar.

Chhayanaut and Agnibina presented group songs at the Shahid Minar premises in the SSJ's programme. Jhuma Khan and Rubel Ahmed presented solo's and Swarokalpon took part in the recitation session. The programme was rounded up by two street dramas.

books are being launched. On Wednesday last, the number reached to 56. *Living in Tears*, by the leader of the opposition Sheikh Hasina, was introduced on the same day. The publishers seemed happy over the sale of books, at the same time a good number of visitors went just to have a glimpse of the exhibition.

More over, as part of the cultural programme arranged by Shommoilito Shangskritik Jote (SSJ)- a leading cultural organisation, the audience enjoyed songs, recitations and street dramas (*patha-natafak*).

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Exquisit



PHOTO: AFP
Japanese patissiers decorate a chocolate covered Volkswagen's New Beetle vehicle with colourful chocolate, cookies and bread at a shopping mall in Tokyo, before the St. Valentine's Day. Two vehicles covered with a total of 300-liters of chocolate will be displayed through 14 March to attract shoppers.

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 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 am,10:00 a.m, 11:00 am,1pm.3:00 pm.3:00 pm.4:00pm.6:00 pm.and 8:00 pm.

tv
News Headlines(Bangla) at 5:02 pm. 6:30 pm. 9:45 pm. News (Bangla) 7:30 pm.10:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA
NewsHeadlines(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

BTW

08:25 Pramanya
08:35 Anusthan
Prog. from BTW
Archive
09:35 Selected programme
10:05 Drama serial for Children : Swapner Deshey

10:30 Talk Show: Hello Aapnake Bolchi
11:35 Aarai Dishari
03:15 Shongbad Potre Pata Theke

03:25 Bangla Feature Film: Dorodi Shontan
03:05 Tele Film: Nil Sumudrer Gaan
05:40 Cartoon Show
06:00 Des Jonopad
06:35 Prog. of Chittagong Centre

07:00 Weather Forecast
07:05 Alif Laila
08:30 Apnar Charpash
09:00 Cine Magazine
09:30 Prio Manush
10:25 Teknaf Theke Tentilla

10:30 Talk Show: Laal Golap.
11:00 Believe It or Not

10:15 Talk Show : Annodish
10:30 Islamic prog : Aiker Songbadpotro
12:30 Islamic Prog : Islamic Jumbar

3:40 Binudan Jumbar
6:20 Children prog: Amra Karbo Jai

7:40 Drama serial: Rup Madhuri
8:15 Drama serial: Khubaw
8:50 Mega Serial: Lal Neel Bagune
9:25 Mega serial: Baba Film Magazine: Smriti Monikothai

12:20 Bengali feature film : Jogajogh

CHANNEL-i

08:00 Musical Show
08:30 Horlicks Genius Bangladesh
09:30 Shongbadpote Bangladesh

09:45 Tritiyo Matra
10:30 Teles Sonoy
11:30 Islam Ki Boley

02:00 Islamic Programme
03:00 Miss World
03:30 Prio Natok
05:35 Janapoder Shangbad

05:45 Shangbad Music Show
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Ekquchha Rhidoy Ganthia

07:50 Valentines Day Special Drama: Orbit

08:25 Road Show: Traffic Jam
09:35 Lux Annandha

10:00 Drama Serial: Kaalpurush
12:30 True Crime
1:30 Baby: Secret The Lost Legend

3:00 Little Women
5:00 Wall Street
7:00 The Royal Tenenbaums
8:50 Hellbound (Hellraiser II)

10:30 The Puppet Masters Warlock

12:30 American Idol Videos
11:30 Dark Angel
For Love Or Money

12:30 Star Asia Travel
11:30 Baywatch

2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
3:30 Bold And Beautiful Hollywood Squares

5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30 Knight Rider

6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement

8:00 Friends
Just Shoot Me

9:00 Cheer
Oprah Winfrey

9:30 Tna Wrestling

9:30 Skeletons
10:30 Nash Bridges

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