

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

February 20-March 2
A sculpture exhibition by Ferdousy Priabhashini titled Aronner Dinratri is going on at the Shilpangan gallery. The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 9 pm.

February 16-March 1
The Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts holds a solo exhibition of Monsur ul Karim. Venue: 275/F Rd. 27, Dhanmondi, Dhaka

February 18-28
Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy holds a solo painting exhibition by Ryu, Kwang-il from the Republic of Korea at the National Art Gallery of the academy. The display will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm on weekdays and 3 pm to 7 pm on Friday.

February 23-March 2
Goethe Institut is holding a photographic exhibition titled A Mro Folk-belief: Utopia of a Pilgrim by Shameem Hasan at the institut's premises, beginning from February 23. The display will remain open from Sunday through Thursday, 2:00 pm-8:00 pm.

Photography exhibition

February 24-29
Aalok Group of Photographers is holding its annual photo exhibition for 2001 & 2002 at Drik Gallery in Dhanmondi. The exhibits feature a selection from the annual photo contest of the said years. The display remains open for all from 3 to 8 pm daily.

Event

Brazilians samba dancers performs atop of the "Witches float" during the parade of Imperatriz Leopoldinense Samba school, February 24, during the second night of Rio de Janeiro's samba school parade at the Sambadrome arena. Carnival's main samba parade began Sunday night, before the eyes of more than 100,000 spectators, including 10,000 tourists.

'Notun Praner Notun Gaaner Utshob'

Mukto Praner Mukto Gaan, a public university students' organisation, is going to arrange a discussion programme on contemporary music at the Central Public Library Premises at Dhaka University on March 1, from 10 to 9 p.m., says a press release. It also adds that interested students from other public universities and Government Medical Colleges will also participate in the programme.

Display

Stories in photographs

Drik Gallery holds exhibition of photographs by Aalok

HARUN UR RASHID

AN exceptional photography exhibition is going on at the Drik Gallery in Dhanmondi. Aalok, a group of 17 young talented photographers, is displaying series of photographs taken by its members in 2001-2002 on different aspects of life in the country. The display was inaugurated on February 24 by eminent educationist professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed and *The Daily Star* editor Mahfuz Anam.

Aalok is a non-profit 'informal' organisation in its true sense. Founded in 1995, 'we wanted to hold exhibitions that were not included in the schedule of Bangladesh Photo-Journalists' Union (BPJU),' said Hasan Saifuddin Chandon of Aalok. 'We also wanted to provide facilities to the photojournalists as an extended wing of BPJU.' The interesting feature of Aalok is that the organisation has never had any executive committee so far, 'for, we have always wanted to work independently,' said Chandon.

Aalok organises regular annual competition among its members. And with the collection of two years' photographs it regularly holds exhibitions -- not just in Dhaka but in other regions of the country as well as in foreign lands. The members of the organisation have visited countries including Romania, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Malaysia and Japan. Aalok also held the first ever exhibition of colour slides in 1997. The event remains a milestone in the photography history of Bangladesh since the standard of the



Abir Abdullah Dance-1

exhibition was approved by the Photographic Society of America and the Federation of Asian Photographic Art.

Not only photographs by its members, Aalok has also shown its importance, as it often invites

renowned photographers from other countries to hold exhibitions. In 1999, it held a solo featuring computer art in photography by Japanese photographer Toshiki Ozawa. In 2002, Indian SR Mandal held a solo titled *Renaissance* from Aalok's forum.

The on-going exhibition displays some 132 photographs on various subjects. These photos competed in 2001 and 2002. The 'portfolio' contests let the photographers present a set of six photos on one particular subject. What is noteworthy is that this has facilitated the series in creating a story of that subject. The portfolios that contested in 2001 were *Circus Life* by GMB Aakash, *Dance* by Abir Abdullah, *Monkey Family in the Park* by Dr Rashid Un Nabi, *Religious Festival* by Shafiqul Alam Kiron, *Life in a Brothel* by Bashir Ahmed Sujon, *World of Birds* by AKM Shehab Uddin, and others. The 2002 subjects included *Lyrics and Melody* by Kiron, *Born Free* by GMB Akash, *Wool* by Khaled Asif, *Let's Dance* by Paul David Barikder, *New Joyanti Opera* by Shehab Uddin etc.

The winners of the competitions were Abir Abdullah for 2001 and Shafiqul Alam Kiron for 2002. *The Daily Star* editor Mahfuz Anam handed over the prizes to them at the inaugural ceremony of the exhibition.

The exhibition will remain open from 3 to 8 pm everyday till February 29.

Theatre festi



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Prokrity O Puran
Dosh Natok Festival

Madhobi

ERSHAD KAMOL

TODAY, Theatre will stage their current production *Madhobi* at 7:00 p.m. at the Public Library Auditorium as part of the drama festival arranged by Dosh Natok.

Preview:
Madhobi is a classical play. It is the translated version of the Hindi play *Madhavi* by Bhisha Sahni who has adapted it from the mythological epic *Mahabharata*. In the play the dramatist has pointed out the common question, what is the identity of a woman in the society? Is she only someone's wife or daughter? Through the legendary character of Madhobi, the playwright presents us with this eternal problem of the society.



Tropa Majumdar (L) and co-artist in the play *Madhobi*

Ramendu Majumdar directors designing while Nasirul Haque is in the play. Mostafa Monwar is in set light designing.

The contemporary female playwright

Tete-a-tete with Samina Luthfa Nitra

NITRA'S play *Tirthonkar* has been well appreciated by the audience. A regular member of Shubochon Natya Shongshod, Samina Luthfa Nitra is one of the very few female stage playwrights in Bangladesh whose plays have been staged. At present only her play *Tirthonkar* is being staged on a regular basis. After each show, she gets quite a good response from the eminent playwrights and drama critics as well. Nitra became a playwright when she along with one of her group members was translating Shakespeare's *Twelfth Night* and Mamunur Rashid suggested to her to write a play. 'He advised me to adapt the Persian epic *Shahanama* and I created *Tirthonkar* based on the epic adding contemporary socio-political crisis. In that sense it is a crisis play.'

She adds, 'Yet, I am not satisfied with the work. I think I have the potentiality to write better stage plays.'

Her judgement on *Tirthonkar* is very clear. She says, 'Some critics pointed out certain areas where I could improve. They told me that I could express the messages by not being so explicit in diction. I accepted their comments and reviewed the script. In the second edition which has been published in the drama magazine *Theatre*, I have modified some dialogues and I think it has increased the aesthetic value of the play.'

Besides writing, she also plays the role of Tahmina in *Tirthonkar* but she is more interested to establish her name as a playwright. Nitra adds, 'I am a lecturer in the department of Rural Sociology at the Mymensingh Agricultural University so I cannot give enough time to theatre. However, I think I can contribute for my group by writing plays. In case of subject matter for the play I go for the socio-political affairs which touch me. I am not yet matured enough to write quality comedies which is really tough to handle,' says Nitra.

Her favourite playwrights are Shakespeare, Rabindranath, Marlowe, Mamunur Rashid and Selim Al Deen.



Samina Luthfa Nitra

Music

Capturing the essence of classical music

AFSAR AHMED

MUSIC has the ability to rouse, to heal and to soothe. With this view in mind the Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy promoted a 3-day long classical music concert with the participation of the eminent and young artistes recently.

The programme marked its beginning with a discussion where renowned music personals Mobarak Hossain Khan and Dr. Karunamoy Goswami addressed the audience. Yasin Khan, Moidul Islam, Nasrin Khan, Omar Faruq, Roushan Ara Mustafiz, Zabeer Imam Khan, Anil Kumar Saha, Yaqub Ali Khan, Salahuddin Ahmed, Sholok Hossain, Dr. Harun ur Rashid, Babur Ali, Anup Barua, Karim Shahabuddin, Sunil Kumar Mandal, Tofael Ahmed, Aminul Haq and Mangal Chandra Mandal presented *Kheyal* on different ragas like *Gorakh Kallyan*, *Iman*, *Chandra Kiraan*, *Bhim Palashri*, *Rageshri*, *Koushiddhani*, *Maru Behag*, *Kolavati*, *Sriranjani*, *Madhukosh* and *Basant*.

Recitals on sitar, sarod, flute,

violin and santoor were also performed. Eminent players Khurshid Khan and Matul Haq Khan along with Samir Das Shamsul Alam and Rinaat Fouzia played the sitar. Yousuf Khan and Shahdat Hossain Khan played the sarod, Utaam Chkravarti and Moniruzzaman played the flute, Ruposhi Mumtaz and Allauddin Mia played the violin and Salahuddin Mahmud played the santoor. The performers created splendid impact on the audience with their lush and dreamy performances.

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 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

ATN BANGLA
10:00 Talk Show: *Annodristee*
Entertainment Prog: *Benudon Jummabar*
5:10 Musical Competition Prog: *Shes Akkhor*
Children Programme: *Amra Karbo Joy*
7:40 Fashion Based Prog: *Rup Madure*
8:15 Drama Serial: *Khuwab*
8:50 Mega Serial: *Sapno Copoth*
10:35 Film Magazine: *Sreter Monokuthai*
12:20 Bangla Feature Film: *Marjadar Lora*

CHANNEL-i
09:45 *Trityo Matra*
10:30 *Tele Shomor*
12:30 Thief of Baghdad
01:00 *Sharey Tin Tala Sholyer*
02:00 *Shondhaney Sa Re Ma Ga Ma*
05:10 RC Tones And Tunes
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Flop Show
07:50 Drama Serial: *Danda Shangghat*
08:25 Traffic Jam
09:35 Drama Serial: *Ekannoborti*
10:00 Drama Serial: *Kaalpurush*

ntv
09:30 *Ei Shomoy*
10:02 *Guitarer Taley*
10:30 Tele Film: *Key*
10:30 *Apnar Jigyasha*
03:00 Bangla Film:

05:40 *Rajinigandha*
06:20 *Tiffiner Phakey*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:50 *Shoptaher Khabor*
08:00 Drama Serial: *Ronger Manush*
08:35 Pepsi Music Express
09:10 *Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan*
09:47 Drama Serial: *Aronyer Shukh Dukh*
11:20 *Din Darpan*

HBO
9:00 Crime Spree
10:30 Miracle of The Cards
12:00 Strange Frequency 2
2:00 Simon Sez
3:30 Babylon 5 : Legend of The Rangers
5:30 The Next Karate Kid
7:30 The Muse
9:30 Cyborg
12:00 Stealing Candy
1:00 MacArthur

STAR MOVIES
9:30 Happy Now Contact
11:15 Kramer Vs Kramer
1:45 The Touch
3:30 Dragonhear
5:15 O Brother Where Art Thou?
7:00 Hellraiser
8:50 Whose Line Is It Anyway
10:15 Fly The Fly II: The Insect Awakens
11:45

STAR WORLD
9:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 American Idol

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS

HBO: 7:30 pm. *The Muse*. Genre: Comedy. **Albert Brooks, Sharon Stone, Andie MacDowell**. What happens when a screenwriter loses his edge, he turns to anyone he can for help... even if it's the mythical "Zeus's Daughter". And he's willing to pay, albeit reluctantly, whatever price it takes to satisfy this goddess, especially when her advice gets him going again on a sure-fire script. However, this is not the limit of her help, she also gets the writer's wife going on her own bakery enterprise.

AXN: 7:00 pm. *Drop Zone*. Genre: Action / Thriller. **Wesley Snipes, Gary Busey, Yancy Butler**. US Marshall Pete Nessip goes on the trail of a crack team of stunt skydivers whose fearlessness and skills have taken them to the 'higher' echelons of high-tech crime. Pete Nessip and his brother Terry are US Marshals escorting convicted computer

PICK OF THE DAY

O Brother, Where Art Thou?
On STAR MOVIES at 7:00 pm.
Genre: Comedy / Adventure / Crime
George Clooney, John Turturro Tim Blake Nelson.
Three 1920's convicts escape from jail intent on getting to the loot stashed away by one of them. As this is at his house soon to be flooded by a new dam, speed is of the essence. They find themselves fast-talking their way out of one jam after another, and along the way not only have to

11:30 Dark Angel
12:30 For Love Or Money
1:30 Mac Gyver
2:30 Oprah Winfrey
3:30 Bold And Beautiful
4:30 Hollywood Squares
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30 Knight Rider
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement
7:30 Friends
8:00 Just Shoot Me
8:30 Tna Wrestling

9:30 World's Wildest Police Videos
10:30 Nash Bridges
11:30 Baywatch
STAR PLUS
3:30 Kalash
4:00 Ek Mulaqat
4:30 Smriti
5:00 Kashmakash
6:00 Hum Saath Aath
Hain
6:30 Fox Kids
7:30 Sonpari
8:00 Karishma Kaa Karishma

8:30 Hatim Shararat-Thoda Jaadu Thodi Naz
9:30 Ssshhhh...Koi Hai...
11:00 Jeet
12:00 Kya Baat Hail
STAR GOLD
9:00 Tahalka
12:30 Hatya
4:30 Do Qaidi
8:00 Without Ticket
8:30 Hello Brother

DISCOVERY CHANNEL
10:30 Sherlock Holmes and The Hound of the Baskervilles
11:30 Sherlock Holmes : The True Story
12:30 Planet Food Morocco
1:30 21st Century Medicine
2:30 New Detectives The Unforgotten
3:30 Air Jaws
4:30 Truth or Scare
5:00 Splat! Krause Brothers Travellers Seoul

6:30 Challenge Humboldt's Tales from the Americas
7:30 Wild Discovery As Seen on TV
10:30 Future Perfect
11:30 Space Exploration
12:00 Great Crimes and Trials Caryl Chessman
12:00 Thirsty Traveller US : Sanoma Wines

ANIMAL PLANET
1:00 Koala Crisis
2:00 Emergency Measures
2:30 Little Big Cats
3:30 Vets in Practice
4:00 Mum's the Word
4:30 Wild Rescues
5:00 Emergency Vets
5:00 Miracles Happen
5:30 Breed all about it
5:30 Belgian Sheepdog
6:30 Amazing Animal Videos
6:30 Planet's Funniest Animals
7:30 Life of Birds
8:30 Demands of the Egg
The Protectors

9:00 The Protectors Seal Casualty
9:30 The Protectors
10:00 The Protectors Cat House
10:30 WEGreat Journeys
11:30 WENatural World : The Tigers' Fortress

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
12:30 Cheetahs: Tale Of2 Kitties
1:30 Scientific American Frontiers
2:30 Tomorrow's World
3:00 Gene Hunters
4:30 National Geographic's Taboo Return To The Wild
5:30 Animal Edens
6:00 Dogs With Jobs
6:30 Toyota World Of Wildlife
7:00 Scientific American Frontiers
8:30 Tomorrow's World
9:30 Gene Hunters
10:00 Hot Science
10:30 National Geographic's Taboo

STAR SPORTS

9:30 Nba Basketball Los Angeles Ca Usa
12:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04 Tottenham Hotspur Vs Leicester City (R)
5:30 Nba Basketball Kings Vs Los Angeles Lakers (R)
8:00 Sportsline (L)
8:30 Uefa Cup Uefa Cup

DISCOVERY CHANNEL:
12:00 Midnight. Thirsty Traveller.

ANIMAL PLANET:
The protectors: Koala