

RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

**March 6-26**  
To celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Benagl Gallery of Fine Arts, an exhibition will be held, featuring the recent work of the eminent artist Qayyum Chowdhury. The display will be inaugurated on March 6 at 7:00 pm at the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts (House-275/F, Road 27 old, Dhanmondi). The show will be open for all till the March 26 from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

**February 20-March 02**  
A sculpture exhibition by Ferdousy Priabhashini titled Aronmer Dirinatri is going on at the Shilpangan gallery. The display will remain open for all from 10 am to 9 pm.

**February 29-March 05**  
The 2nd solo exhibition of artist Kownine Shourav is going on at the central auditorium of Jahangirnagar University. The exhibition is titled *A Life in a Colour Zone*. The display is open from 10 am to 8 pm.

**February 23-March 02**  
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.

**February 27-March 06**  
Divine Art Gallery at the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel is holding a solo painting exhibition of artist Samiran Chowdhury. 8th solo of the artist, the exhibition is open from 9 am to 8 pm.

**Ikebana**  
*March 05*  
The Embassy of Japan and Dosokai Ikebana School is organising a competition and demonstration by Sogetsu School of Ikebana. The program starts at 2:30 pm at the BRAC centre Mohakhali.

Book launch



**Celebrated folklore researcher and anthropologist Dr. Ashraf Siddique (R) is seen in the launching ceremony of Ajker Prekshapat and Meershoraier Ithash by writer columnist MM Emran Chowdhury (L) at the Bangla Academy premises of Ekushey Book Fair recently.**

Oscar

The night of 'The Return of the King'

THE 76th Oscar will always be remembered for Director Peter Jackson's triumphant trilogy conclusion, *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*, based on Tolkien's epic, as it snatched eleven Oscars out of eleven nominations in different categories including the best picture award.

Aside from best picture, *Return of the King* also won Best Director (Peter Jackson), adapted screenplay (Jackson, Fran Walsh and Philippa Boyens), song (*'Into the West'*), score (Howard Shore), visual effects, art direction, costume design, makeup, sound mixing and film editing awards.

This year's Oscar red carpet highlighted more glamour, after two years of relatively toned-down awards, as 2003's ceremony came weeks after the invasion of Iraq, and 2002's reflected the aftermath of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Billy Crystal, playing host to the Oscars for the eighth time, was in a fine form. Crystal kept the laughs coming from the beginning. He made fun

of piracy, trailers and several nominees.

Among the popular awards Sean Penn won best actor for his performance in *'Mystic River.'* Charlize Theron, who gave a career-making performance as serial killer Aileen Wuornos in *'Monster.'* won the best actress award. "This has been such an incredible year," she said in a choked voice. For Renee Zellweger, the third nomination was a charm. The star won the best supporting actress award for her performance in *'Cold Mountain.'* She had been nominated for best actress the previous two years, for *'Bridget Jones's Diary'* and *'Chicago.'*

"I am overwhelmed," she said emotionally. Tim Robbins won the first Oscar of the night, an award for best supporting actor for his performance in *'Mystic River.'*

Sofia Coppola, the daughter of multiple Oscar-winner Francis Ford Coppola, won the Oscar for original screenplay. *'The Barbarian Invasions'* won the best foreign-language film award. Among other Oscar winners, *'Finding Nemo'*



Peter Jackson poses with Oscars for Best Director and Best Picture at the 76th Academy Awards.

won best animated feature and *'Master and Commander'* won for sound editing.

*'The Fog of War,'* Errol Morris' film about former Defence Secretary Robert McNamara and lessons learned from the Vietnam War, won best documentary feature.

The three tributes were handled with class where Blake Edwards was given an honorary Oscar, Julia Roberts introduced a tribute to Katharine Hepburn, while Tom Hanks introduced the tribute for the late Bob Hope, who was host of the Oscars numerous times.

Security was tight as the stars arrived for the show. Helicopters hovered over the Kodak Theatre, and streets around the Hollywood and Highland district were blocked off. This year's show included a five-second delay to prevent an outbreak of Janet Jackson-type controversy.

Compiled by: Afsar Ahmed



(L-R) Best Actress Charlize Theron, Best Actor Sean Penn, Best Supporting Actress Renee Zellweger, Best Supporting Actor Tim Robbins at the 76th Academy Awards.

Striking edition

'Nehru's Hero: Dilip Kumar in the Life of India' launched

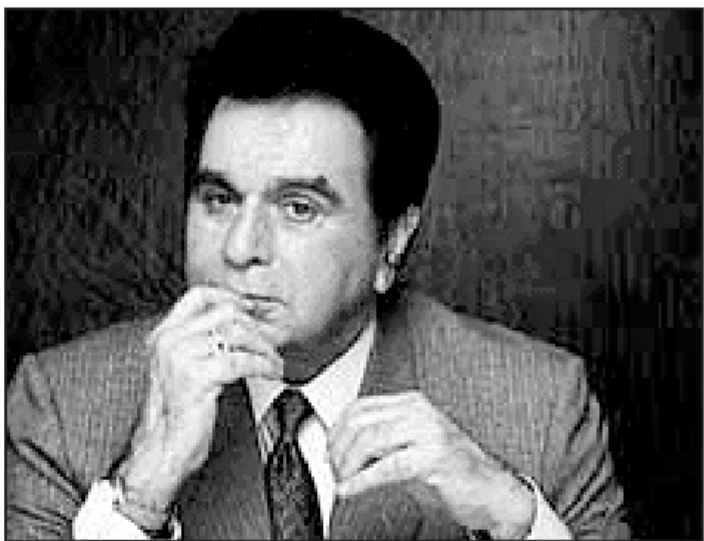
PALAB BHATTACHARYA, *New Delhi*

THE market release of the 138-page biography of the thespian Dilip Kumar by Lord Mehngad Desai, a London School of Economics academic, in the Indian capital earlier this week has generated immense enthusiasm.

At the age of 81, Kumar prefers to be away from media glare but at times it goes beyond his control. And that is what exactly happened when Desai's *'Nehru's Hero: Dilip Kumar in the Life of India'* was released by the author in Mumbai in the presence of the actor.

Perhaps many of the pieces of information dished out by Desai's book are known to old-timers but they come as a whiff of fresh breeze to the present generation and the coming ones.

The book captures the interest of the readers when it says that Dilip Kumar was imprisoned in the battle against colonial British rule



The legendary Dilip Kumar

and refused to have breakfast in jail because Mahatma Gandhi was fasting at the same time in 1942.

One is also arrested by the fact that Dilip Kumar, one of the 12 children of a fruit merchant, is the first Muslim male star of Indian

films who changed his name from Yusuf Khan fearing that his father would not like the family name to be dragged into films at a time when even watching Hindi films was looked down upon.

Other startling revelations are that Dilip Kumar had applied for a license to run a tea stall in a Mumbai market while trying to establish himself in the film world and that it was Devika Rani who had offered him the three names 'Dilip Kumar, Jahangir and Vasudev' and the actor opted for Dilip Kumar because it sounded somewhat like Ashok Kumar, immensely popular at that time. Dilip Kumar never played the role of a Muslim character in films before the super-hit *'Mughal-e-Azam'*, says the book.

But the most interesting conclusion of Lord Desai is how Dilip Kumar brought into his acting and life ideals of India's first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru, particularly the concept of secularism.

Exhibition

IFA students hold exhibition of oriental art

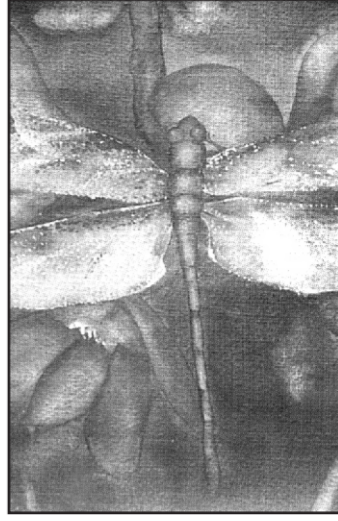
HARUN UR RASHID

A teacher and five of his students held an exhibition of oriental art recently at the Zainul Gallery-2 of the Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. A total of 32 art works were displayed at this weeklong exhibition. Nasrin Rahman, Pongkus Kumar Roy, Malay Bala, Kantideb Adhikary and Mehedi Hasan were encouragingly accompanied by their teacher Showkatuzzaman at this display.

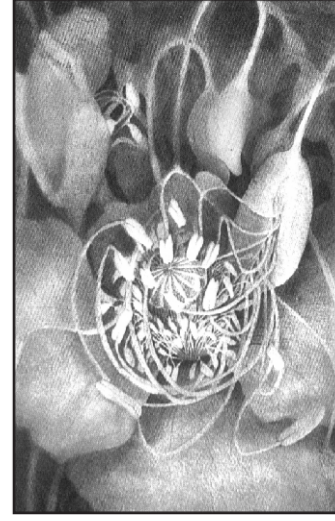
The exhibition marked some promising brilliance in the works of the students, especially in those of Malay Bala, Pongkus K Roy and Nasrin Rahman. Assistant Professor of Oriental Art Department Showkatuzzaman also showed his skills in this genre of painting. Showkat's works are done in tempera on board. He generally prefers single work to series. His Crab displays a large arthropod, drawn in vague outlines, caught in a net. The grim colours of grayish black, soil brown and deep brown create the equally grim environment the creature has fallen into. The artist cannot stick to a subject for long. The exhibits also conform to this including subject-dependent paintings like *Grasshopper, Flower, Transience* etc.

Nasrin loves to draw images that are intricately designed within its frame. Her favourite subjects are flowers, butterflies and dragonflies. Sometimes her details are so vivid that it clearly speaks of Nasrin's closer observation of the anatomy of her subject. The colourful patterns on the wings of butterflies, the delicate inside of flowers, the fine transparency of the wings of dragonflies find very minute expressions in Nasrin's paintings. And of course, it is Nasrin's power of observation that promises of a good artist in her.

Pongkus K Roy's compositions



Oriental art displayed by promising artists of IFA



may first appear a little haphazardly done. A careful observation would, however, reveal that the natural elements, often in bright colours, create an artistic harmony about them. In places, the twists and turns, the lines and curves of Pongkus show influences of artist Quamrul Hossain.

Malay Bala seems to be the most promising among the five students. Two of Malay's series works - *Belonging to Another* and *Shakuntala* - earned much appreciation at the exhibition. *Belonging to Another* depicts the strange chemistry of attraction between the organs of a flower. The abundance of red-orange colour perfectly matches the theme of the painting - desire. In *Shakuntala* series, Malay recreates the myth of Shakuntala and Dushmanta on a vast canvas. The human figures are drawn on the roots and trunks of trees that depict the background jungle, where the mythical events

took place. The yellowish shade and the patches of green convey the prehistoric bond of humans with nature.

Kantideb Adhikary is presently dwelling on female figures presenting some good pieces like *After Bath*. Besides, he also looks upon life - both animate and inanimate - around him for his subjects. A student of third year, Mehedi Hasan is still immature. His series on natural elements also shows little traits of the oriental art.

The brochure brought out on the occasion of the exhibition should have been attended with more care. A lot of spelling mistakes simply spoiled the whole effort. Such mistakes are unexpected from students of a highest level institution.

Theatre

Mrichchhokatik

A Nagorik Natyangan Ensemble production

ERSHAD KAMOL

RECENTLY Nagorik Natyangan Ensemble staged *Mrichchhokatik* at the Mohila Shomity auditorium.

Many translations of the Sanskrit play *Mrichchhokatik* by Sudrak, the ancient Indian playwright, are available but the group has selected Mohit Chatyapadhyay's version. Structurally the play belongs to the Prokaron branch of the Sanskrit drama form which consists of 5 to 10 acts. The hero as well as the heroine belong to the elite class of the society, the hero being a merchant and the heroine a harlot. Both in case of title and content the playwright has deviated from the usual trend.

Usually in the Sanskrit plays the title is based on the name of the hero or the heroine, so instead of going with the tradition and naming it *'Charudatta-Basantosena'*, the dramatist has chosen the title *Mrichchhokatik* (a toy clay car), as it plays a vital role in the play. Moreover the absence of another very common phenomenon, the influence of gods and goddesses on human being, adds to the modern flavour.

Director Jamaluddin Hossain has edited the play taking some sequences from Sukumari Bhattacharya. He says, "Though Mohit Chattapadhyay's translation is easy, it lacks action that is why I have taken a few sequences from the other translation to enrich the aesthetic value without increasing the number of acts."

Kirity Biswas as a set designer has also tried not to follow the Sanskrit trend and rather than using empty



A still from the play Mrichchhokatik

space he has used a suggestive set. However, he has followed the architecture of the ancient times.

Thandu Rayhan as a light designer has tried to give the play a modern flavour.

As regards casting, director Jamaluddin Hossain has given priority to the young artistes.

Bengal Foundation has given the logistic support of the production and the group is hopeful that it will be accepted cordially by the audience.

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 pm, 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, 9:00 am  
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.  
**P 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 Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.  
**BBC World**  
Every hour on the hour

**BTV**  
08:25 Nazrul songs  
09:15 *Anya Bhuban: Ocean Girl*  
12:15 Health program: *Ma o Shishu*  
01:05 Special program on Ashura  
01:30 Live telecast of Semi Final Cricket match from the Bangabandhu Stadium  
05:15 Special program on Ashura  
09:30 *Hamd o Nath*  
10:30 Special program on Ashura  
**ATN BANGLA**  
10:15 Talk Show : Annotristee  
12:40 Bengali feature film : Duth  
01:20 Musical Prog: Uro Cola Saat Rang  
04:20 Hello Music  
05:15 Samosamoyek Computer Based prog: Amar Computer  
05:50 Islamic prog. "Islamee Sawal o Jawab"  
06:25 Talk show : Annyo Dristi  
8:00 Drama Serial : Neey Kunu Thikana  
8:30 Drama Serial : Protinayouk  
9:00 Drama Serial : Suk Samachar  
09:30 Magazine Prog: Ek Day Teen  
10:35 Musical prog: Surer Madure

12:20 Bengali feature film : Potakabahi  
**CHANNEL-i**  
09:45 *Tritiyo Matra*  
10:45 *Grameen Phone Cricket Online (Live)*  
12:00 *Chithi Pelam*  
01:00 *Ebang Cinemar Gaan*  
02:00 Feature Film: *Halchal Sa Re Ma Ga Ma i-Sports*  
05:45 Music Plus  
06:10 *Projukti Nijukity*  
07:50 Close up Juke Box  
08:25 Drama Serial: *Sharey Teen Tala*  
09:35 Drama Serial: *Shada Megher Bristhi*  
10:00 Drama Serial:  
**ntv**  
08:00 *Ajker Sakal Gombhira*  
08:30 *09:00 Ei Shomoy*  
10:02 Hello Music  
10:30 *Ekhane amaar desh*  
11:00 Drama: *Chilekotha Priyo mukh*  
12:02 *Ekok natok*  
01:30 *Pramanya chitra*  
02:30 *Cine gaan*  
03:00 Drama Serial: *Teen Purush*  
03:30 *Labh khoti jhuki*  
04:00 Drama songs  
04:30 *Abosheshe propath*  
05:25 *Ke korbe bajimath*  
06:00 *Apnar Jigyasha*  
06:35 *Shubho Shondhya*  
06:55 CNN Documentary  
08:00 Drama Serial: *Ebong Ami*  
08:35 *Taray Taray*

**TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS**  
**STAR MOVIES: 9:00 pm**  
*Crazy/Beautiful*. Genre: Drama/Romance. Kirsten Dunst, Jay Hernandez, Bruce Davison, Herman Osoiro. Two Los Angeles high school students from opposite ends of the social spectrum fall for each other in this provocative and sexy teen drama. Nicole Oakley, the troubled daughter of a wealthy congressman, attends public school in the upscale community of Pacific Palisades. As an act of defiance, she makes a play for the attentions of Carlos Nuñez, a determined, straight-A student...  
**STAR MOVIES: 7:00 The Color of Money**. Genre: Drama. Paul Newman, Tom Cruise, Mary Elizabeth. Pool hustler Fast Eddie Felson finds the young, promising pool player Vincent in a local bar and he sees in him a younger version of himself. To try and make it as in the old days, Eddie offers to teach Vincent how to be a hustler. After some hesitations Vincent accepts and Eddie takes him and Vincent's girlfriend Carmen on a tour through the country to work the pool halls. However, Vincent's tendency to show off his talent and by doing so warning off the players and losing money.  
09:10 *Shangshoy*  
09:50 Drama Serial: *Abasheshe Propat*  
11:20 *Dindarpan*  
**TARA BANGLA**  
8:00 Traditional Music  
9:00 Sri Ramkrishna Rpt.  
10:00 Gaan Sudhu  
11:30 Antakshari  
12:00 Tara Sundari  
12:30 Serial Jug  
1:00 Swapner Rang Nil  
2:00 Taka Na Sona

**PICK OF THE DAY**  
**The Exorcist**  
HBO: 9:30 pm.  
Genre: Horror / Drama  
Ellen Burstyn, Max von Sydow, Jason Miller  
The Exorcist marries three different scenarios into one extraordinary plot. A visiting actress in Washington, D.C., notices dramatic and dangerous changes in the behavior and physical make-up of her 12-year-old daughter. Meanwhile, a young priest at nearby Georgetown University begins to doubt his faith while dealing with his mother's terminal sickness. And, book-ending the story, a frail, elderly priest recognizes the necessity for a show-down with an old demonic enemy.  
12:00 Hoi Hullod  
8:15 *The Thirteenth Floor*  
10:15 *For The Love of Benji*  
12:00 Hannibal  
2:30 Someone to watch over me  
4:45 *The Screaming Room*  
Uthlo  
9:00 Serial Swapner Rang Nil  
9:30 Tara News-Aaj Rate Election Spl. Live Doshlai  
2:00 Hannibal  
**STAR MOVIES**  
9:45 Future Sport  
11:15 *Lost In Yonkers*  
1:15  
3:00 *Lawnmower Man*  
4:55 *Brotherhood Of The Wolf*  
7:00 *The Color Of Money*  
9:00 *Crazy/Beautiful*  
10:45 *Hellbound (Hellraiser II)*  
12:30 *Gorillas In T Mist*

**MGM**  
9:00 *I Shot A Man In Vegas*  
11:30 Eden  
2:30 *The Most Dangerous Woman Alive*  
4:30 Peter Gun  
7:00 Belphagor  
9:30 Zee MGM Select  
11:30 *Flowets in The Attic*  
**AXN**  
10:30 *Ripley's Believe It Or Not!*  
11:30 *The Agency 20*  
12:30 *Global Adventure*  
01:30 Boomtown  
02:30 Fear Factor  
03:30 *Ripley's Believe It Or Not!*  
04:30 *The Agency*  
05:30 Boomtown  
06:30 Rescue  
07:00 *Death Becomes Her 1*  
09:30 *Ripley's Believe It Or Not!*  
10:30 *Maximum Exposure*  
11:30 Alias  
12:30 *Wild On*  
01:30 *Maximum Exposure*  
**ZEE CINEMA**  
7:00 *Agar (Amol Palekar, Zarina Wahab)*  
10:30 *Mammo (Farida Jalaal, Amir Phalke, Sikri)*  
1:30 *Jaanam (Rahul Roy, Pooja Bhatt)*  
5:30 *Agni Sakshi (Jackie Shroff, Manisha Koirala, Nana Patekar)*  
9:30 *Mother (Rekha, Jeetendra, Randhir Kapoor, Rakesh Roshan)*  
**STAR PLUS**  
9:30 Fox Kids  
11:00 Meri Saheli

11:30 Hum Saath Aath Hain  
12:00 Shanti (601 - 800)  
1:00 Kasautii Zindagii Kay  
1:30 Kunkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
2:00 Bhabhi  
2:30 Shagun  
3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai  
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi  
4:00 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii  
4:30 Kahiin To Hoga Kaahin Kissii Roz  
5:00 Hit Filmlein  
5:30 Taaza Hits  
6:00 Hum Saath Aath Hain  
6:30 Fox Kids  
7:00 Kunkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan  
7:55 Film Toppers  
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 Bahu Thi  
11:30 Kahiin To Hoga Kaahin Kissii Roz  
**STAR WORLD**  
8:00 *Hollywood Squares*  
8:30 *Whose Line Is It Anyway*  
9:00 Cheers  
9:30 Oprah Winfrey Show  
10:30 *That 70s Show*  
11:00 *Grounded For Life*  
11:30 *Third Watch*  
12:30 *Everybody Loves Raymond*  
1:00 Frasier  
1:30 Mac Gyver  
2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show  
3:30 *Bold And Beautiful*  
4:30 *Hollywood Squares*

5:00 *Whose Line Is It Anyway*  
5:30 *Miami Vice*  
6:30 *The Simpsons*  
7:00 *Home Improvement*  
7:30 *Friends*  
8:00 *Just Shoot Me*  
8:30 *American Idol*  
9:00 *The Drew Carey Show*  
9:30 *Wild Card*  
10:30 *Law & Order: S.V.U*  
11:30 *Baywatch*  
**STAR GOLD**  
9:00 Khuddar  
12:30 Desh Premi  
4:30 Hello Brother  
8:00 Gaane Bhi Do Yaaron Ithihas  
8:30  
**STAR SPORTS**  
09:00 South Africa Tour Of New Zealand National Bank Series 6th Odi 2nd Session(L)  
1:00 English Premier Football League 2003/04 London Vs Charlto Athletic (T)  
3:00 Super 12 Rugby 2004 Samsung Super Skills Tournament Final - Powerpull & Deadeye(R)  
8:00 Sportsline (L)  
8:30 English Premier League Highlights (T)  
9:30 Uefa Champions League Magazine Shows Uefa Champions League Magazine Show (R)  
10:00 Hitz (R)  
10:30 Sportsline (R)  
11:00 New Zealand Vs South Africa 6th Odi Highlights(S)