RECOMMENDATIONS

Exhibition

March 06-26

To celebrate the 5th anniversary of the Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, an exhibition featuring the recent works of the eminent artist Qayyum Chowdhury is going on. The show will be open for all till March 26 from 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Events at Alliance Francaise

Exhibition

March 04-March 14

2nd solo exhibition of Ronni Ahmmed is open at La Gallerie from 5 to 9 pm.

March 19-30

The inauguration of a painting exhibition of artist Awena Cozannet will take place at 6 pm at the gallery.

Recitation

March 09-10

To celebrate Spring, poets will recite Bangla and French poems accompanied by piano at 6 pm.

Jazz evening

March 11

A Jazz evening will take place at 9:30 pm at the cafeteria, which is free for the members of the institute.

Musical evening

March 25

A musical programme will be held at the cafeteria at 9:30 pm. The members of the institute can enjoy the show free of cost.

Princess Di TV special

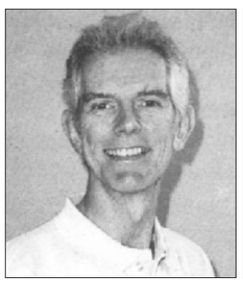
PHOTO AFP

Nearly 17 million U.S. viewers tuned in on Thursday to NBC's highly promoted special featuring never-before-heard audio tapes Diana secretly recorded for a 1992 book that exposed the turmoil of her marriage to Prince Charles, Nielsen Media Research reported on Friday.

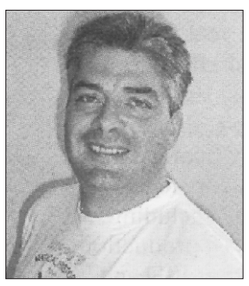
Theatre

Fun and frolic in presenting a play about a play

Expats speak of their experience in presenting the play " Chorus of Disapproval"

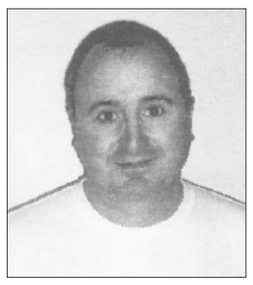


David Banham



Mike Hughes

Sally Elliott



Kip Watkins

Asif Ahmad

Members of the Dhaka Stage cast that recently performed in the play "Chorus of Disapproval" at the International School Dhaka, speak to ***Fayza Haq*** *of*

The Daily Star

Mike Hughes played one of the main roles as the director of the performance, the drama being about a theatre group putting on an opera. The director, Dafydd, is the person who gets the play working within the play, as Mike puts it, he is very Welsh. Dafydd introduces Guy to the cast and Guy has affairs including one with the director's wife. "Dafydd is motivated by the theatre and is a bit fiery. Sometimes he loses his temper and sometimes he shouts at the wrong people but he tries very hard to put the show on," says Mike. Giving an intro to the play, he says, "The main part is about Guy and how he goes through the operatic society, making friends and enemies, and in the end, making lots of enemies; and how the members of the operatic society respond to him. As Dafydd I'm very friendly with Guy, though in the play, he is sleeping with my stage wife, but I don't know about that until the very end. He remains, throughout, full of passion and drive."

Mike has been doing amateur dramatics since his school days. When he came to Dhaka to work he joined Dhaka Theatre and this is his tenth production with the group. The other plays that he has been in include "Twelfth Night", "Don't drink the water", "Four plays", "Power lunch" and "Time of our lives" (directed by the same person). Mike saysl, "This hobby takes a lot of time particularly as it gets close to performance but I enjoy it. We began rehearsals in January, practicing twice a week and rehearsing every day for the last two weeks. I enjoy doing comedies most of all and it's quite fun when the audience is laughing. I've been here for nearly five years now and my experiences have been very good. I work in the Roads and Highways Dept. and like Dhaka as it is full of friendly people."

David Banham, who plays Guy Jones, says, "I play the part of a newcomer to the society of operatic theatre. He comes in after the death of his wife, just to see what he can do. He auditions, gets a small part and eventually, through a succession of roles, he takes on the leading role."

David arrived in Dhaka last August and has performed in two other plays with Dhaka Theatre, "Under the Milkwood" and "The four plays". He says, "I found them all satisfying in different ways. In the others I played small roles whereas in this I play a major role, and this is more demanding, though this is a play I've known for a long time."

David has been involved backstage in lighting and sound since his school days. During his overseas postings he gradually moved to acting as well. He has spent a lot of time in the Middle East, in Saudi Arabia and Bahrain.

Kip Watkins played Jarvis Huntley Pike, a self-obsessed businessman from the northern part of England, who is a bit of an oaf. Kip says, "I am a part of the acting troupe of the Palos operatic society and I'm always trying to give advice to the director as how to improve the play, much to the director's annoyance. Similarly I'm always giving unwanted advice to everybody. I got involved with Dhaka Stage since I've come to Bangladesh and this is my third play. I did 'Twelfth Night' and 'Under Milkwood'. I took part in the plays to do something different. It is a big commitment, more than people think, and my children wondered where I went every night as I went for rehearsals, but at the end of the day it's worth it. I work with Biman at the airport."

Sally Elliott, who designed the costumes, and also acted in the play, says, "I've been involved in amateur dramatics for 30 years, in UK, Germany, Kuwait and now in Dhaka. I've played a variety of roles ranging from Lady Metcalfe in 'Beyond reasonable doubt' to Mrs. Swabb, the cleaning woman, in 'Habeas Corpus'. Here I play Fay, the vixen of the piece. She's someone's wife but makes a habit of going out with other men. I work here at ISD as a coordinater."

Asif Ahmed says, "I play Crispin Usher, a rough-tough person, who was hired because of his voice but can't act, has attitude problems and is a womaniser. I go out with the wife of the stage manager, while I have a girl friend. It's a small but fun role. Earlier, I had done a similar role of a waiter in a play by the same playwright and he was equally obnoxious."

Penny Legg, who acts as Rebecca, who is married to Jarvis, the local councilor in the play, says, "I play the part of a 'bitch' ; she begins the rumour that tries to keep the piece of land that her husband owns. In the end everything falls flat as the company ultimately closes. The role of Rebecca is great fun."

Maya Khan, who is a soprano, comes from Bosnia and adds to the singing team of six in the play. She sang in her school choir and concerts. In practicing for the play she had to take time away from her children and husband. "But it's been a fun experience in the two years here in Bangladesh," Maya says.

Listening to the actors gives an insight into both the play as well as the lives of the performers.

Channel click

New drama serial begins on ATN today

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Viewers of drama series get yet another choice of a 300-episode 'mega-serial' which starts today on ATN Bangla. Featuring lots of popular actors, the drama series titled *Mohona* will be aired every Sunday and Thursday at 9:30 pm.

Written and directed by Ananta Hira, *Mohona*'s cast includes Humayun Faridi, Afsana Mimi, Shahiduzzaman Selim, Tarin, Shams Sumon, Mojibur Rahman Dilu, Chhanda, Nuna Afroz, Mir Sabbir, Pallab and others. Besides, the audience will in time see two famous actors of Bangla films--Razzaque and Alamgir, and the famous actress from West Bengal Shatabdi Ray also.

Produced by Telereal Ltd., 60 episodes of *Mohona* have already been shot and edited.

Humayun Faridi and Afsana Mimi appear in *Mohana*

Music

Splendours of folk music

Biswajit Ray presents songs of Radharaman Dutta and Shah Abdul Karim

HARUN UR RASHID

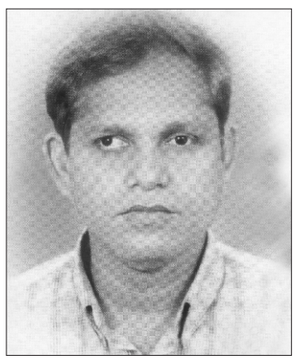
A two-hour long presentation of folk music attended by an audience of about 200 people is quite a rare sight especially in the capital. Urban music lovers are more inclined towards modern songs than those with traditional rural connections. But the evening of March 5 witnessed a rare event of folk songs by Biswajit Ray.

The not-so-widely-known artiste rendered 21 songs, mostly of spiritual poets Radharaman Dutta and Shah Abdul Karim, at the Liberation War Museum premises. Arranged by Nibedon, a music group, the programme titled *Ami Banglar Gaan Gai* was attended by many eminent cultural personalities including poet Shamsur Rahman, music intellectual Dr. Karunamoy Goswami, lyricist Mohammad Rafiquzzaman, Rabindra Sangeet performer Anup Bhattacharya, and folk singer Indra Mohon Rajbangshi.

Biswajit Ray has had a 3-year course on Nazrul Sangeet from Chhayanaut. But the pristine rural tunes had already attracted him in his childhood. Biswajit's mother, who was a devoted disciple of the spiritual musician Radharaman Dutta, aroused his interest in Radharaman's song, teaching him all the songs she knew. And this eventually led Biswajit's determination to research on the folk musician.

Recently, Biswajit went to Sylhet, the seat of Radharaman's musical heritage. And he returned with a rich treasure of *Baul* songs by Radharaman, Shah Abdul Karim, Durbin Shah and others. 'Noted music personality Ram Kanai Das and many others assisted me,' says Biswajit. He especially expresses his gratitude to theatre activist Nasiruddin Yousuff, who arranged most of the finance for this enterprise.

Biswajit Ray has numerous other feats to his credit in the field of music. An 'A-grade' artiste of the Betar and BTV, he has also written



Biswajit Ray

articles on music for the *Daily Shangbad*, *Janakantha*, the *Shaptahik 2000*, and the fortnightly *Anandadhara*.

Biswajit has directed music in a number of theatre plays including *Krishna Kanter Will* of Theatre Baily Road, *Joy Joyonti* of Aranyak, and *Chand Boniker Pala* of *Nagorik Natyangan Ensemble*. In recent days Biswajit has made some TV programmes on music. Among these programmes, *Nodi Nirobodhi* on the history of thousand-year old Bangla music, special programmes on Ekushey, the Independence Day and the Durga festival, a 50-episode show on Bangla songs in 200 years have earned him an important place in the country's music scene.

Biswajit has also made a documentary on Bangla theatre songs during 1835-1935 under the research commission of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy. He is one of the chief organisers of the *Poush Mela* (Poush Fair) too.

At the programme of March 5 Biswajit sang more than 20 songs almost without a break and captivated the audience throughout the whole soiree. Among Radharaman's songs *O re o roshik naiya, Amar antorey tusheri anol, Amar mon korey aakul, O ki roop dekhsoni* and *Bhramar koiyo giya* earned him huge praise. The five tracks of Shah Abdul Karim--*Haat bandhibo pao bandhibo/Mon bandhibo kemoney, Agey ki shundor din kataitam, Nao banailo kon mestori, Kemoney bhulibo ami* and *Gari choley na*--were also applauded. Especially *Gari choley na*, which has already been popular among the young generation as popular band Dalchhut remade it in a modern version, was accompanied by rhythmic clapping of the whole audience.

Biswajit's endeavour no doubt stands out as an exemplary one in restoring and popularising the folk music of the country especially among the young generation.

Alternatives

Deepti Naval proves her acumen in photography

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, *New Delhi*

If one thinks that eminent Indian actress Deepti Naval excels only in front of the camera, then it is time to give a second thought.

Naval, who has earned critical acclaim by her acting in art films such as Prakash Jha-directed national award winning *Damul* and Buddhadeb Dasgupta's first Hindi movie *Andhi Gali* and more recently in a cross-over project *Freaky Chakra,* has proved her acumen as a photographer also.

That is the impression one gets after watching the 33 photographs, she has clicked during her trek in the mighty Himalayas, which are on show in solo exhibition.

The photographs in the exhibition are the result of the actress' love for adventure, something she first tasted on a trip to the famous trekking spots in Himachal Pradesh way back in 1995.

The photos, both in colour and black and white, bring out with

vivacity the rugged beauty of Zanskar Valley surrounded by snow-covered barren mountains, which constitute the desolate cold desert of Ladakh.

Naval had undertaken the journey to Zanskar Valley in Ladakh region of Jammu and Kashmir in January this year when the temperature there hovers below minus 15 degrees celsius and Zanskar river is frozen allowing people to walk over it, albeit with risk.

Helped by two porters, she trekked for six days, living on only dry food. On a few occasions, she also cooked the food for herself as the photographs show.

Naval, a half-Punjabi and half-Dogri (a language spoken in parts of Jammu region), terms her adventure as a "stimulating" experience and is looking forward to exploring other parts of Ladakh.

The actress is not content with the photographs only. She also wants to pen down the experience of her trekking across the Himalayas.

Naval is in Mumbai only when she has an acting assignment in movies. But will the call of the Himalayas prevail over acting? "No," is the firm answer from the actress.

Her penchant for being behind the camera is not confined to still photos. She says, she is looking forward to either directing or producing a film.

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
NewsHeadlines(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	*Suprobhat Bangladesh*
08:25	Selected Tagore Songs
09:15	*Anya Bhuban*: Sensitive Samurai
12:15	*Sangbad Potrer Pata Theke*
01:05	*Quiz Quiz*
01:30	Cartoon: Totally Tooned In
02:30	Amader Ranna
04:10	Banshori
06:10	Geetanjali
06:35	Programme from Chittagong Centre
07:00	Share Market, Weather Forecast
07:05	*Mati O Manush*
07:30	Film Show: Lost World
08:30	Drama Serial: *Jochhonar Phul*
09:00	Drama: Neerobey Nibbhritey
10:30	Abhibashi
11:00	Sur O Bani

ATN BANGLA

10:15	*Annodristee*
12:20	*Ajker Sangbadpotro*
12:40	Bengali Feature Film: *Greena*
4:20	*Prio Chhabi*
5:50	*Jibon Jigasha*
6:20	*Annodristee*
8:00	Street Show *Danish Pothey Pothey*
8:30	Musical Programme
9:25	Drama Serial: *Mohana*
10:30	Documentary Film:*Adibashi Janopodey*
12:20	Bengali feature film: *Bhorasha*

ntv

08:00	*Ajker Sakal*
08:30	*Chena Shur*
09:00	Career Show
09:30	*Ei Shomoy*
10:02	Hello Music
10:30	*Arshinagar*
11:00	Drama Serial: *Andhakarer Phul*
11:30	Magazine Sequence
01:00	*Patrikar Khabor*
02:30	Ke korbey Bajimaath
03:00	Drama Serial: *Ronger manush*
05:10	Cartoon: Fardy
05:40	*Apnar Jigyasha*
06:20	*Shubho Shondhya*
08:00	Drama Serial: *Teen Purush*
08:50	Right Click
09:47	Medhabi
11:20	*Dindarpan*
12:30	*Ek Nazorey Shirsha Khabor*

TARA BANGLA

10:30	Syllebusey Nei
11:00	Feluda 30
11:30	Asche Tara Jomche Para
12:00	Hanrir Khabar
12:30	Post Mortem
4:00	State Govt. Lottery
4:30	Bangladesh E Samay Rpt.
5:00	Chokher Aloy Dekhechilem
6:00	Safar
6:30	Business Bangla This Week
7:00	Rajai Rajai
8:00	Telefilm
9:30	Howzzat
10:30	Jalsaghar
12:00	Rajai Rajai Rpt.

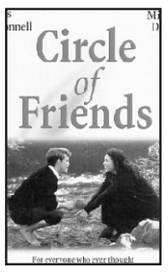
HBO

10:30	The Apostle
1:15	Sniper 2
3:00	Big Fat Liar
4:45	Tales From the Crypt 10: Dead Wait
5:30	Timecop
7:30	Circle of Friends
9:30	Bulletproof
11:15	Renne's Landing
1:30	Twogether

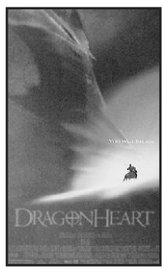
STAR MOVIES

9:45	The Wisdom Of Crocodiles
11:30	Total Recall
1:30	The Marrying Man
3:30	Joyride
5:15	Hush
7:00	Signs
8:45	Dragonheart
10:30	Guest House Paradiso
12:00	Slugs

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTS



HBO: 7:30 pm ***Circle of Friends.*** Drama/Romance; **Chris O'Donnell, Minnie Driver, Geraldine O'Rawe, Saffron Burrows.** Three Irish college-friends in Trinity College, Dublin, come of age when they discover romances that will change their lives forever. The tale centres on Benny, a bland and somewhat chunky innocent girl who falls hopelessly in love with the star of the rugby team. Everyone is surprised and delighted when he returns her affections.



STAR MOVIES: 8:45 pm. ***Dragonheart.*** Action/Fantasy/Adventure; **Dennis Quaid, David Thewlis, Dina Meyer.** The young, sickly King Einon was wounded in a battle. In order for him to survive, he is healed by Draco, a dragon. Some years later, Bowen, a dragon slayer, encounters Draco. The two team up to form a traveling duo that perform an act, but the act is only known by themselves. Bowen supposedly "slays" Draco and then collects a reward from the town or village that he protects by killing the dragon who had been "terrorizing" them.

PICK OF THE DAY

Signs

On Star Movies at 7:00 pm
Genre: Drama/Horror/Sci-Fi/Thriller
Mel Gibson, Joaquin Phoenix, Rory Culkin
In Bucks County, Pennsylvania, a five-hundred-foot crop circle is found on the farm of Graham Hess, the town's reverend. The circles cause a media frenzy and test Hess's faith as he journeys to find out the truth behind the crop circles. Graham Hess and his family are told extra-terrestrials are responsible for the sign in their field.

MGM

9:00	An Ideal Husband
11:30	Demon Warp
2:00	Flowets In the Attic
4:30	Philadelphia
7:00	Tolibooth
9:30	Silence of the Lambs (Anthony Hopkins, Jodie Foster)
11:30	ZMS1

STAR WORLD

2:30	Adventure Inc
3:30	Wild Card
4:30	Charmed
6:30	Baywatch Hawaii
7:30	The Simpsons
8:00	Malcolm In The Middle
8:30	The Kumars At No. 42
9:00	Rendezvous With Simi
9:30	Style
10:00	Top Drive Getaway
10:30	Cover Story
11:00	Focus Asia
11:30	The X Files

ZEE CINEMA

10:30	Chaalbaaz (Sunny Deol, Rajnikanth Sridevi)
1:30	Pran Jaye Par Shaan Na Jaye (Aman Verma Diya Mirza,Raveena Tandon)
5:30	Officer (Sunil Shetty, Raveena Tandon)
9:30	Beti No. 1 (Govinda, Rambha)

ZEE TV

10:00	Jeena Isi Ka Naam Hai
11:00	Sa Re Ga Ma Pa
11:30	Good Health Show
12:00	Khana Khazana
1:00	Magic Make-up Box
1:25	Jhalak
1:30	Tum Bin Jaaoon Kahan
3:30	Sunday Blockbuster: Mujshe Kuch Kehna Hai
6:30	Cartoon Network On Zee
8:00	Piya Ka Ghar
8:30	Chausath Panne/Hum Sub Barati
9:00	Mansha/Lavanya
9:30	Astiva Ek Prem Kahani

STAR GOLD

9:00	Pardesi Babu
12:30	Shirdi Sai Baba
4:00	Operation Gold
4:30	Pyar Ka Mandir
8:00	Maya
8:30	Rajkumar

STAR PLUS

1:00	Musafir Hoon Yaaron
1:30	Mirch Masala
2:25	Mail Milap
2:30	Pighalta Aasman
6:30	Fox Kids-Sunday
7:30	Vikraal Aur Gabraal
8:30	Gharwali Uparwali
9:30	Koie Jane Na
10:30	Khullja Sim Sim
11:30	Mamla Gadbad Hai

DISCOVERY CHANNEL

12:00	Popular Mechanics for Kids Killer Creatures
12:30	Great Books Great Books : Arabian Nights
1:30	Discovery Sunday James Cameron's Expendition : Bismarck
3:30	H W Who sank the Armada?
4:30	H W Royal Treasure
5:30	H WThe Pyramid of Doom : An Ancient Murder Mystery
6:30	H W Dungeons of Alcatraz
7:30	Billion Dollar Disasters : Hurricane Andrew
8:30	Billion Dollar Disasters : Venezuelan Mudslides
9:30	Discovery Wings - A Celebration of Flight Health in the Air
10:30	Night Safari The Octopus's Garden
11:30	Trailblazers Lost Forest of The Andes

ANIMAL PLANET

2:30	Basic Instinct Natural Born Sinners
3:30	Croc Files Close Encounters
4:00	Croc Files Charlie
4:30	Extreme Contact Great Grouper Adventure
5:00	Shark Gordon Port Jackson Sharks
5:30	Life of Birds Problems of Parenthood
6:30	Crocodile Hunter Last Primates of Madagascar
7:30	O'Shea's Big Adventure Back from the Brink
8:00	O'Shea's Big Adventure Swamp DInosaur
8:30	Wild Encounters Song of The Earth
9:30	Wild Encounters Oman Jewel of Arabia
10:30	Animal Planet Showcase The Mysteries of Whales
11:30	Life of Birds Limits of Endurance

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

12:30	Amazing Space
1:30	Adventure Challenge
2:30	Battle Of X Planes
3:30	Mission Wild
4:00	Return To The Wild
4:30	Journey To The ForgottenRiver
5:30	On Assignment
6:00	Tomorrow's World
6:30	Violent Earth
7:30	Adventure Challenge
8:30	Animal Nightmares
9:00	Nat Geo Genius
9:30	Amazing Space
10:30	Spies That Fly
11:30	Scientific American Frontiers

ESPN

11:00	Samsung Cricket Show (R)
12:00	Zimbabwe Vs Bangladesh 1st ODI Highlights (R)
01:20	Bangladesh Tour Of Zimbabwe 2nd ODI (L)
05:00	UEFA Champions League Magazine Shows (T)
09:30	Sportscenter Weekend (T)
09:35	Cricket Gold (T)

STAR SPORTS

11:00	Formula One Melbourne Australia Foster's Australian Grand Prix(L)
11:30	Cricket Gold (T)
2:30	Spanish Football League 2003/04 (S)
8:00	Uefa Champions League Magazine Shows (T)
8:30	Hitz (T)
9:00	Five / Six Nations Championships Wales Vs France (L)
11:00	Wrestling Apple Crush (R)
11:30	Tennis Classic Scottsdale Az Usa Semifinal #2(S)

TEN SPORTS

10:00	ICC Cricket World : Ep 7
11:00	Gillette World Sport
2:00	Mens Olympic Qualifier: Pakistan v India
4:00	FA Cup 04: Portsmouth v Arsenal
6:00	Indian Horse Racing: Invitational Cup
7:00	Dubai Tennis Champ. 04
9:00	Mens Olympic Qualifier: Pakistan v India
12:00	Dubai Tennis Champ. 04: Ep 13