

RECOMMENDATIONS



Photography exhibition

March 13-19

North South University Photography Club (NSUPC) is holding its week-long International Inter University Photography Exhibition at the Shilpakala Academy with more than 300 photographs from 14 different universities of Bangladesh and other countries being displayed at the event. The display will remain open for all from 11 am to 7 pm daily.

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 Quayum 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 Galerie 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.

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.

François Ozon

Retrospective

February 14-16, 2004

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in association with the Alliance Française of Dhaka, is screening five films in retrospective to the young French filmmaker François Ozon at the Alliance Française auditorium at Dhanmondi.

Monday, 15th March 2004:

5:00 PM: Under the Sand (2000) by François Ozon.

7:00 PM: Criminal Lovers (1999) by François Ozon.

Tuesday, 16th March 2004:

5:00 PM: 8 Women (2002) by François Ozon.

7:00 PM: Swimming Pool (2003) by François Ozon.

Venue: The Alliance Française of Dhaka, Road No. 3, Dhanmondi.

Campus chronicles

'Oh dear, Oh dear, I'll be too late!' cried the White Rabbit

Alice lands in Scholastica

ELITA KARIM

ALICE, the famous character from the fairy tale 'Alice in Wonderland', came to Dhaka recently. Bringing this well-loved children's story to the stage was Scholastica School, Uttara The packed STM Hall, where the play was held, brought together an audience comprising students, diplomats, parents and teachers.

The students of the senior section of Scholastica School presented a musical version of the children's literary classic by Lewis Carroll. The play was directed by Azad Abul Kalam, and was assisted by Kazi Tawfikul Islam Emon and other drama teachers of the school. The most significant feature of this overwhelming play was that the production was designed and executed by the teachers along with the students of the institution.

The Chairperson of the Board of Management of the school, Yasmeen Murshed, thanked the production team consisting of the music team, the singing choir, the choreographers and the stage designers who had worked extremely hard to make the production a huge success. The crew mainly comprised students who had to practice

the fabulous creatures of Alice's Wonderland to life. Alice, played by Shazreh Ahmed, displayed an unbelievable amount of strength and creativity, when she somehow popped into a strange land full of extraordinary beings, talking animals, walking-breathing packs of cards and popular characters from the nursery rhymes.

There were some variations in the Scholastica version of *Alice in Wonderland*. According to this version, it was a hot summer afternoon, when ten-year-old Alice and her sisters were sitting by the river with Mr Dodgson begging him to tell them a story. Once Mr Dodgson began his story, Alice suddenly saw a White Rabbit dressed in a tweed jacket with a watch in his hand scurrying by, shouting, 'Oh dear, Oh dear, I'll be too late!' Alice's adventures thus began once she jumped into the hole after the rabbit.

The spectators immensely enjoyed Alice's encounter with Humpty Dumpty, who was actually sitting on the wall, much to Alice's amazement. 'You'll fall off and break yourself. All the King's horses and men wouldn't be able to put you together you know!' cried Alice to the legendary egg.



The Tea-Time scene

regularly as well as cope with the academic pressure.

The special guest was the US Ambassador to Bangladesh, Harry K Thomas, who had begun with a greeting in Bangla, eventually switching on to English. In his words, 'Education is complete only with the development of the souls and personalities of children. Children feel secure and confident enough to face the many realities of the world through teamwork and extra curricular activities.'

The colourful sets, costumes, the innovative props and the enthusiastic acting of the students of the senior section of Scholastica School, brought all

Throughout her journey in Wonderland, Alice met many of its crazy inhabitants, for instance The Mad Hatter, according to whom, time had stopped exactly at Tea-Time, 6:00 pm in the evening. He along with the Hare and ever-sleepy Mouse were drinking tea in oversized cups and pouring out more from even larger tea pots. The little mouse, much to everyone's delight, squeaked out every word. The famous Cheshire Cat was also there to greet Alice with his big grin and clever talk. Right at the end, Alice got a chance to be in a trial, where the Queen of Hearts declared her famous line 'Off with their heads!' to just



The Queen of Hearts playing croquet

about every subject in her land. The trial was about the Knave of Hearts who had stolen the tarts made by the Queen one fine afternoon.

The audience was awe-struck not only by the excellent acting skills shown by the young children, but also the décor of the stage, the clever and colourful props and also the stage set. They were undoubtedly enchanted with the magical happenings on stage, transporting themselves to Wonderland.



Alice as the witness in the trial

The professionalism shown by these amateur youngsters was remarkable.

Many parents remarked that schools would do well to give more attention to the role of extra curricular activities as a necessary element of education. As Ambassador Thomas pointed out to each parent in the audience, 'All over the world, we speak one language and that is take care of your children.'

Film

François Ozon retrospective

Zahir Raihan Film Society screens five films made by French filmmaker François Ozon

SABBIR CHOWDHURY

ZAHIR Raihan Film Society has organised a retrospective of the young French filmmaker François Ozon. Five of Ozon's films are being screened at the auditorium of the Alliance Française Dhaka, from March 14 to 16. This special retrospective has been arranged in association with the Alliance Française of Dhaka. François Ozon has made six feature films and several acclaimed short films.

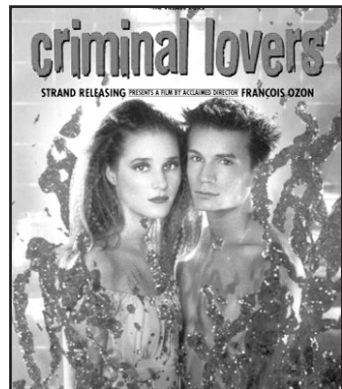
Ozon was born on November 15, 1967 in Paris. He graduated in Cinema Studies from the University of Paris. Then he entered the famous French school of cinema, La FEMIS (L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Métiers de l'Image et du Son) in the Film Direction section in 1990. After passing out from La FEMIS, he has been making films in super-8, video, 16mm and 35mm formats. Many of his short films have been in competition in various international festivals. He is considered one of the most talented French filmmakers of recent years.

According to critic Claire Vassé, François Ozon is 'inspired by a high and demanding idea of film. His work is distinguished above all by his predilection for portrayals of transgression and sexuality that lead the viewer into shadowy zones he would never have thought to visit.' He has become one of the most renowned international filmmakers after the critical and commercial success of two of his recent films *8 Women* and *Swimming Pool*. He is working on his seventh feature film *5x2 (Five Times Two)*, in its post-production stage, which is scheduled to be released in France in September this year. He changes his themes, treatments and styles with each of his new films. That is why it is often difficult to place him in any particular film school or film movement. Despite this, however,

he has become a major voice in the French cinema.

Ozon's famous and critically acclaimed films are: *Sitcom* (1998), *Criminal Lovers* (1999), *Water Drops on Burning Rocks* (1999), *Under the Sand* (2000), *8 Women* (2002) and *Swimming Pool* (2003). The following five films will be screened in the retrospective:

Sitcom (1998) is a film about an upper class family turned up side down by a rat, brought home by the father. The children and the parents are going to discover each other...in the chaos.



Criminal Lovers (1999) revolves around two teenagers, Luc and Alice, in a small French provincial town, who decide to commit a murder and assassinate a classmate. They try to bury the corpse in a forest where they meet a man leading a cloistered life. With references from Hitchcock to Hansel and Gretel, it is a film that blurs the boundaries of reality, pleasure and crime, all with certain Ozon flair.

Under the Sand (2000) is about a married couple - Marie, an English lecturer and her husband Jean. For years, they have happily spent their

vacation together in the Landes region of western France. But this summer, while Marie naps on the beach, her husband vanishes without a trace whilst swimming in the sea. Did he drown? Did he run off? She carries on with her life as if he were still alive.

The action of *8 Women* (2002) takes place in an isolated mansion in the snowy countryside of France in the late 1950s. A family is gathered for the holiday season with Christmas preparations underway. But there will be no celebration - the master of the house has been murdered: Who is the murderer? The film assembles



some of the most famous and beautiful of French actresses of the last few generations: Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle Huppert, Emmanuelle Béart, Fanny Ardant, Virginie Ledoyen, Danielle Darrieux, Ludvine Sagnier and Fimrine Richard.

Swimming Pool (2003) is a story about Sarah Morton (Charlotte Rampling), a rigid and conservative, yet successful English mystery writer.

Sabbir Chowdhury, a film critic and film activist, teaches in the Department of English at Jahangirnagar University, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Channel click

Terrifying tales on ATN Bangla

HARUN UR RASHID

PEOPLE no longer believe in ghosts, especially in this era of scientific and technological hype. And it's long since science has established ghosts as nonentities. Yet the eeriness of ghost stories has always attracted scores of audiences of all ages. And in this regard, horror movies surely play an upperhand for their visual impact. The huge popularity of horror films from the pre-computer times like *Dracula* and *The Exorcist* to the present-time movies with lots of computer generated special effects like *Ghost Ship*, *Frankenstein* and *Gothika* proves the fact.

But no more switching to foreign TV channels! ATN Bangla comes up with a series of ghost stories for its viewers. Can you guess who is the author of these terrifying tales? He is none other than the famous science-fiction writer Muhammad Zafar Iqbal. ATN Bangla starts airing the 26-episode horror drama-series titled *Muhammad Zafar Iqbal Bhoratik Galpo* (Horror Stories of Muhammad Zafar Iqbal) today at 8:30 pm.

The series features Zafar Iqbal's popular horror stories including *Aina* (Mirror), *Jalal Bus Bhromon* (Jalal's Bus Ride), *Bhutu Niranjani* (Timid Niranjani), *Basha* (House), *Badrul Mama* (Uncle Badrul), *Nisha Tantrik* (Nisha the Tantrik), *Nishi-Konnya* (Sommambulist girl), *Pishachini* (Devilwoman), *Bandho Ghor* (Closed Room) and others.

The series begins today with *Aina*, a 3-episode story of a girl's experience of a mirror. A girl named Rupa comes with her father to the house of his school friend Martin. The room Martin arranges for Rupa is furnished in an antique fashion, including a large mirror. At night Rupa suddenly wakes up at a mysterious sound and sees to her horror that the mirror is glittering with light. It doesn't seem to be an inanimate mirror anymore. There seems to be an incorporeal spirit sighing all over the room...



A terrified Dipa Khondokar in Aina

Except *Aina*, all the other stories have been made in single episodes. The chief attraction of the drama series is its special effects, claims Global Media, the producer of the series.

The cast of the first story *Aina* has Shahidul Alam Sachchu, Dipa Khondokar, Shekhar Ahmed and others.

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) at 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 a.m, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-2

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 a.m, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-3

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 a.m, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-4

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.

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News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-5

Breakfast News 07:15 am, 9:00 am

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Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

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News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-6

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

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News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-7

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.

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Telecast of BTv News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

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News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-8

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

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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.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-9

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

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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.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-10

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 a.m, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

News (English) at 3:00 pm, 10:00 pm.

CHANNEL-11

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.