

RECOMMENDATIONS



Painting Exhibition

Title: Father and Son
Artists: Md Hosne Jamal and Md Sabid Osman
Time: May 14-20
Venue: Zainul Art Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Artist: Setara Elin's solo painting exhibition
Time: May 21-31, 5:30 pm
Venue: Alliance Francaise Gallery

Film Show

Organiser: Indian Cultural Centre House 25, Road 96, Gulshan 2
Time: Mondays & Thursdays, at 6:00 pm
May 20 Mr & Mrs Iyer



May 24 Namak Halal
May 27 Dil Chahata Hai
May 31 Rangeela
For Complimentary tickets contact Rajib Bhattacharya (8820243-7, 9888789-91)

Photography Exhibition

Photographers: Laura, Rumi, Mustaque and Naser
Venue: Alliance Francaise
Duration: May 03-31

Artiste Meet

Title: Shonghe Theko Sangeet
Time: May 20-22, 7:00 pm
Venue: Bengal Foundation, 275/F, Road no. 27, Dhanmondi
Artists, from within and outside Dhaka, will have an exclusive session
Special guests:
May 20 AFM Saif ud Dawlah
May 21 Rezwana C Bannya
May 22 Ustad Rabiul Hussain

Cuban Film Festival

Organiser: Zahir Raihan Film Society
Time: May 16-20
Schedule:
May 19
3:30pm: Havana Suite
5:15pm: Life to Whistle
7:15pm: Memories of Underdevelopment
May 20
3:30pm: Nothing More
5:15pm: Strawberry and Chocolate
7:15pm: Guantanamera
Venue: Goethe Institut, Road No. 9.

Channel click

Keeping alive the Nazrul mystique

Shumon's medoldious renditions

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

WHILE channel surfing, early in the morning yesterday, a special programme on selected songs of Nazrul on Channel-i caught my immediate attention. Shumon Chowdhury, a singer who has established himself in the realm of Nazrul songs, was performing. Nashid Kamal, in her usual calm and collected way, was the anchor. The set was simple, yet appropriate. The superb interludes of violin by Shunil Das and the neat rhythmic coordination of tabla was a pleasant change from the cacophony of distorted instruments, which we are accustomed to.

Shumon presented three different styles from Nazrul's marvelous compositions. The first song *Ekon mudhur sharab diley*, is an Islamic song. This was first recorded by Abbasuddin Ahmed. The second song *Amar Shyma Mayer*, is a devotional song based on raga *Kafi Sindhu and Khambaj*. This was first recorded by Gyan Goswami. The third song was a semi-classical *Chand Herichey* on raga *Bagesri*.

Shumon has made a niche for



Shumon Chowdhury, sitting third from left, rendering songs at a programme of Panchaswar

himself as a performer. He has developed a *gayaki* or a style of his own with *gamaak, gitkari*, and the lightening *taans* which flow naturally. His presentations are a testament to his deep passion for Nazrul songs. The *raag prodhan* or semi genres of classical songs are particularly well suited to Shumon's melodious voice.

It is widely known that composers like Tagore, DL Ray and Atul Prasad composed songs to which the common man had little access. It was Kazi Nazrul Islam whose songs infused passion and liveliness and attracted people from all walks of life. His love songs represented traditional classical music with special emphasis on *kheyal* and

thumri. His modern songs won the hearts of listeners for its enchanting lyrics and tune. The recording companies and films in those days readily extended their patronage to the Nazrul genre of music.

It is a matter of great regret that special programmes on TV, portraying our National Poet Nazrul Islam have often been subject to mediocre direction and a poor stage set-up. This has caused audiences to turn away.

On the other hand, some of the music videos telecast on the erstwhile ETV sometime back by leading Nazrul artistes showed marks of innovation. Even though some of the tunes seemed a bit 'modernised', it was a rich combination of music, vocal and location. There might be critics who will probably not like to see Nazrul Sangeet turned into music videos. But this seems a good effort at wooing the audiences.

The TV channels have the onerous task of promoting the works of our National Poet. Established and upcoming artistes need to be brought forward. The songs should be aired with innovativeness and care.

Profile

Glamour girl of the small screen

Meet Farah Alam Ruma

NOVERA DEEPIA

A MIDST the stream of advertisements on the TV, the Cosmos Biscuit ad attracts attention possibly due to two reasons. Firstly, the high production quality and secondly the attractive model, Farah Alam Ruma, for whom the ad marks a professional milestone. The winner of the Lux Photo beauty contest in 1997, she has since emerged as a prominent model and actress on the small screen.

She began her career as a model through the Clear Shampoo commercial by popular ad maker Afzal Hossain. She soon won recognition as an actress in the tele film *Shanko* by Anisul Haque. This was telecast on the founding anniversary of Channel-i. Previously she was a ramp model but later opted out.

According to Ruma her best performance till now was in Tagore's drama *Shubhodrishti*. This was telecast on Tagore's death anniversary. Here she played the role of Kumi, a young girl who is deaf and dumb. Shahed Sharif Khan played the lead role in the play.

Ruma thinks that among the music videos, her best one is *Ekla Pakhi*, being telecast recently on television. To quote her: 'It was really a major breakthrough for my career. People are getting familiar with my face.'



Farah Alam Ruma

She is currently working in three mega serials: *Teen Purush*, *Shawla* and another yet untitled. In *Teen Purush* she plays the role of a middle class girl who craves for a family life. In *Shawla* she plays the role of Mili, a struggling independent girl who cherishes the dream for fulfillment in her life.

Asked about her favorite media, she opts for drama and tele films. 'This is the best way to express one's potential,' she says. She adds very boldly that glamour is the secondary thing while personality is more important. 'I am not saying that glamour is not important. But

the performer should not look for glamour alone. The actor must concentrate on the role she/he plays.'

Ruma adds that her first priority is plays. However, she says, that she would certainly act in good films if she got an offer.

She feels that with the proliferation of the private television channels, there is an increased ambit for actors and models. 'However, the producers and directors must assure quality productions,' she says smilingly.

Cannes festival

Moore film shows US Iraqi abuse

BBC NEWS ONLINE

Oscar-winning director Michael Moore has screened at the Cannes Film Festival 2004 what he claims is the first film footage of US soldiers abusing Iraqi prisoners. It appears in his new documentary, *Fahrenheit 9/11* which also explores alleged connections between the Bush and Bin Laden families. The abuse 'occurred in the field-



The director's movie has been the talk of the festival

-outside the prison walls', Moore told the film festival. Moore's film, which received its world premiere in Cannes, on May 17, shows what appear to be US soldiers putting hoods on Iraqi prisoners. Moore, who won an Oscar last year for *Bowling For Columbine*, said he sent three under-cover film crews to Iraq. 'What this film is going to do is to peel back the layers so the [American] people can see what is really going on', Michael Moore said on one example of alleged abuse.

The world had seen now notorious photographs from

Abu Gharib prison, near Baghdad—but no photos or footage from outside a prison until now, he said. Soldiers in Moore's film were shown outdoors ridiculing a man covered in a blanket on the ground, calling him 'Ali Baba'. 'It was an older man who was actually drunk, and it was early in the morning, and he was lying on the ground on a stretcher with a blanket over him', Moore said.

The footage was shot in Samarra in December 2003, he told BBC. Film studio Disney has refused to distribute the film and Moore is now having trouble finding another distributor to release the film on his preferred 4 July release date.

Film critic Derek Malcolm gave his verdict on the film, saying, 'I think it's over-long and quite boring in parts but it is strong in other sections. It is a more even-handed offering than Moore's previous films. But one is not very shocked by the film.'



Moore has alleged the invasion of Afghanistan was for a pipeline to be built

Accolade

Singing his way to PhD



Bono, lead singer and songwriter for the rock group U2 and a social-justice activist, flashes the v-sign after receiving an honorary Doctor of Laws degree at the 248th Commencement of the University of Pennsylvania, on May 17 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Bono co-founded the organisation Debt AIDS Trade Africa (DATA) in 2002 together with activists from the Jubilee 2000 Drop the Debt campaign.

PHOTO: AFP

Tête-à-tête

'A magician needs to have a scientific mentality' --Jewel Aich

In a recent interview Shilpi Mahalanobish of *The Daily Star* (TDS) spoke to magician Jewel Aich (JA). Here are some excerpts from the interview.

TDS: Why did you choose to be a magician?

JA: When I was just a boy, a gypsy-group came to our village and put up a magic show. That is how I got attracted to this art for the first time. Later I saw another magic show in a circus held in our neighbouring village. I could not sleep that night. I repeated the magical act, added my own magic the next day and showed it to my friends.

Then when I grew up I began to read the fairytales of poet Bonde Ali Miya and imagined myself as a magician.

TDS: You are also wonderful on the flute. How did you master this instrument?

JA: A fisherman, Nitai, used to live beside our house. He played fabulously on a flute. I took my very first lesson from him. Then I learned the instrument from a piper, Parimal Das, who lived in our village.

TDS: You were a schoolteacher once upon a time. Tell us about that.

JA: After 1971, when people began to return to Dhaka from the villages, I went to my native village. During that time, I thought of education as the principal weapon to guide a newly liberated nation.

Later, after several requests from the managing committee, I was compelled to be the school's headmaster.

TDS: Did you live with the thought of magic?

JA: Yes, the thought of magic was always with me. In the 1971 Liberation War, all my instruments were looted. Then, I had to start recollecting, but again I had lost them in a tragic accident in the year 1977. I found myself become lonely again.

TDS: What did you do in the aftermath of this loss?

JA: I had gained enough popularity as a flautist on Dhaka radio. I had also performed two magical acts on the television. Then one day, when I performed the magic of 'floating girl in the air' on the TV programme of popular anchor Abdullah Abu Sayeed on an Eid function, I received a tremendous ovation from the audience. I performed in many of his programmes after that. I was doing stage and TV programmes on a regular basis.

TDS: You have visited many countries so far. Is there



any memorable incident that you can share with us?

JA: I had an abhorrence towards the Germans, which was because of Hitler. I once got a chance to visit Germany at an international tourist fair. This visit completely changed my view of the Germans. I would not have believed that they could show so much respect to others if I had not gone there.

TDS: What qualities does a successful magician have?

JA: A good, creative magician should always have a clear vision. He has to have a scientific mentality. Many modern magicians claim that they possess supernatural powers. They only have one aim and that is to entertain people.

TDS: Your wife helps you in your magical arts. Is your daughter also going to take up magic?

JA: My wife, Bipasha Aich, has always helped me. My daughter, Kheya, is only a child now. She will do exactly what she aspires.

TDS: Do you have any thoughts about the magic scenario?

JA: I visualise future magicians who would not only entertain people but also make their magic an art form.

TDS: Any future plans?

JA: I would like to build a magic school, where people can learn this art.

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 8:55 am, 12:10 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 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 7:15 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 9 a.m., 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

ntv
News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 5:00 pm, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.
News (English) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 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
07:30 Bangladesh Hirdoy Hote
12:15 Shongbad Potrer Pata Theke
12:30 Shashya Tothya
01:05 Magazine Programme Shoptodinga
02:05 Khelethe Khelethe Computer
02:30 Hijol Tomal
03:35 Geeto Bitan
04:30 Dosh O Bigyan
05:05 Maati O Maanush
05:30 Prescription
05:55 Shomokaalin Arthonity
06:10 Abohoman Bangla
06:35 Weather Report
07:05 Bhalo Thakun Shushtho Thakun

07:30 Live telecast of Bangladesh Vs West Indies cricket match
CHANNEL-i
09:50 Triliya Matra
11:30 Chithi Pelam
01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh
02:00 Bangla Feature Film: Rastar Raja (Rozina, Mahmud Koli)
05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:35 Jonopoder Khabor
06:10 Music Plus
06:50 Priyo Tarakar Shera Gaan
07:55 RC Travel On
08:25 Drama Serial: Kichhu Megh Kichhu Roodur
09:35 Drama Serial: Rangdhanu Rang
10:00 Drama Serial: Antarey Antarey

ATN BANGLA
10:15 Annodristee

10:50 Drama Serial: Satorantu
11:25 Katha Mala
12:40 Feature Film: Sneher Badhon
03:45 Uro Cola Saat Rang
04:20 Shapla Shaluk
05:10 Motamot
05:50 Islamee Sawal O Jawab
06:20 Annodristee
08:00 Gandharaj Samsung Cine Aha
08:30 Drama Serial: Khowab
09:00 Drama Serial: Jog Biyoger Khela
09:30 Drama Serial: Mon Harabar Din
10:30 Face to Face Live
12:20 Feature Film: Eye Kore Biye

TARA BANGLA
1:00 Swapner Rang Nil
2:00 Taka Na Sona
3:00 Serial Baro Eka Lage
3:30 Syllebusey Nei
4:00 Music
4:30 Jug
5:00 Probaho
6:00 Nonte Fonte
6:30 Taka Na Sona
7:00 Sree Ramkrishna
7:30 Antakshari
8:00 Serial Jug
8:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo
9:00 Swapner Rang Nil
10:30 Live Doshtai

HBO
10:15 The Wind in the Willows
12:00 Charlie's Angels
2:00 The Replacements
4:15 Almost Famous
6:45 Tales From the Crypt 19: Seance

PICK OF THE DAY

Striking Distance
On HBO at 11:30 pm
Genre: Action / Mystery / Thriller
Bruce Willis, Sarah Jessica Parker, Dennis Farina

RC Travel On
On Channel i at 7:55 pm
Travel Show
Hosted by Shahriar Shakil

Just Shoot Me
On Star World at 7:30 pm
Genre: Comedy
Laura San Giacomo, George Segal, Wendie Malick

7-15 The Astronaut's Wife
9:30 Exit Wounds
11:30 Striking Distance
1:30 All or Nothing
STAR MOVIES
8:30 Killing Me Softly
10:15 Raising Arizona
11:50 Mulholland Drive
2:10 When Good Ghoults Go Bad
3:45 Leaving Las Vegas
5:15 Mindstorm
7:00 Submarines
8:35 The Rock
10:45 Ruthless People
12:15 The House Next Door
MGM
9:00 Pinnocchio
11:30 Ocean Tribe
2:00 Tollbooth
4:30 Decadence
7:00 Young Tiger

9:30 Family Fest: Thumbalina Iron Maze
11:30 ZEE CINEMA
9:30 Dayavaan (Vinod Khanna, Madhuri Dixit)
1:00 Janbaaz (Anil Kapoor, Dimple Kapadia)
5:30 Vijaypath (Ajay Devgan, Tabu)
9:00 Daud (Sanjay Dutt, Urmila)
9:00 Dhai Akshar Prem Ke
12:30 Betaabi
4:30 Naakabandi
8:00 Maya
8:30 Refugee
STAR PLUS
2:00 Bhabhi
2:30 Kesar

3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
4:00 Yatra
4:30 Kahaani To Hoga
5:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz
6:00 Samnewali Khidki
6:30 Fox Kids
7:30 Kunkum- Pyara Sa Bandhan
8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom
8:30 Sonpari
9:00 Kasauti Zindagii Kay Sanjivani - A Medical Boon
9:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
10:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
11:30 Kahaani To Hoga
12:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz
STAR WORLD
2:30 Oprah Winfrey

6:30 Extreme Machines
7:30 Night Underwater
8:30 Jeremy Clarkson's Motorworld: Switzerland
9:00 Building the ultimate: Bulletproof Car
9:30 Seven wonders of the Industrial World
10:30 America's Best Beach Hotels
11:30 Speed: Incredible Motorcycle Jumpers

12:30 Charging Back
1:30 George and the Rhino
2:30 Moose: The moody monarch
3:30 Pet Nation
7:30 Tiger Hunted Majesty
8:30 Keeli & Ivy: Chimps like us
9:30 Becoming Wild: Chimps of the Congo
10:30 Animal Babies: Growing up... Tiger
11:30 Wildlife Specials: Lion
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
12:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
12:30 Elephant Orphans: A Family Of Their Own
1:30 Cheating Death
2:30 Secrets Of The Viking Warriors
3:30 Extreme Detectives
4:30 Cyber War - To Catch A Little Fish
5:30 Wildlife Detectives
6:00 Hayden Turner's Wildlife

6:30 Chall
7:00 Dogs With Jobs
7:30 Toyota World Of Wildlife
8:30 Twenty Years With The Dolphins
9:30 Cheating Death
10:30 Secrets Of The Viking Warriors
11:30 Visions Of Everest
12:30 Beetle Battles: Kwang Bang

STAR SPORTS
12:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04 (R)
2:30 Max Power 2004 (T)
3:30 Harsha Unplugged L Balaji(R)
4:00 Atp Trofeo Conde De Godo 2004 Semifinals(T)
6:00 Motogp World Championship 2004 Highlights(T)
7:30 F1 Powerboat World Championships 2004
8:00 Portimao Portugal (H)
8:30 Sportsline (L)
9:30 Formula One Highlights
10:30 2004 Spanish Grand Prix(R)
11:30 English Premier League Highlights (T)
12:00 Sportsline (R)
12:30 Golden Moments Of The Olympic Games Medal Ceremony(T)
1:30 The Story Of The Uefa European Football Championships Best Games Of Euro #3 (T)
1:30 Kiana's Flex Appeal (T)
ESPN
12:00 English Premier League

Archive Programming
Ten Seasons - A Decade Of Great Matches Highlights(R)
12:30 Bmw Asian Open Golf 2004 Day Four(R)
3:30 English Premier Football League 2003/04 (R)
5:30 Espn School Quiz 2004 (T)
6:00 San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour Hsia Hui Kai Vs Yang Ching Shun Fina (T)
7:30 Goals! Goals Celebration (T)
8:00 Hitz (T)
8:30 Sportscenter India (L)
9:30 Nba Playoffs Conference Semifinals Game 6 (f Necc)(R)
11:30 Sportscenter India (R)
12:00 Espn School Quiz 2004 (R)

TEN SPORTS
10:00 Gamer TV
10:30 European Tour Weekly
11:00 ATP Tennis: Ep 28
11:30 Gillette World Sports
12:00 ICC Cricket World
12:30 European Tour Weekly
01:00 ATP Tennis: Ep 28
01:30 Golf Highlights: British Masters
02:30 MUTV: Red Hot News 04: Ep 73
03:00 MUTV: Premier Classic 03/04 (1): Ep 16
04:30 MUTV: In the Zone : Ep 55
05:30 After Burn
06:30 ATP Tennis: Ep 28
07:30 European Tour Weekly
07:30 West Indies v