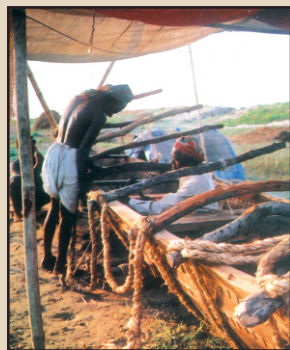


RECOMMENDATIONS



Photography Exhibition

Title: Nature's Rhapsody  
Organiser: ALOK  
Venue: Shilparag, House 15, Road 16, Dhanmondi  
Time: June 03-10, from 11:30am to 7:30pm  
The exhibition marks the World Environment Day on June 05

Exhibition

Title: TOKAI  
Artist: Rafiqun Nabi  
Venue: Gallery Chitrah  
Time: May 28-June 15, 10am-9pm  
The exhibition celebrates the Silver Jubilee of the famous cartoon character.

Print Exhibition

Etching, Engraving & Woodcut Print  
Artist: M Muslim Mia  
Venue: La Gallery, Alliance Française de Dacca, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi  
Time: June 04-18, from 9am-12pm & 5pm to 8pm

Calligraphy Exhibition

Title: 7th Calligraphy Exhibition '04  
Organiser: Dhaka Shahitya Sanskriti Kendra  
Venue: National Museum Gallery  
Time: June 01-15

Film Show

Title: Harmonium in My Memory  
Director: Lee Byung Heon  
Venue: Korean Embassy, 4 Madani Avenue, Baridhara  
Time: June 06, at 5:00 pm

Dance

Organiser: Nrittyanchal  
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy Auditorium  
Dance Director: Dr Mahua Mukhopadhyaya  
June 07  
07:00 pm Gaurio Nritya Shondha  
June 08  
07:00 pm Dance Drama: Chitrangada

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Cinema

Discussion session on alternative film and display of *Chitra Nodir Parey*

ERSHAD KAMOL

D RISHYARUP, a cultural organisation that brings out a little magazine on films, arranged a discussion session recently. The objective was to exchange views on the present status of art and culture in Bangladesh. The venue of the session was the German Cultural Centre.

Manjare Hassin Murad, an alternative filmmaker as well as the organiser of the discussion session, briefed the audience. He also introduced them to the main discussion Tanvir Mokammel. The topic of Mokammel's speech was 'Experiences and achievements of the 20 years of the alternative films in Bangladesh'

He first talked about some bitter experiences that he had encountered in the course of screening the



Professor Momtazuddin Ahmed and Rawshan Jamil in a scene from *Chitra Nodir Parey*

films in the remote areas of Bangladesh. He then touched on the scenario of contemporary films,

the trend and limitations of making the alternative films. Finally, he called for a film institute and a film

centre for the alternative films in Bangladesh.

After his speech, an alternative film titled *Chitra Nodir Parey*, directed and written by Tanvir Mokammel, was screened. The film, set against the backdrop of the Partition of 1947, focusses on the sufferings of Bashonti, a Hindu middle class woman. During a riot, which occurred at that time, the woman's family is threatened by the Muslims who order them to return to India. When Bashonti's family refuse to leave their ancestral home, the reactionaries rape her and she commits suicide by drowning in the waves of river Chitra near Norail district.

The film is in the 16-mm format and runs for two hours. However, the pace of the film tends to be slow at times, which is the main drawback of *Chitra Nodir Parey*.

Music

Evergreen bards  
Songs of five poets fascinate audience

HARUN UR RASHID



Rabindranath Tagore Kazi Nazrul Islam Atulprasad Sen Dwijendral Ray

The songs of Rabindranath Tagore and Kazi Nazrul Islam have always remained more popular in Bangladesh than other genres of music. These songs have distinct characteristics: Rabindra Sangeet bears sensitive lyrics that express major human feelings of love and desire, loneliness and dejection. On the other hand, Nazrul Sangeet also contains wonderful lyrics that are put into classical-based melody.

However, apart from these two pioneer musicians, the 1940s-1950s also witnessed the remarkable feats in music, accomplished by three other poets—Dwijendral Roy, Rajanikanta Sen and Atulprasad Sen. The five bards are referred to as *Pancha Bhaskar* (five meteors), for they ushered in an era of Bangla music that has lost none of its impact on the average Bangali.

The Dhaka unit of National Rabindra Sangeet Conference Committee organised a musical

soiree featuring the songs of these five poets at Bengal Shilpalaya on June 4. Mainly emphasising on the latter three, the aim of the event was to popularise their songs alongside those of Rabindranath and Nazrul.

A lot of people gathered at the venue to enjoy the songs. In fact, some had to stand outside, since there weren't enough space inside.

The soiree started with a group rendition of a Nazrul Sangeet, *Dao shourjo dao dhoirjo*. Later songs of Atulprasad and Dwijendral were presented. Atulprasad's songs included *Tumi kobey ashibeey*, *Amay khoma koriyo*, *Dakey koyela*

*barey barey* and *Prokritir ghomatakhani khullo*. Songs of Dwijendral included *Aji notun ratoney*, *Eki modhur chhondey*, *Bela boye jaayand others*.

Rabindra Sangeet presented at the event were *Jiboney amar joto ananda*, *Jaowa-ashar eki khela*, *Ami tokhon chhilem magon*, *Arup tomar banietc*.

Performers included renowned artistes like Mita Haque, Sumon Chowdhury, Bulbul Islam, Sharmin Shathi Islam, Aditi Mohsin, Nasima Shahin as well as a number of aspiring singers.

Event

Bridging the cultural divide

Social Harmony Project's benefit dinner

AFSAR AHMED

ALL over the world, social activists are engaged in a struggle to conserve children's rights and promote social harmony. Take for instance a recent programme, called the Social Harmony Project (SHP), which began in the country on April 6.

SHP is a unique, two part cultural exchange between Bangladeshi and Cuban children (aged between 6 to 14) that encourages positive practices to nurture the children's potential from diverse cultural backgrounds. The media is fusion theatre. SHP recently arranged a benefit dinner for raising funds for the Bangladeshi children who will participate in the 8th World Children Amateur Theatre Festival 2004 to be held in Cuba from July 19 to 25 with the theme of 'the performing arts across cultural boundaries'. 'Children are the hope of the world', said the Cuban national hero, José Martí. Therefore the symbolic word of the



Bibi Russell (2nd from right) holds the centre stage with the participants

festival is 'Hope'.

The programme started with the *Manipuri* Dance. The dancers, all clad in traditional *Manipuri* attire, performed well. Next was a cultural programme by the People's Theatre Association, where little children in colourful dresses

sang and danced. The Bangladeshi, British, Zimbabwean and Russian dances, based on their respective popular songs, were splendid. Especially creditable was the song *We shall overcome*, as the children held placards that visualised 'We build the future'. A documentary titled *Listen to us* was also played on the occasion. The frolic continued when Alejandro Escalona Aguro, the project director of SHP, led the procession of *Bauls* in the hall. Some 200 guests, mostly expatriates, were spell-bound by the performance. Famous model and designer Bibi Russell co-ordinated the cultural programme.

The raffle draw, conducted for fundraising, attracted the guests. The prizes were an overseas tour and T-shirts with the signature of Brazilian football stars Roberto Carlos and Ronaldinho.

Palma Group and Spectra Catering sponsored the programme at Spectra Convention Centre. Internationally acclaimed chef Tommy Miah, who had flown to Dhaka, courtesy of Qatar Airways, cooked special dishes for the guests.

Tricks of trade

Houdini exhibit enrages magicians

BBC ONLINE

MAGICIANS have protested against a new exhibit in a Wisconsin museum giving away the secret to one of illusionist Harry Houdini's most famous tricks. The exhibit at the Outagamie Museum in Appleton, Wisconsin shows how Houdini performed his *Metamorphosis* trick.

In the illusion Houdini—supposedly handcuffed in a sack and locked in a trunk—miraculously switched places with

an assistant on the outside.

Some members of the Magic Circle have been angered by the museum's decision. Illusionist David Copperfield and magical duo Penn and Teller have reportedly expressed their disapproval, along with lesser-known practitioners of the craft. 'This is a very, very passionate thing that magicians feel about,' said Ronald 'Rondini' Lindberg. 'What the museum is doing is wrong.'

However, curator Kimberley Louagie defended the museum's

actions. 'We didn't feel like we were exposing anything, because this information is readily available,' she said. 'By telling people how this trick works, we're giving people a deeper meaning of Houdini.'

The Houdini exhibit features 38 artefacts, 190 documents and 'hands-on' displays that include handcuffs, lock picks, a straitjacket and a jail cell.

Houdini was born Ehrich Weiss in 1874 in Budapest, Hungary. His family moved to Appleton when he was four and stayed four years. He died on 31 October 1926 of a ruptured appendix.

Illusions The part of the exhibit that shows how tricks are actually performed is in a backstage area. The entrance bears a sign warning visitors not to enter if they do not want to know how Houdini achieved his baffling illusions.

If you do not want to know how Houdini performed his *Metamorphosis* trick, stop reading here.

The *Metamorphosis* trick uses a device known as the substitution trunk, which has a secret panel that allows its occupant to sneak out. Having extricated himself from the sack in which he was tied, Houdini would climb out of the hidden door and crouch behind a



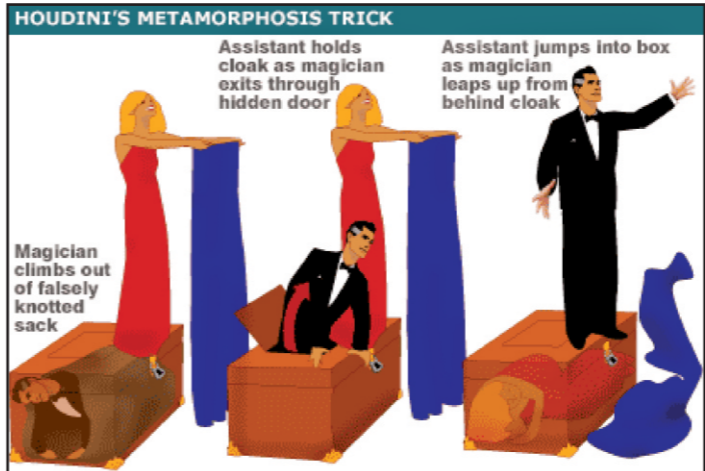
Ehrich Weiss - later Harry Houdini - was born in Budapest in 1874.

curtain lifted by his assistant.

The magician and his assistant would then change places, Houdini appearing behind the curtain as the assistant disappeared into the box. The assistant would then emerge from the box and sack wearing a different costume.



A view of the programme: conserving children's right



Creed breaks up!

THE spiritually inclined band Creed, whose anthemic hits *Higher* and *With Arms Wide Open* helped them become one of the top-selling rock acts of the past decade, has called it quits. Three former Creed members immediately announced they were forming a new band—minus singer Scott Stapp—but were quick to say it was not 'just Creed with a different singer.'

Creed's three albums sold a combined 24 million copies in the United States. While many critics dismissed them as pale



Pearl Jam imitators, Creed members used that as creative fuel and laughed all the way to the bank.

Stapp and guitarist Mark Tremonti were longtime friends and songwriting partners whose relationship soured in the past couple of years. That caused tension in the band. 'There was a lot more drama,' drummer Scott Phillips told AP on June 4. 'It wasn't necessarily created by anyone in particular. It just stopped being fun.'

The new band, Alter Bridge,

features Tremonti, Phillips and former Creed bassist Brian Marshall. Singer-songwriter Myles Kennedy, formerly of the band Mayfield Four, was recruited as the fourth member. Their first album is due out in August.

Stapp's first solo recording will be on a soundtrack of music inspired by the film *The Passion of the Christ*. He's working on a solo album with the Canadian band The Tea Party.

AP, New York

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Mitali Mukharjee Sangeet On ntv at 3:05 pm and 3:40 pm Musical Programme Solo performance by Mitali Mukharjee

Small Soldiers On Star Movies at 9:15pm Genre: Action / Sci-Fi / Adventure / Comedy Gregory Smith, Kirsten Dunst, Jay Mohr, David Cross

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

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00 am, 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.  
Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 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 9:00 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 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, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.  
News (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 5:00 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 Hridoy Hote  
09:00 Satellite programme Shongbad Potrer Pata Theke  
12:15 Shashyatoytha  
01:05 Quiz quiz  
01:30 Cartoon show: Meena  
02:05 Prodidin Computer  
02:30 Aamader Ranna  
03:05 Khela Dhula  
03:35 Shukhi poribaar  
04:05 Banshori  
04:30 Shatarupa  
05:05 National Television Debate  
05:45 News for children  
06:10 Gaetanjali  
06:35 Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.  
07:05 Maati O Manush  
07:30 The Lost World  
08:30 Jochanor phul  
09:00 Drama: Pakhiwala  
10:30 Abhishhi  
11:00 Shur O Baani

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Tritiyo Matra  
11:00 Hello Bangladesh  
11:30 Chithi Palam  
12:30 Live telecast: Aj Dupurey  
01:00 Ebonj Cinemar Gaan  
01:30 Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh and public reaction  
02:00 Bangla film Nagini Shapini (Naton, Manna)  
04:00 Banglar Gaan  
05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma  
05:45 Special Documentary  
06:10 Music Plus  
06:45 Flop Show  
07:50 Shonchita

08:25 Drama Serial: Sharey Teen Tala

09:35 1/1 Shonatan Gaar  
10:00 Drama Serial: Swapnoker Chabi  
08:00 Aajker Shakal  
08:30 Chena Sur  
09:00 Sangskriti Ei Shoptaho  
09:30 Images of Lights  
10:02 Hello Music  
10:30 Gallery  
11:00 Drama Serial: Andhokarer Phul  
11:30 Magazine Sequence  
12:02 Millennium  
12:35 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush  
03:05 Mitali Mukharjee Gaan  
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha  
06:20 Shubho Shondhya  
06:50 Khabor Deshey Deshey  
08:15 Drama Serial: Teen Purush  
08:50 Right Click  
09:40 Medhabi  
11:25 Dindarpan  
08:15 Drama Serial: Teen Purush  
08:50 Right Click  
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08:15 Drama Serial: Teen Purush  
08:50 Right Click  
09:40 Medhabi  
11:25 Dindarpan

Beyond Cyberspace

12:50 The Pick of the Day  
3:30 Dosh Premi  
6:30 Fox Kids Sunday - 500 Series  
7:00 Bachcha Party  
7:30 Vikraal Aur Gabraal  
8:30 Gharwali Uparwali  
9:30 Koie Jane Na  
10:30 Aatish  
11:00 Ek Mulaqat  
11:30 Mamla Gadbad Hai  
3:30 Action Asia Challenge In Hong Kong  
4:00 Return To The Wild  
4:30 National Geographic Special  
5:30 Piranha!  
6:00 Tomorrow's World  
6:30 Storm Stories  
7:00 Storm Stories  
7:30 Adventure Challenge  
8:30 7 Deadly Arts  
9:30 Air Crash Investigation  
10:30 National Geographic Special  
11:30 Seven Deadly Arts  
9:00 Asian 9-Ball Tour San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour  
9:30 Qeezon City Philippines  
10:30 Lee Van Corteza Vs Francis Co Bustamante Final(R)  
10:30 Volleyball Volley  
11:00 International 2003 Basel Switzerland 3rd/4th Placing & Final(R)

7:30 Stark Raving Mad

8:00 The Kumars At No.42  
8:30 Style  
9:00 Rendezvous With Simi  
9:30 Britanna India's Child Genius  
10:30 Cover Story  
11:00 Top Drive Getaway  
11:30 Focus Asia  
12:00 The X Files  
3:30 Action Asia Challenge In Hong Kong  
4:00 Return To The Wild  
4:30 National Geographic Special  
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12:30 Olympic Related Golden Moments Of The Olympic Games Winter Superstars(R)

1:00 Olympic Related Golden Moments Of The Olympic Games A Winter's Tale(R)  
1:30 Football Asia (R)  
2:00 Goals! Goals Celebration (R)  
2:30 New Zealand Tour Of England Npower Test Series 2004 Yorkshire England England Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 3 Highlights(R)  
4:25 New Zealand Tour Of England Npower Test Series 2004 Yorkshire England England Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 4 1st Session(L) Hitz (T)  
6:00 New Zealand Tour Of England Npower Test Series 2004 Yorkshire England England Vs New Zealand 2nd Test Day 2 H/Ls  
6:30 Tomorrow's World  
7:00 Storm Stories  
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10:30 Volleyball Volley  
11:00 International 2003 Basel Switzerland 3rd/4th Placing & Final(R)

2:30 Champions League

4:30 Fire World Motorcycle Championship Motogp World Championship 2004 Mugello Italy 250cc(L); 500cc(L)  
7:00 English Premier League Review 2003/2004 English Premier League Review (R)  
8:00 Sportscenter Sportscenter Weekend (T)  
8:05 Cricket Gold (R)  
10:00 Cayton Boxing Films Cayton's Greatest Vol. I (R)  
11:00 School Quiz Show Espn School Quiz 2004 Review Show (R)  
12:00 Motorsport Asia (R)  
7:30 Heat  
9:30 West Indies v Bangladesh, 2nd Test- Day 2 H/Ls  
10:00 French Tennis Highlights Day 13  
11:00 South American WC Qualifiers: Brazil v Argentina  
12:00 Thomas Cup West Indies v Bangladesh, 2nd Test- Day 2 H/Ls  
3:00 Speedway Grand Prix: Prague, Czech Republic  
7:00 MotoGP: Italy GP (Mugello)  
11:00 French Tennis Mens Singles final  
12:00 West Indies v Bangladesh, 2nd Test- Day 2

TEN SPORT

7:30 Heat  
9:30 West Indies v Bangladesh, 2nd Test- Day 2 H/Ls  
10:00 French Tennis Highlights Day 13  
11:00 South American WC Qualifiers: Brazil v Argentina  
12:00 Thomas Cup West Indies v Bangladesh, 2nd Test- Day 2