

Film appreciation course

An interface between cultural reporters and film activities

SADYA AFREEN MALICK

As the camera panned over to the left, Charlie Chaplin was seen cooking one his leather boots with great care, in a big cauldron. Out of extreme hunger, with nothing else to offer, he could only think of sharing a softer piece of the top half of the boot with his co-passenger, while he continued to nibble on the sole of the well-cooked leather boot. He gently gathered the shoe laces with his fork and continued to chew it, carefully avoiding the rusty nails, as the small group of 70 participants, who assembled at a film-appreciation course, watched the film and laughed their hearts out.

This was a movie of the silent era, from *The Gold Rush* depicting Charlie as the unrivalled entertainer.

The boxing bout, which Charlie Chaplin initiated to raise funds for the treatment of his blind girl friend in one of his films, equally sent the crowd into fits of laughter.

This course was jointly organised by the Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies, Alliance Francaise and the International Film Criticism Association of Bangladesh, as part of an Orientation Course on film criticism. The programme, was formally inaugurated by Professor

Kabir Chowdhury.

Eminent filmmaker Tanvir Mokammel captivated the participants with his one-and-a-half hour lecture on the history of cinema, on the first day. He dwelt on the various schools and movements of cinema from its very inception on December 28, 1895, by the Lumiere Brothers in Paris, France. Among the earliest films were *Baby at the Breakfast* and *The Gardener and the Hosiery*.

Mokammel elaborated on how creating an image is the focal point of cinema. While discussing different terminologies, he explained how cinema could break the time barrier through a flash back or fast forward.

The next clipping was a long shot from the movie *A Passage to India* depicting the elephant ride along the mountainous regions on the Malabar's. 'The dangling bells around the elephants feet could be visible in the frame' only from a long shot and nothing less would do to cover the massive pillar-like feet of the animal,' said Mokammel.

In the Western or cowboy movies such as *O My Darling Clementine*, it showed how action movies came into existence and the technicalities of the genre.

While explaining a pan shot, from Satyajit Ray's *Apur Sansar*,



The mute art form for the 'little master' seemed to be the perfect medium

one watched the arrival of a village bridal party near the bank of a river. The entire 'take' picturised the arrival of the groom and came to a halt where the hero of the film lay in a deep slumber. 'Every single shot should lead to another mystery,' said Mokammel. A clipping from *The Jurassic Park* showed the latest use of computerised technology in films creating fantasy and special effect.

Noted film maker of *Surjo Dighal Baree*, Masih Uddin Saker, spoke on film appreciation and stressed on the individual perspective in film

viewing. Eminent journalist Shafique Rehman delivered a lecture on contemporary cinema. He talked about his close association with Zahir Raihan and Alamgir Kabir.

Filmmaker and film activist Morshedul Islam elaborated on 'what is cinema?' the language of films and also explained the different terms of filmmaking. The first day's session ended with the film *The Bicycle Thief* by Italian 'Neo-Realist' filmmaker Vittorio de Sica.

Manzare Hassin Murad, a filmmaker and film activist, gave a lecture on documentary cinema on the second day of the session. He expressed the opinion that films gradually developed from documentaries. He discussed the history of documentary films and spoke of stalwarts like Robert Flaherty, Joris Ivens, Bert Haanstra, Chris Marker, Jean Rouch, Dziga Vertov and others. Tanvir Mokammel then spoke in depth on film aesthetics and techniques. The concluding speech by Sadek Khan, (the noted filmmaker of *Nadi O Nari* and an art critic) lay emphasis on the need for good film criticism.

Pascal Janovjak, Deputy Director of Alliance Francaise of Dhaka, also said a few words on the concluding session and took part in the certificate distribution session. Film critic Sabbir Chowdhury, coordinated the course.

The participants from the print and electronic media were exposed to a diverse range of issues including aesthetics, history of films, quality of reporting as well as insights into film dom.

More such workshops, aimed at a creative interface between cultural reporters and film activities, will enhance constructive film criticism in the country.

The best thing in Tropa is her devotion to theatre.--Ferdousi

Mother has been my role model.--Tropa

NOVERA DEEPTA

There are very few successful mother-and-daughter duos in our entertainment world.

However, Ferdousi Majumdar and daughter Tropa are two names that are well recognised in the country's theatre world as well as in the TV plays. Ferdousi is one of the most powerful actresses in our cultural arena. Tropa is also a talented and flourishing face in the media.

Interestingly both of their birthdays are on the same date--June 18. This correspondent talked to the mother and daughter on various issues regarding their relationship as well as career.

Ferdousi Majumdar wanted her daughter to be a singer but Tropa was more inclined towards acting since her early days. She used to memorise the dialogues of her mother's plays when she was a mere child. Ferdousi says, 'I always gave her the freedom to choose her own way and I am not really sorry that she has become an actress instead of a singer. And now she holds a position in the theatre as well as in the television plays which is appreciable.'

Ferdousi speaks highly about Tropa's devotion to her work. Likewise, Ferdousi never gets deflected into other activities if she has a performance. To quote Ferdousi, 'Tropa follows the rules of acting that I have always followed, and this makes me feel proud and happy.' She also appreciates her daughter's restrained nature in acting in the commercial dramas at such a young age.

Ferdousi and Tropa are working in the play *Madhobi*, directed by Ramendu Majumdar, Tropa's father. Ferdousi says: 'I play a *Kathok* (narrator) in the play. But I am happy to work with my daughter and



share the same stage with her.'

Tropa believes that Ferdousi has been her role model since her childhood. Asked which of her mother's performance she thinks is the best one, she says it is very difficult because so many of her performances are remarkable, as in *Kokilara*, *Payer Awaj Pawa Jay* and *Dui Bon*. And among her television roles Tropa can instantly recall one of her charismatic performances--the role of Hurmati in Shahidullah Kaiser's *Shangshapta*.

Both of them always critically judge each other's performances. According to Tropa, 'Mother never dictates to me. However, whenever I have a problem in playing any character she guides me and helps me immensely.'

Ferdousi and Tropa share the same birthday on June 18 which is, according to both of them, a very interesting and nice coincidence. Ferdousi recalls those beautiful moments when, before Tropa's

Reviving the Beatles' mystique

THIS is an opportune time to focus on former Beatle Paul McCartney as he celebrates his birthday on June 18.

Recently, on a tour of Europe, the sizeable audience at the concerts testified that the 62-year-old McCartney had lost none of his charisma. On May 29, over 45,000 people turned out to see him perform in Lisbon, the Portuguese capital. The biggest applause came for his rendering of the old 'Fab Four' classics such as *Eleanor Rigby* and *Yellow Submarine*.

Equally enthused by McCartney was a crowd of 30,000 fans in Madrid, Spain, who were spell-bound by his rendering of 33 songs, all but 10 of them Beatles' tunes. The former Beatle delighted fans by addressing them in Spanish. As he said, 'I was taught Spanish for a year around 50 years ago when I was 11 at school in Liverpool.'

Notching a key milestone in the long and winding road of his career, the former Beatle is expected to play his 3,000th live show when he performs on June 20 in Russia. The concert before some 100,000 fans in the Palace Square of St. Petersburg, McCartney's first ever in that city, comes in the midst of his summer tour through Europe, organisers said in a statement.

The exact number of live shows McCartney played in the early years of the Beatles and their precursor band the Quarry Men, was not perfectly kept, but a new tally by his management indicates he is now in the vicinity of 3,000 performances.

McCartney's career in music goes back to his childhood: born in 1942, he wrote his first song, *I lost my little girl*, at 14. In 1957 the singer met John Lennon at St Peter's Church Fete, Woolton, Liverpool. He joined his group, Quarry Men, and performed in his first gig in Liverpool.

In 1960 the Beatles came into being and performed in Hamburg and Liverpool. Two years later, their first recording, *Love Me Do*, reached number 17 in the British charts.



Paul McCartney

Then followed musical successes such as *Please please me* (their first British number 1) and *She loves you*.

The year 1964 gets pride of place in the history of the Beatles. In this year the foursome landed at New York's JFK airport--to be greeted by 25,000 yelling fans. Apart from the historic appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show, the Beatles performed in concerts in Washington DC and New York's Carnegie Hall. In the same year, they released their first film *A Hard Day's Night*. Their single, *I want to hold your hand*, was a runaway success. At the same time, the albums *A Hard Day's Night* and *Beatles for Sale* were released.

In 1970, the group's fourth and final film, *Let it be*, was released. The single and album of the same title topped the US charts. The much publicised break up of the Beatles occurred this year.

Lennon and Mc Cartney continued their separate musical careers. The latter released his first solo album, *McCartney*. Together with his band called Wings, he went on to recapture some of the glory of the Beatles.

Compiled by Cultural Correspondent

Dhaka Drama Festival 2004

Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation

ERSHAD KAMOL

Inggit: A take-off on politics

As part of the drama festival arranged by the Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF), Dhaka Padatik will stage *Inggit*, directed by SM Solaiman, at 7 pm at the Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy.

Preview

Dhaka Padatik's plays revolve around people who are struggling for their livelihood. SM Solaiman's satirical play *Inggit* is no exception to this trend. In the play, the dramatist focuses on people who confront social discrimination and calls for a change. In the play, he mocks our education system, politics, administration, cinema, and the government. The play ends with a satirical puppet show.



A scene from a puppet show at the end of the play

Experimental Theatre Stage

A new experiment

Last year, the Film and Drama department of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy opened the Experimental Theatre Stage. This is the first ever facility of its kind in the country, where the theatrical groups can stage an experimental production.

The Stage Manager of the externally and internally well-fashioned theatre hall Arif Haidar said, 'The theatre hall as well as the two make-up rooms for men and women artistes--are well decorated and centrally air conditioned. The artistes from the make-up room can hear the performance on the stage, which is not available in other theatre halls in Bangladesh. There is enough space for an orchestra inside the hall. In fact, the hall is an ideal one for staging plays. We also provide free light system, sound system for the groups. The hall has the capacity for 300 persons.'

Engineer Shukdeb Das, who is involved with the

Experimental Theatre Stage, said, 'This is a part of the project. Another hall will be opened within a month. We have designed the project, taking ideas from the modern theatre halls of some developed countries of the world.'

Ali Ahmed, the set designer of the hall said, 'The Experimental Theatre Stage is a flexible one. It can be converted to proscenium stage, arena stage, thrust stage or any other type of stage for the experimental production by changing the seat arrangement or the frames of the stage. However, we have to do it manually that is why it takes time to do it perfectly.'

Light designer of the stage Mohammad Jasimuddin said, 'The light system of the theatre hall is imported. We provide 175 lights, which are sufficient for any play. We also provide other required facilities.'

Schedules (June 18-25)

June 18 Play: <i>Inggit</i> Playwright-Director: S M Solaiman Group: Dhaka Padatik	Playwright: Indu Saha Director: Sanjib Chakraborty Group: Nattayafouj
June 19 Play: <i>Peigi</i> Playwright: Apu Aman Director: Kamruzzaman Tupa Group: Shattik Natyasampradaya	June 22 Play: <i>Shoroshi</i> Playwright: Sarat Chandra Chattapadhyay Director: Mostofa Heera Group: Shanglap Group Theatre
June 20 Play: <i>Birsa Munda</i> Playwright: Arup Dev Director: Alak Anwar Group: Dhaka Theatre Mancha	June 23 Play: <i>Shadhucharan</i> Playwright: Chandan Sen Director: Ratan Saha Group: Pratidwandi Nattayagoshtthi
June 21 Play: <i>Aranya Jonaranya</i>	June 24 Play: <i>Bhabaghurey</i> Playwright: Shantanu Biswas Director: Tarun Kumar Basu
Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy; Time: 7 pm Tickets are available at Sagar Publishers, Baily Road and at the venue before shows. Prices: Tk. 30, Tk. 50 and Tk. 100.	

Aniston and Pitt expecting first baby

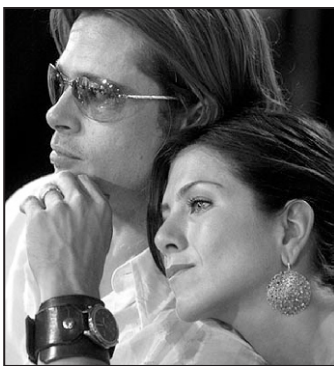
Jennifer Aniston and husband Brad Pitt are said to be expecting their first child.

A source says: 'This is something both Brad and Jennifer want. Expect an announcement later this month.'

Aniston's spokesperson said he's heard a rumor, but hasn't confirmed or denied the story, says *The Sun*.

Two months ago the *Friends* star revealed she and Pitt were trying for a child. 'We're absolutely in the process of having a baby. It's where we're headed.'

Source: Internet



Hanks 'not going into politics'

Tom Hanks says he has no intention of entering politics - because he prefers spreading his message through acting.

IMDb says the Oscar winner says he is unlikely to follow in the footsteps of Arnold Schwarzenegger and run for public office.

'If that was my inclination,' he said, 'We're all in this together. We live in a land in which tolerance is our great strength, diversity is what our country is built on, and we have to respect what other people say, even if we disagree with it.'

'I can do that much better as an actor or a producer.'

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Arannyei Ekoda
On ATN Bangla at 9:30 pm
Drama Serial
Asaduzzaman Nur, Bipasha Hayat

STAT MOVIES 8:00 No Way Out 10:00 Shallow Hal 12:00 If Lucy Fell 1:30 Lawnmower Man 3:15 Festival In Cannes 5:00 Little Women 7:00 Cherish 8:45 Femme Fatale 10:30 The Good Son 12:00 Festival In Cannes	1:30 meregharmeinhbucha Chalti Ka Naam Antakshiri 2:30 Gharwali Uparwali 3:30 Taaza Hits 4:00 Ek Mulaqat 5:30 Smriti 6:00 Mamla Gadbadi Hai 7:00 Samnewali Khidki 8:30 Fox Kids - Friday Daily - Half 7:00 Bachcha Party 7:30 Sonpari 8:00 Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Dhoom 8:30 Hatim 9:30 Shararat-Thoda Jadu Thodi Naz 10:00 Ssshhhh...Koi Hai... 11:00 Darr 11:30 Khichdi 12:00 Kya Baat Hai	STAR GOLD 9:00 Do Qaidi 12:30 Tera Jadoo Chal Gaya 4:30 Arjun Pandit 8:30 Maya 8:30 Mehndi 10:00 11:00 Smriti 11:30 Samnewali Khidki 12:00 Tanha 12:55 Taaza Hits 1:00 Kabhiekbahie-	STAR PLUS 11:00 Smriti 11:30 Samnewali Khidki 12:00 Tanha 12:55 Taaza Hits 1:00 Kabhiekbahie-	STAR WORLD 10:30 American Idol
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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 9:00am
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 9 a.m, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00pm, 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 (Bangla) 7:30 am, 2:00 pm, 7:30 pm, 10:30 pm.
Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 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.

BTV

07:30 *Bangladesher Hridoy Hotey*
Drama Serial:
09:05 *Swapner Deshe*
12:15 *Natun Kuri 2004*
12:30 *Bangla Kawali*
03:15 *Satellite Programme Shongbadpotrer Pata Theke*
03:25 *Bangla Feature Film*
06:10 *Euro Highlights*
07:00 *Share Market and Weather Forecast*
07:05 *Maloncha*
07:30 *Film Show: Alif Laila*
08:30 *Dekhla Adekha*
09:00 *Shaptodinga*
10:25 *Teknaf thekey Tetulia*
10:30 *Lal Golap*
12:05 *Satellite Programme*

CHANNEL-i

09:45 *Tritiyo Matra*
10:30 *Tele Shomoy*
11:30 *Islam Ki Bole*
12:30 *Sharey Teen Tala*
01:00 *Banglar Gaan*
01:30 *Shangbadpatrey Bangladesh and Public opinion*
02:00 *Tritiyo Matray Apni Amader Chiklshhya*
02:30 *Shatter Shandhaney Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan*
03:30 *Shatter Shandhaney Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan*
04:30 *Shatter Shandhaney Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan*
05:10 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:45 *Shamoyiki*
06:10 *Music Plus*
06:45 *Kothay Kothay*
07:50 *Weekly Drama: Shondhya Shesher Tara*
09:35 *Drama Serial: Moncholi*
10:00 *Drama: Ilsh*
ntv
08:00 *Aajker Shakal*

08:30 *Jhankar*
09:00 *Horlicks Genius Bangladesh*
09:30 *Images of Lights*
10:05 *Alice in Wonderland*
10:30 *Apnar jigryasha*
11:30 *Trans World Sports*
01:00 *Smritir janalay*
02:30 *Siddika Kabir's Recipe*
03:05 *Jatrapala*
05:20 *Tiffiner Fanke*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
08:10 *Drama Serial: Ronger Manush*
08:50 *Pepsi Music Express*
09:40 *Drama Serial: Aj Robbar*
11:20 *Dindarpan*
10:25 *Annodrishtee*
11:05 *Islamic Programme*
03:40 *Binodon Jummabar*
05:10 *Shesh Akkhor*
06:20 *Amra Korbo Joy*
08:00 *Rup Madhuri*
09:30 *Drama Serial: Khowab*
09:00 *Drama Serial: Lal*
Neel Beguni
09:30 *Drama Serial: Arannyei Ekoda*
Magazine show:
10:35 *Smritir Monikothay*
12:20 *Tele film: Shartahik Chor*

HBO

9:30 *The Score*
12:00 *House Arrest*
2:15 *The Crew*
4:00 *Little Nicky*
7:45 *The Brothers*
9:30 *Thir13en Ghosts*
12:15 *The Matrix*
Cinema Secrets III Ep
I : Catclysmic Event
Hollywood Style
12:45 *Message In A Bottle*

11:30 *Challenge Amazing Adventures (Ian Wright)*
ANIMAL PLANET
12:30 *The Protectors K9 Homeland Security*
1:30 *The Protectors*
2:30 *Wild Encounters Living with Dinosaurs*
3:30 *Pet Nation*
4:30 *Pet Nation Battle Sears*
5:00 *Pet Nation Flood, Poudre, Bangkok Elephant*
5:30 *Pet Nation Borzoi*
6:00 *Pet Nation Dachshund*
6:30 *Pet Nation*
7:30 *All New Croc Hunter*
8:30 *The Protectors K9 Cops*
9:30 *The Protectors*
10:30 *Wild Encounters Baghdad Zoo*
11:30 *Wild Encounters Stunts*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

12:00 *Toyota World Of Wildlife*
12:30 *Zambezi : Force Of Life*
1:30 *Built For Destruction*
2:30 *Explorations*
3:30 *Realm Of The Dead*
4:30 *Shape Of Life*
5:30 *Wildlife Detectives*
6:00 *Sea Stories*
6:30 *Dogs With Jobs*
7:00 *Toyota World Of Wildlife*
7:30 *National Geographic Special*
8:30 *Built For Destruction*
9:30 *Explorations*
10:30 *Boomerangs To Ballistics*
11:30 *Shape Of Life*

STAR SPORTS

9:00 *European Championship Highlights Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 6*

10:00 *Highlights(R) Wimbledon Library Films Wimbledon Classic Match London Uk Jana Novotna Vs Steffi Graf 1993 Ladies Singles Final(R)*
12:00 *Sanzar Home Tests Rugby Union Internationals 2004 Melbourne Australia Australia Vs Scotland (R)*
2:00 *Samsung Nations Cup 2004 Lucerne Switzerland Super League Highlights(T) Motogp World Championship 2004 Catalunya Spain Highlights(R)*
4:30 *Nba Inside Stuff (T)*
5:00 *Tennis 2004 London England Finals(T)*
7:00 *Formula One Highlights 2004 Montreal Canada Canadian Grand Prix(T)*
8:00 *Sportline (L)*
8:30 *European Championship Highlights Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 6 Highlights(R)*
9:30 *Wimbledon Library Films Decade Of Wimbledon : The Eighties (T)*
10:30 *Sportline (R)*
11:00 *U.S. Open Golf Championship Southampton Ny Usa Second Round(L)*

ESPN

10:00 *European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Croatia Vs France First Round(R)*
12:00 *Euro Preshow Uefa*

12:30 *Euro 2004 Preshow (R) European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 England Vs Switzerland First Round (R)*
2:30 *Euro Preshow Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (R) European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 6 First Round(R)*
5:30 *Espn School Quiz 2004 (T)*
6:00 *Nba Finals Game #6 (If Necessary)(R)*
8:30 *Sportscenter India (L)*
9:00 *Samsung Cricket Show (T)*
9:30 *Euro Preshow Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (L) European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 6 Denmark First Round(L)*
12:00 *Euro Preshow Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (L)*
TEN SPORTS
11:30 *Inside Grand Prix : USA (Indianapolis)*
12:30 *Golf Highlights: The Diageo Championship at Trans World Sports*
1:30 *Inside Grand Prix : USA (Indianapolis)*
2:30 *Golden Moments of Olympic Games Legends 04 : Gillette World Sports*
4:00 *ICC Cricket World Trans World Sports*
5:30 *Velocity 2: Ep 107*
6:30 *Legends 04 : Royal Ascot Races :Day 4*
7:30 *Legends 04 : Royal Ascot Races :Day 4*
10:30 *ICC Cricket World Velocity 2: Ep 107*
12:00 *Velocity 2: Ep 107*