

## RECOMMENDATIONS



## Sufia Kamal's Birthday Celebration

Organiser: Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

Discussants: Sanat Kumar Shaha, Wahidul Haque, Sultana Kamal, Ayesha Khanom

Performers: Ifat Ara Dewan, Mita Haq, Adin Mohsin, Khairul Anam Shakil, Subarna Mustafa and others

Venue: CIRDAP auditorium

Time: June 20, at 4:00 pm



ARTIST: MONIRUL ISLAM

## Painting Exhibition

Title: Solo Painting Exhibition 2004

Artist: Monirul Islam

Venue: Shilpangan, Road 5, House 25, Dhanmondi

Time: June 11-25, from 10 am to 9 pm

Title: 789

Artist: Kashef

Venue: Goethe Institut, Road 9, House 10, Dhanmondi

Time: June 07-21, from 2 pm to 8 pm

## Photography

## Exhibition

Title: Borders and Beyond

Venue: Drik Gallery, House-58, Road-15A, Dhanmondi

Time: June 01-21, 3pm to 8pm

Photo-stories by 10 photographers from Denmark, England, Mexico, Palestine, Russia, South Africa and Switzerland

Title: Image Construction

Artist: Nahid-Ul-Islam

Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi

Time: June 07-28, from 9 am to 12pm and 5 pm to 8 pm

## Classical Music

Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26

Mirpur, Dhanmondi

Artistes: Tofael Ahmed, Bikash Kumar Mandal, Goutam Bhattacharya

Time: June 21, at 7:00 pm

Presenting Bangladesh to Japan  
Kazuko Shiraishi talks about her work

## FAYZA HAQ

**K**AZUKO Shiraishi, the visiting Japanese poet, says, 'I've come to launch my book which has been translated into Bangla. I would have spent more time in Dhaka, but I have to rush back to my ailing mother in Japan. I began writing as a teenager when I was introduced to the avant garde poetry group VOU, led by the modernist Katsue Kitasono, a pioneer in Japanese surrealism, who corresponded with Ezra Pound. With his encouragement, I published my first book of poetry, *The town that rains eggs* in 1951.'

Keeping Joan Miro and Salvador Dali as her models, Shiraishi brought in abstract art form in her poetry. 'I write about all that life has to offer, including the topics of nature, society and the position of women. I've travelled to different countries and met many people, and through my poetry I bring all these facets in my work,' Shiraishi says. 'I was a child when I moved from Vancouver to Japan before World War II and I often felt like an outsider to my own society, a feeling that stayed with me throughout my life. When I was a child the military government taught us to hate the British and American but I felt that this was wrong. I had the desire to go on striving, even though, at first, there was a lot of suffering around me.'

In the 1960s, when jazz musicians like John Coltrane began to flourish in Japan, Shiraishi

found inspiration in them. She was also influenced by the poems of Baudelaire and Dylan Thomas. 'I also loved the works of Alan Ginsberg,' she says. She got inspiration from the writings of Henry Miller, another exponent for freedom of expression. 'Reading poetry to the accompaniment of jazz music was something new for Japan and I was one of the first Japanese poets to experiment with this medium. My book *Season of Sacred Lust* was published in 1970 and I got the prestigious H Poetry Award. In the years that follow I went to 30 different countries and gradually got international recognition.' Today she has the honour of winning three Japanese prizes, the Takami Jun Award, the Yomiuri Award and the Purple Ribbon Medal from the Emperor of Japan.

Asked which Bangladeshi poet appealed to her, Shiraishi says, 'Tagore, but of course; he is like a god in the poetry scene in Japan.' Talking about her introduction to the medium of poetry in Bangladesh, she says, 'I came here as a presidential guest 17 years ago. In the course of this visit, I met Bangladeshi poet Aminur Rahman and we shared our views in our writings. He has translated my poems.'

She enjoys meeting Bangladeshis and has many friends here. She has also written three long poems on Bangladesh. She introduced the country's beautiful scenery to the people in Japan, who until then had heard only about the floods and famines in the country. This she did



Japanese poet Kazuko Shiraishi

in the form of photographs, which were displayed along with music and the recitation of her poems.

## Faiz Zahir: A young talent in theatre

## CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT



Faiz Zahir is a promising theatre talent in Bangladesh. He is involved in backstage work along with acting and direction. From the beginning of his career in 1980, he has been involved with Aranyak Natyadal. 'In Aranyak, I basically got the opportunity to apply my knowledge and creativity in art,' says Zahir.

Zahir started his career as a performer; then as a set designer, light designer and finally he appeared as a director in 1991. His notable works in Aranyak are *Iblish* (as an actor in 1981), *Guinea Pig* (as an actor and assistant designer in 1984), *Nankar Pala* (as an actor, set and costume designer in 1986), *Joyjyanti* (as an actor and set designer in 1995), *Lebedev* (as an actor and designer in 1995), a puppet theatre production (as a director and designer in 1998), *Mayur Shinghashan* (as a set designer in 1999), *Shongkranti* (set designer in 2000).

Apart from his own theatre

Zahir went into direction in 1991 with *Manush* produced by Bangla Theatre- a reparatory company in 1991. As a director he lays emphasis on physical acting. He says, 'We should focus on physical acting in order to make theatre modern.'

He has participated in professional training, diploma course, workshop and conference in Bangladesh as well as in Germany, Italy, France, India, USA, Hong Kong, Macau and South Korea. One of his major works was conducting a workshop in Chuncheon theatre festival, South Korea about 'Learning various ways of expression, using puppets and masks' organized by the AITA/IATA national centre in 2002. He recently participated in a conference of the United States Institute of Theatre Technology in 2004.

Since 1981 Zahir has worked as an organiser, animator and facilitator in Mukto Natale Dal- an indigenous theatre organisation with a vision and mission to develop theatrical activism at the

grassroots and rural level, particularly in Sylhet, Sirajganj, Tangail and Manikganj.

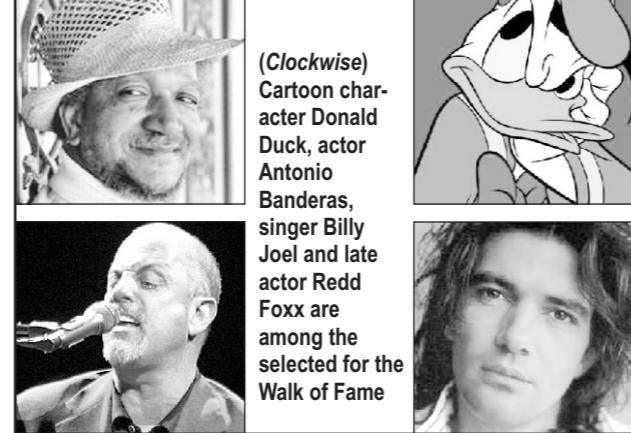
Besides theatre, Zahir has also worked as a director and designer in the audio-visual media. He has directed several single episode dramas, drama serials, documentaries which were telecast from Bangladesh television, Ekushey TV and NTV. Recently NTV telecast *Obosheshey Propat*, directed by Zahir.

At present Zahir is directing *Chandra Grahon* for Shubachan theatre group. He is also the set designer of this play. Besides this, he is the assistant director as well as the set designer of *Rarang*, a production of Aranyak, which is expected to be staged this August.

Zahir's hopes to establish a theatre design institute, where theatre activists from all over the country will learn various aspects of theatre. Come September, he also hopes to stage a puppet show.

## Artists to get Walk of Fame Stars

## AP, Los Angeles



Antonio Banderas, Rod Stewart and Donald Duck are among an eclectic bunch of honourees who will receive stars on the Hollywood Walk of Fame next year.

The 32 honourees were selected on June 16 by the Walk of Fame Committee of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. They were ratified by the chamber's board of directors.

The 2005 inductees, picked from hundreds of nominations, will receive their stars at high-profile sidewalk ceremonies on Hollywood Boulevard and Vine Street.

The ceremonies for these artists will bring a lot of smiles and excitement to the local residents and to our visitors from around the world,' honorary Hollywood Mayor Johnny Grant said.

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## The recipients are

**Motion Pictures:** Tim Allen, Antonio Banderas, Donald Duck, Kevin Kline, Julianne Moore, Patricia Neal, Dennis Quaid and Ben Stiller.

**Television:** Tom Brokaw, James Doohan, Roger Ebert, Susan Lucci, Al Michaels, David Hyde Pierce, Wayne Rogers and Soupy Sales.

**Recording:** Emilio Estevez, Al Green, Herbie Jeffries, Billy Joel, The Righteous Brothers, Carly Simon and Rod Stewart.

**Live/Theatre/Live Performance:** Theodore Bikel, Linda Hopkins and Fred Travalena.

**Posthumous Stars:** Stella Adler, Redd Foxx, Freddie Prinze and David O. Selznik.

## Schedules (June 19-26)

**June 19**  
Play: *Pejgi*  
Playwright: Apu Aman  
Director: Kamruzzaman Tupa  
Group: Shattik Natyampradaya

**June 20**  
Play: *Birsu Munda*  
Playwright: Arup Dev  
Director: Alak Anwar  
Group: Dhaka Theatre Mancha

**June 21**  
Play: *Aranya Jonaranya*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**June 22**  
Play: *Hat Hadai*  
Playwright: Selim Al Deen  
Director: Nasiruddin Yousuff

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpkala 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.

Playwright: Sarat Chandra Chattapadhyay  
Director: Mostofa Heera  
Group: Shanglap Group Theatre

**June 23**  
Play: *Shadhucharan*  
Playwright: Chandan Sen  
Director: Ratan Saha  
Group: Pratidwandi Nattyagoshthi

**June 24**  
Play: *Bhabaghurey*  
Playwright: Shantanu Biswas  
Director: Tarun Kumar Basu  
Group: Theatre (Topkhana)

**June 25**  
Play: *Hat Hadai*  
Playwright: Selim Al Deen  
Director: Nasiruddin Yousuff

**June 26**  
Play: *Shoroshi*

Playwright: Sarat Chandra Chattapadhyay  
Director: Mostofa Heera  
Group: Shanglap Group Theatre

**June 27**  
Play: *Truth or Scare*  
Playwright: Apu Aman  
Director: Kamruzzaman Tupa  
Group: Shattik Natyampradaya

**June 28**  
Play: *Great Hotels*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**June 29**  
Play: *Metropolis*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**June 30**  
Play: *The Assassination of King Tut*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 1**  
Play: *Terra X (Hour Version)*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 2**  
Play: *Mystery of Lake Toplitz*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 3**  
Play: *Discovery Showcase*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 4**  
Play: *Love Hurts*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 5**  
Play: *Understanding Fire*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 6**  
Play: *Discover India*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 7**  
Play: *Phantoms in the Brain*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 8**  
Play: *Lies and Delusions*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 9**  
Play: *Drama on Discovery*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 10**  
Play: *Pregnant Man*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 11**  
Play: *Food, Glorious Food*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 12**  
Play: *Fun Food Factories*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

## DISCOVERY

**July 13**  
Play: *Truth or Scare*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 14**  
Play: *Psychic Science*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 15**  
Play: *Great Hotels*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 16**  
Play: *Pratidwandi*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 17**  
Play: *Metropolis*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 18**  
Play: *The Assassination of King Tut*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 19**  
Play: *Terra X (Hour Version)*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyafouj

**July 20**  
Play: *Mystery of Lake Toplitz*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
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**July 21**  
Play: *Discovery Showcase*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
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**July 22**  
Play: *Love Hurts*  
Playwright: Indu Saha  
Director: Sanjib Chakraborty  
Group: Nattyaf