

RECOMMENDATIONS

Tribute to Begum Sufia Kamal & Shahid Janani Jahana Imam

Venue: Liberation War Museum
Time: June 24 at 5pm
Litterateur Selina Hossain and actor Aly Zaker will speak on the occasion; poets Mahadev Saha and Rabiul Hussain, and Belayet Hossain and Rupa Chakrabarti will recite poems; Mita Haque will present Rabindra Sangeet.

Concert

Bands: Black, Vikings
Organisers: Thuder Bolt
Venue: Thunder Bolt, Rifles Square
Time: June 24 at 5pm
Bands: Kral, Bivishika, Icons, Kronic and Bloodoria
Organiser: Music and Alternative Film Cronies
Venue: Red Fort Restaurant, Muskat Plaza, Uttara
Time: June 24 at 1pm

Painting Exhibition

Artist: Monirul Islam
Venue: Shilpangan, Road 5, House 25, Dhanmondi
Time: June 11-25, from 10 am to 9 pm

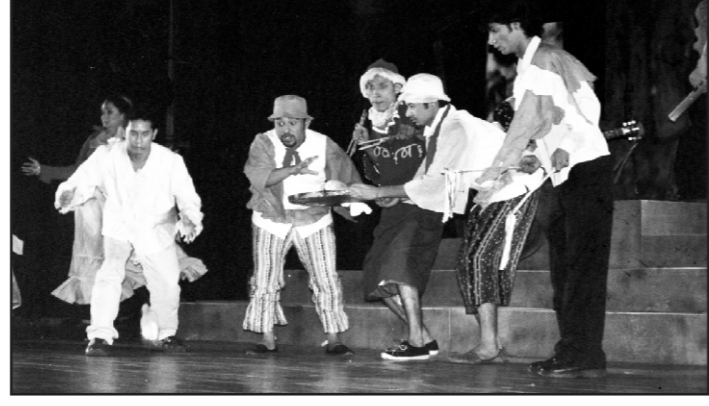


A timeless comedy
Students of North South University stage
Moliere's The Would-Be Gentleman

HARUN UR RASHID

It was brave of the members of North South University Cine and Drama Club (NSUCDC) to stage a play at a time when a month-long theatre festival is on in the city. The annual production of the club, the play The Would-Be Gentleman of Moliere not only was a praiseworthy presentation, it also attracted a large crowd at the auditorium of the National Museum on the evenings of June 20 and 21.

The 17th century French playwright Jean Baptiste Poquelin de Moliere (1622-1675) has remained popular over the centuries for his wonderful witty comedies that always have a twist on the social hypocrisies and pretensions. And his influence has been omnipresent in literature of all languages. His plays have been translated and adapted across the globe. Nevertheless his 17th century satires have not worn out. In Bangladesh too several of this playwright's timeless plays have been adapted by the frontline professional theatre groups. The NSUCDC also previously staged one of Moliere's plays--Bidogdho Romonikil (Les Precieuses Ridicules). This time the club has come up with another Moliere title--The Would-Be Gentleman. Translated by Abdus Selim, a noted translator of foreign plays and Faculty Adviser of CDC, and directed by Dr Israfil Shaheen who teaches Dramatics at NSU, the play is the club's 14th production.



Monsieur Jourdain strikes with fork and spoon on his 'morning dinner'



Jourdain arranges a party to entertain Lady Dorimene

The play depicts the consequences of interest of Monsieur Jourdain, a bourgeois, in becoming a 'gentleman'. The motivation is partly to become a fashionable person in the society and partly because he wants to be worthy of a lady he has fallen in love with. A married man, Monsieur Jourdain appoints masters to learn music, dance, philosophy, language, even fencing. Opportunist people around Jourdain are also apt in manipulating him. His expressions are as funny as his peculiar ways of dressing.

A subplot centres round the love affairs between Jourdain's daughter Lucile and Cleonte, the housemaid Nicole and Covielle, and Dorante, an opportunist, and Dorimene, the woman of Jourdain's interest.

The most attractive parts of the production were the costume and the music. Although a few actors fumbled a little in the beginning of the play, almost all of them eventually came up with quite a good performance. Especially, Monwar, Rashed and Moum were superb in portraying the characters of Jourdain, Covielle and Cleonte. Elita, Poma and Arif also did well in the roles of Dorimene, Nicole and Dorante.

With excellent translation and a stylish set, the production proved that simple translation, not adaptation, can also make a play relevant to our society--to any society in fact. For, 'the strength of the play lies in its rich comic invention and its underlying themes for social striving, financial greed, and lover's ingenuity,' which can be observed in our society too, concluded the translator Abdus Selim.

Dhaka Drama Festival 2004
Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation
(June 17-July 23)

Review
Shoroshi: A classic play by Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay
Focusing on the oppressed and marginalised women

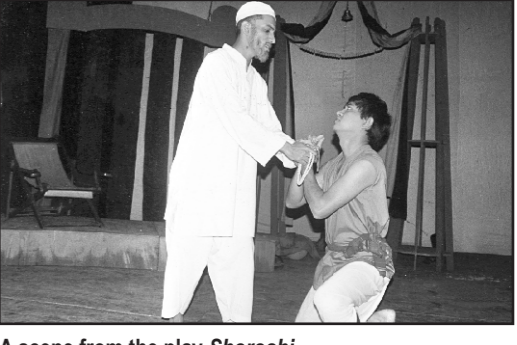
The Shanglap Group Theatre staged Shoroshi at the Experimental Theatre Stage on June 22, as part of the drama festival arranged by BGTF.

Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay always wrote on the oppressed, more specifically on marginalised women. His play Shoroshi is no exception. In Shoroshi he narrates the sufferings of a Shebadashi--a lady who assists the priest in temples.

The protagonist of the play is a Bhairabi, the chief Shebadashi, in the Nat Mandir (temple) at Garchandi. In Shoroshi we see how Shoroshi, a devotee, fights against the hypocritical upper crust of the society who use the mandir's wealth for their own ends. Even the priest is no different from these evil doers.

The play reaches the climax when the feudal lord Jibanananda comes to Garchandi. As Shoroshi is an obstacle to their evil desire, even Jibanananda, her ex-husband forces her to leave Garchandi. However, at the end of the play Jibanananda realises his fault. But time does not allow him to repent.

Mostafa Heera, the director of the play, has successfully represented the time of the early 20th century India. Zunaed Yousuf has created a suggestive mandir on the stage. He has even used a tulsi tree as part of his set design. Zunaed's light design is simple but effective.

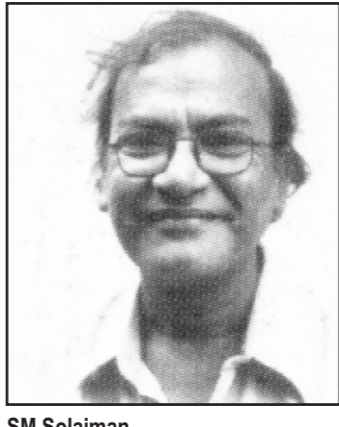


A scene from the play Shoroshi

However, the selection of the playback music does not always suitably represent the theme. Sometimes popular modern music compositions have created a jarring impact. Tawhid as the priest of the play performed well. If the other performers had done likewise, Shoroshi would have been an enjoyable play.

SM Solaiman's work lives on

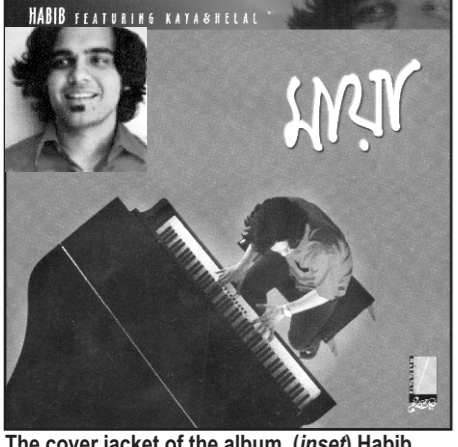
Renowned theatre personality SM Solaiman passed away at the age of 48 on September 22, 2001. In his lifetime he had written over 30 plays. In the current Dhaka Drama Festival 2004, three theatre groups are staging his plays. On the second day of the festival, Dhaka Padatik staged his play Inggit. Theatre Art Natyadil will stage Court Marshal and Theatre Art Unit will stage Golapjan on July 3 and July 16 respectively. Social issues form the crux of these plays.



SM Solaiman was not only a successful playwright but also a prominent director, organiser, actor, singer and music composer. After the independence, Solaiman introduced a trend in direction by incorporating choreography and music in his theatre. Aamina Shundori, written and directed by Solaiman, is the first Bangla play performed off Broadway, America. In his lifetime he was the General Secretary of BGTF as well as the convening member of Shammalita Sanskritik Jote. It is a fitting tribute to the versatile theatre personality that his works live on.

Habib's new album Maya

A blend of country, folk and contemporary music



The cover jacket of the album, (inset) Habib

well versed in classical folk compositions, craves to get back to the roots and listen to the originals. Track one Maya from the album hits off with good vocals and a sudden flute-ish intro. The occasional sounds of Shehna and other folk instruments, composed by rhythm programming, make it creative. Next, Bondhuah has an interesting dialect and catchy acoustic guitar riff, making it sound alive. On a first listen, one can easily feel the body shaken into commenting beshi joshi! (a Bangla exclamation of praise).

Song four, Baula makes a Bhangra type intro with the backing hoicheer, steering into groovy tunes of happiness--a perfect Gaye Holud song which portrays the joy of Eastern weddings. Track six, Ashi boley gelo could have been a much heavier track. It oozes Habib's trademark sound topped off with additional modern grooves--appealing to a hip-shaking shot. The next song's intro can easily remind one of the Hawa-mey-urta-jaye feel and the traditional Old Dhaka atmosphere of listening to old Hindi tracks while having a scrumptious treat of Bakor khani in front of a cosy eatery. The use of dhol sound makes Lok-ey boleya great song. Track eight Shonabondhe lacks energy in the vocals, which otherwise could reflect an exciting tune. Kuhu shurey mon flows with a natural rhythm of its own, incorporating fresh beats as the existing sound is somewhat totally different from the original. One can visualise listening to it on a rainy evening while cruising a long drive. Mon Mojaiya is a sad song of village life while Ochin desh-er, a lovely song of the riverside people, depicts the flavours of rural life. Track eleven Shona bondhe has effective rhythm flowing after the verses. Song twelve Kanai has a sweet dialect, blending dance rhythm and the conventional song itself into catchy beats. Bondhuah remix Where's my baby gone has a Calypso style with occasional mc-ing and a great fusion of Bangla and English amid slight AR Rahman vibes flowing--an uplifting song bringing a very cheerful ending to the album. Of course, no one can predict the future but with good luck and the right people listening to this talented artist featuring vocalists Kaya, Helal and rapper Kunle, it is not hard to foresee that they could be one of the major music makers of our time.

Rituparno to direct Soha and Abhishek

Just when Amitabh Bachchan and Sharmila Tagore are ready to come together for a film, their children too are all set to co-star in a movie by Rituparno Ghosh. Ghosh's next film, in Bengali, would feature Abhishek Bachchan and Soha Ali Khan in a passionate story. Says the director, 'I wanted an actor who had the brooding intensity, bronzed appeal, penetrating eyes and silent smouldering personality of Mithun Chakraborty in Mrinal Sen's Mrigaya. Abhishek is perfect.'



Rituparno Ghosh

with her. She's a fabulous actress.' Though Abhishek has played a small role in another Bengali film--Raja Sen's Desh where he was cast as his own mother Jaya Bachchan's son--this would be his first full-fledged foray into regional cinema as well as off-beat filmmaking. It also takes him to his mother's land where Jaya started as an actress with a Satyajit Ray film. Ghosh is confident Abhishek and Soha will make magic together even as Amitabh Bachchan and Sharmila Tagore co-star in Mahesh Manjrekar's Viruddh later this year. Ghosh will shoot the Abhishek-Soha film in a 20-day schedule in September. Source: Internet

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, 1pm, 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 (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. BBC WORLD Every hour on the hour

Table with columns for Channel, Time, and Program Name. Includes programs like Sangbad Patrey, Chithi pelam, Euro Roundup '04, Aaj Dupure, Ebong Cinemar Gaan, Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh, Priyo Natok, Magazine show: Anirbaag, Banglar Gaan, Dekhar gaan shonar gaan, Sa Re Ga Ma, Jangpoder Khabor, RC Tones and Tunes, Music Plus, Aamar chhobi, Drama: Keboly raath hoye jaay, Drama Serial: Sharey teen lala, Drama: Shoykote ghor, Close Up Hit Wave, Aajker Shakal, Kabitalap, Frankly Speaking, Colours, Zoo Adventure, Arshinagar, Transworld Sports, Circus Lights, Drama Serial: Sporsher Bairay, Tarai Tarai, Cartoon Show, Apan Jigyasha, Shubhoshondhya, Sports World, Siddiqs Kabir's Recipe.

PICK OF THE DAY



The Abyss
On Star Movies at 9:00pm
Genre: Action /Sci-Fi / Thriller / Drama
Ed Harris, Mary Elizabeth, Mastrantonio

Amar Chhobi
On Channel-i at 6:45pm
Film Magazine Show
Rabeya Khatun Special
Anchored by Shafilezzaman Khan Lodi

Table with columns for Time, Program Name, and Program Name. Includes programs like Windtalkers, The Abyss, The Good Son, Jaws: The Revenge, Beneath Loch Ness, STAR GOLD, Prem Shakti, Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit, Ziddi, Marte Dam Tak, Operation Gold, Aapko Pehle Bhi Kabhi Dekha Hai, STAR PLUS, Tanha, Kasautii Zindagi Kay, Kulkum-Pyara Sa Bandhan, STAR MOVIES, Cherish, Boiling Point, Strictly Sinatra, Chopin: Desire For Love, Kahin To Hoga, Kaahin Kissi Roz, Tedhe Medhe Sapney, Fox Kids, Kulkum-Pyara Sa Bandhan, Shaka Laka Boom Boom, Kyun Hota Hai Pyarr, Kasautii Zindagi Kay, Saara Akaash, Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki, Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi, Kaahin To Hoga, Kaahin Kissi Roz, Oprah Winfrey, Bold And Beautiful, Hollywood Squares, Whose Line Is It Anyway?, Miami Vice, The Simpsons, Home Improvement, Friends, Just Shoot Me, Race To The Altar, Buffy The Vampire Slayer, Angel, Star Asia Travel, Baywatch, Mission Everest, India Diaries, Miracle In The Pacific, Seven Deadly Arts, Wildlife Detectives, Sea Stories, Dogs With Jobs S3, Toyota World Of Wildlife, Koala Quandary, Tba 93, Croc Chronicles, Mission Everest, India Diaries, Living With Lions, Seven Deadly Arts, ANIMAL PLANET, The Human Touch Two in the bush, The Human Touch Fighting bears of the Punjab, Wild Encounters Beasty Babes, Pet Nation Helping, The deer of Nara, Wild Tech Navigation, Past is Wild/Future is Wild, Master of the spirits The world of the Punans, Celebrity Doubles Year 2003, Beach Hour Sexiest LifeGuards, Gillette World Sport 2004 (R), Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships London, Max Power 2004 (T), Futbol Mundial (T), Sportsline (L), Wimbledon Lawn Tennis Championships London, Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (L), Gillette World Sport 2004 (R), Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (R), European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 12 Highlights(S), Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (R), Gillette World Sport 2004 (R), Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (L), European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 12 Highlights(S), Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (R), European Championship Football Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 12 Highlights(S), Uefa Euro 2004 Preshow (R), U.S. Open Golf Championship, Sportscenter At The U.S. Open Final Round Highlight Show(T), Espn School Quiz 2004 (T), European Championship Highlights Uefa Euro 2004 Matchday 12 Highlights(R), Sportscenter India (L), Tri-Series In England The Natwest Series England Vs New Zealand 1st Odi 1st S ESSION(L), Sportscenter India (R), Tri-Series In England The Natwest Series England Vs New Zealand 1st Odi 2nd S ESSION(L), 7:00 Gamer TV, 8:00 After Burn, 8:30 Gillette World Sports Golf Highlights: Aa St. Omer Open, 10:00 Gamer TV, 10:30 ATP Tennis : Ep 33, 11:00 European Tour Weekly, 12:00 ICC Cricket World, 12:30 Gillette World Sport, 1:30 Trans World Sports, 2:30 Golf Highlights: Aa St. Omer Open, 3:30 Cricket Classics, 4:30 Trans World Sports, 5:30 The Bottom Line 2: Ep 108, 7:00 Gamer TV, 7:30 Golden Moments of Olympic Games, 8:00 Golden Moments of Olympic Games, 9:00 Trans World Sports, 11:00 Hockey Classics: India v Pakistan, 12:00 The Bottom Line 2: Ep 108