RECOMMENDATIONS

Art Exhibition

Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Artiste: Young promising artistes Venue: The national exhibition hall of Bangladesh Shilpakala Time: July 2-22, from 11 am to 7 pm



Solo Exhibition

Title: 22nd Individual Exhibition Artiste: Sheikh Afzal Venue: Saju Art-Gallery, F/40-41, DCC, North Supermarket, 2nd Circle, Gulshan Time: July 7-17

Exhibition

Organiser: Gallery Chitrak Artiste: Anisur Rahman Venue: Gallery Chitrak, House-21, Road-4, Dhanmondi R/A Time: July 2-11, from 10 am to 8 pm

Film Festival

Organisers: Bangladesh Federation of Film Societies In association with The Russian Cultural Centre, Dhaka Venue: The Russian Cultural Centre, House No. 510, Road No. 7, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1205. The festival features films that have won 'Golden Palm Awards' at the Cannes Film Festival

Screening Schedule:

July 11 11:30 PM The Piano (New Zealand) 01:30 PM Blow Up (Italy) 03:25 PM Pelle the Conqueror

06:00 PM Kagemusha (Japan)

Commemorative

programme

Title: Commemorative programme on Shubhash Mukhapaddhaya Organiser: Dnarkak The Little Venue: Seminar room. Zahir Rayhan auditorium, Jahangimagar

Time: July 15-17

Solo Exhibition

Organiser: Bengal Foundation Artist: Ferdousi Priyobhashini Venue: Bengal Shilpaloya, House-275/F, Road-27, Dhanmondi Time: July 10-24

Children's Theatre

A launching board for young talents

KAVITA CHARANJI

Children are the hope of the world -- Jose Marti (Cuban national hero)

O longer are academics and bookish knowledge the only raison d'etre of schools. All over Bangladesh, as in several Asian countries, the focus has shifted to promoting young talents in artistic spheres such as music, art, painting and theatre. Parents and teachers alike are elated at the cultural strides made by the present day youngsters. Take a look at the children's theatre scenario, for instance. In this art form, quality and quantity have combined to give the picture of a vibrant theatre movement for the younger generation.

'Theatre is one of the prime means for personality development in children. This form of art enables the performer to know oneself, others, society and life in general,' says prominent theatre personality Liaquat Ali Lucky, the Secretary General of the Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (BGTF) and People's Theatre Association (PTA) and director of People's Little Theatre (PLT).

At the moment the children's theatre movement is riding high.



A vibrant children's theatre movement

Following the conclusion of a cultural visit to Dhaka by Cuban children in April, a group of Bangladeshi children (aged between six-14 years) will wing their way to Havana. As part of the Social Harmony project of PTA and La Colmenita, Cuba's renowned children's theatre group, the children are set to leave Dhaka on July 12, a week prior to the Eighth World Amateur Children's Theatre Festival. The aim of the seven-day programme is to give the performers enough time to put together a fusion

programme based on music, dance and theatre.

The PLT--the only children's group from Bangladesh and Asia-will stage Aamader Prithibi. The play is written by Sabina Bari Lucky and directed by Liaquat Ali Lucky. In the latter's words, 'Havana hosts a unique festival. By taking part in such functions, held every two years, the children can learn about the theatre of other countries. The wide appreciation that we have received in previous such festivals is a major boost for the new generation.

One of the prime movers of the children's theatre movement is the PLT. Since it was established in 1990, the organisation has produced 18 plays, performed not only in Dhaka but in different places in Bangladesh. PLT participated and coorganised with PTA five national children theatre festivals in Dhaka. It also stakes a claim for fame as the only children's organisation which popularised children's theatre of Bangladesh. Now on the cards is the Cuban festival as well as the Asia Pacific Theatre Festival for children between August 1-6, 2004. The venue is Toyama city, Japan.

Among the key works of PLT are Vijay Tendulkar's Bobby, Tagore's Raja O Rajdrohee and Tasher Desh.

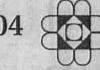
being made in children's theatre in recent time, there are still miles to go. As Lucky says, the patronage of this form of drama is conspicuous by its absence. To quote him, 'Many cultural organisations spend money from their own pockets to promote theatre. I feel that semi-government organisations such as the Shishu Academy, Women & Children Affairs Ministry, national and international companies, affluent people and guardians should pitch in to support children's theatre.

Yet, despite the enormous strides



Dhaka Drama Festival 2004

Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation (June 17-July 23)



REVIEW

Shikhandi Katha The sufferings of the pariahs on stage

ERMAPHRODITES are often regarded as burdens on society or as a curse of God. We do not try to understand their problems. On the contrary, we make fun of their frailty. Even the playwrights are guilty of making hermaphrodites a subject of ridicule. That is why it is refreshing to see Aanan Zaman's play Shikhandi Katha, which depicts the real life and sufferings of these

sidelined people.

Mahakal Natyasampradaya, as part of the Dhaka Drama Festival 2004, staged their current production Shikhandi Katha on July 9, at the Experimental Theatre Stage.

Aanan's ethnographical work Shikhandi Katha focuses on the miserable plight of hermaphrodites as well as the ill treatment that they receive from society. He has presented a fragmented picture of the hermaphrodites' den, their culture and lifestyle. In the soliloguy of a hermaphrodite, at the closing scene, the playwright is so emotional that his character delivers harsh words to the



The final departure of a hermaphrodite

omnipotent God for their creation. Rashid Haroon's approach as the director of the play is realistic. However, he would have done well to use more narration.

Tanvir Hasan's set symbolically represents the miserable fate of these unfortunate people. He has recreated a palm designed out of wood on the stage to suggest the

fate, as the inhabitants of Indian subcontinent have a strong belief in

Rafigul Islam Himel's light design is simple but could not co-ordinate well with the artistes.

Ferdaus Igram as Ratan needs to develop his emotive potential. Bijay as Shama, Munna as Bulari and Mithu as Bela performed well.

Geared up with hi-tech amusement! Sports Zone celebrates its 3rd anniversary

AFSAR AHMED

OTHING is more enjoyable than engaging oneself in indoor activities this rainy season. And that's why the mechanised city dwellers did not want to miss the opportunity for entertainment on the occasion of Sports Zone's 3rd anniversary

With the interesting title, Tritiyo Borshofurti, the amusement centre arranged a 3-day long celebration from July 7 to 9. The first day of the event began at 9 am with different games and competitions, varying from bowling to snooker, video games to skating, and body-fitness.

Apart from this, the energised crowds, especially the children, enjoyed the magic

On the concluding day, Ayub Bachhu was invited to give it a perfect end. The audience and the people roaming around the different compounds were engrossed and mesmerised with the LRB-star's

Sports Zone--a dreamland for the fun lovers, has several categories of indoor fun. With the Strike Zone, young and trendy people can strike out with sports like billiards, snooker and bowling with glow light ambience containing 3D animation graphics and digital surround sound. Safe, wholesome and amusing for children, the Fun Zone contains kiddie rides, magic train and video games. Especially the mind bowling Turbo Ride Theatre can give techno-geeks a lot of cool experiences. For the gym freaks or





A glitzy fashion show and an electrifying concert during the celebration

show by Shahin Shah followed by the traditional custom of cutting birthday cakes. Popular singer Kanak Champa enthralled the audience with her popular numbers in the

The usual game competitions and the magic show by Shahin Shah were held on the second day also. However, it was the popular VJ and model Sajal who stole the show with his children's fashion show, modern dance,

fitness nuts, there is the Health Zone where one can have the modern fitness treatment with sauna and Turkish bath. 'It's a place for family comfort with a

commercial aspect', said Moshiur Rahman, the Managing Director of Sports Zone. A raffle draw and prize giving ceremony also attracted the fun lovers. A children's

business fair and an art exhibition by children also added extravaganza to the

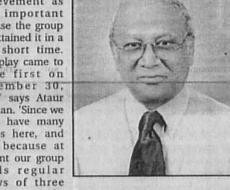
Ataur Rahman: the man behind Raktokarabi

HARUN UR RASHID

Raktokarabi is one of Rabindranath Tagore's plays staged most both in West Bengal and Bangladesh. In Bangladesh noted actor Ataur Rahman's group Nagorik Natya Sampradaya has brought it to the stage long after the TV performance under eminent Mostofa Monwar's direction. Recently Nagorik held the plays 50th show at the Mohila Samity auditorium.

Director Ataur Rahman, who also plays the King in the

play, views this achievement as very important because the group has attained it in a very short time. 'The play came to stage first on November 30. 2001, says Ataur Rahman, 'Since we don't have many stages here, and also because at present our group holds regular shows of three plays namely



Kalshandhya and Copeniker Captain along with Raktokarabi, our chance was rather limited,' explains Rahman. 'We have held a few call-shows, and we staged the play in Kolakata too on the 55th anniversary of Bahurupi, 'the group of legendary Shambhu Mitra.

Regarding the play the director believes that he has been able to bring a Rabindranath's work, 'generally treated as difficult to understand and to stage', to the level understandable by any ordinary theatregoers. Bahurupi's production reached the height because of the Shambhu Mitra-Tripti Mitra couple,' he opines. 'My Raktokarabi is more a complete establishment play in the sense that here I have portrayed all the characters almost equally. I have presented all the characters as stuck in their own establishments. Moreover, I have tried to present the play in context of the present time--a time when "digit" rules. Humanity has declined and men--the workers--have become mere numbers."

Aanan Zaman The youngest playwright in the festival

Aanan Zaman has just completed his MA in the Department of Drama and Dramatics from Jahangirnagar University. The young playwright has already written eight stage plays. In the festival, Mahakal Natyasampradaya has staged his play Shikhandi Katha. Aanan said, 'All the plays that I have written so far have been staged by several theatre groups. Of those Shikhandi Katha is the current production of Mahakal Natyasampradaya and the other plays have been staged by two member-groups of Graam Theatre



'Rudraleela is my first play. I wrote it when I was a student of class eight. I like to focus on the problems of society. In Shikhandi Katha, I have narrated the miserable condition of the hermaphrodites of the country. To do that I spent a lot of time with these unfortunate people. I did fieldwork with four hermaphrodites at Mohammedpur in the year 2000, to acquaint myself with their lifestyle.'

Regular member of Mahakal. Aanan considers playwright Selim Al Deen as his mentor and wishes to emerge as a prominent dramatist of

ERSHAD KAMOL

SCHEDULES (JULY 17-JULY 16)

Play: Atish Dipankar Sharpaja Playwright: Alak Basu Director: Alak Basu Group: Natyadhara

Play: Nagor Alir Kissa Playwright: M A Salam Director: M A Salam Group: Drishtipat Natyagoshthi

Prices: Tk. 30, Tk. 50 and Tk. 100.

Play: Bouder Pathshala Playwright: Aashish Khondakar Director: Aashish Khondakar Group: Space and Acting Research Centre Play: Kalshondhyay Playwright: Buddhadev Basu Director: Khaled Khan Group: Nagrik Natyasampradaya

Play: Bhaddornok Playwright: Golam Sarwar Director: Golam Sarwar Group: Natyachakra

Play: Golapjar Playwright: SM Solaiman Director: SM Solaiman Group: Theatre Art Unit

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy; Time: 7 pm Tickets are available at Sagar Publishers, Baily Road and at the venue before shows. Schedules, provided by BGTF, are subject to change without any prior notice

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY

All programmes are in local time. The Daily Star will not be responsible for any change in the programme

News Bulletin

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 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 and 8:00 pm. News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am. 12:00 am. 5:00 pm. 6:15 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 eadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 pm. Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

BTV 07:30 Bangladesher Hridoy 09:00 Satellite programme 12:15 Shongbad Potrer Pata Thekey 12:30 Health Bulletin Quiz Quiz 01:05

Cartoon Show: Meena 01:30 Computer Programme 02:30 Tommy Miar Kitchen 03:05 Karate Doe 03:35 Shukhi Poribaar 04:05 Banshori 04:30 Amar Dash 05:05 National Television Debate News for children

Mati O Manush My Three Sisters Drama Serial: Jochhonar Phul Drama: Sharto Pryio Shilpi Priyo

11:00 Jhilmil CHANNEL-i Tritiyo Matra Agora Shopping

11:30 Hridoye Mati O Chithi Pelam Aj Dupurey 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan Sangbadpatrey Bangladesh and public maction 02:00 Bangla film: Tyag (Champa, Ilias Kanchan)

Banglar Gaan

Sa Re Ga Ma

Music Plus

Jibon Jekhane Jemon

12:30 2:30 4:30 6:30 8:30 10:30 1:30 HALLMARK

AXN TV

9:30

12:20

Another 48 Hours Mcleod's Daughters 1:30 Killer Instinct 3:30 Audrey's Rain 5:30 A Painted House 7:30 9:05 The Inspectors 10:45 12:45 Ghostbusters

Sheena: The Feral King

The Amazing Race

Drama Serial: Sharey Teen Tala 09:35 Drama Serial: Andhar Drama Serial Jekhaney Shimanto ATN BANGLA

10:30 Annodrishti 11:15 Drama Serial: Baba Magazine Show 11:50 Bangla Feature Film: 12:30 Uro Cola Saat Rang 04:20 Drama: Nonsense Three Stooges 06:20 08:00 Danish Pothey Pothey 08:30 Rainakhi 09:00 The Adventures of Sinbad 09:30 Mohona 10:30 Adibashi Janapad

Bangla Film: Prem

HBO 8:30 Coneheads Mackenna's Gold Another 48 hours Blind Fury Vertical Limit Lara Croft: Tomb

Single White Female

11:00 Rescue Guinness World 11:30 Records: Primetime Internal Affairs Prod Black Rain Prod Year Fear Factor Maximum Exposure: The Future of America Guinness World Records: Primetime 11:00 Rated X

11:30

Search for America's Sexiest People 12:30 Sheena: The Feral STAR MOVIES Death Train 8:30 10:00 Just A Kiss 11:30 Dante's Peak Banger Sisters 1:15 3:00 Child's Play

Are You Hot? The



1:00

4:30

12:30

1:00

Mahmud Sajjad, Lucky Inam, Mahbuba Islam Shumi

High Crimes 6:30 Opening Night 7:00 Recruit The 8:55 Dick Tracy 10:45 Banger Sisters 12:30 Transylvania 6-5000 STAR GOLD 8:30 Operation Gold 9:00 Dilwale

Haseena Maan Javedi

2:30

3:30

4:30

5:30

6:00

Enterorise

Charmed

Cuisine

Travel Asia

The Bachelor

Journeys In Asian

5:00 Avtaar 8:30 Khiladi 420 STAR PLUS 10:30 Yatra 11:00 Maya Chalti Ka Naam 11:30 Antakshiri 12:25 Film Topper - 301

Series

Chupa Rustam

Mirch Masala

Musafir Hoon Yarron

Maya

Dick Tracy

On Star Movies at 8:55 pm Genre: Action / Crime / Comedy / Thriller / Musical Warren Beatty, Charlie Korsmo, Michael Donovan

Baywatch Hawaii 2:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangeet Stark Raving Mad Bade Miyan Chote 8:00 The Kumars At No. 42 8:30 Hit Filmein Hit Sangee 9:00 Rendezvous With Simi 20 M Garewal Britannia India's Child Fox Kids - Sunday 9:30 Vikraal Aur Gabraal Genius 8:30 Pyar Tune Kya Kiya Cover Story Pardey Ke Peechey 11:00 Top Drive Getaway 12:05 Hit Filmein Hit Sangee Focus Asia The X Files 12:00 DISCOVERY STAR WORLD The Bold & The Popular Mechanics for Beautiful Kids Water Amazing Baby Videos The Practice 12:30 1:30 Buffy The Vampire Discovery Sunday: Battlefield Detectives

1:30

Trafalgar's Fatal Flaw

Discovery Sunday:

Vietnam's Bloody

History Weekend:

Secret

Wind of Change History Weekend: The Babylon Mystery: Nebuchadnezzar 5:30 History Weekends: Globe Trekker: Great Historic Sites 6:30 History Weekends: The Babylon Mystery: Nebuchadnezzar Wings: The Flight En 7:30 8:30 Discovery Sunday: Future is Wild 10:30 Night Safari: Killer Crocs of Costa Rica

12:00

10:30

11:30

Red Roos 1:30 The Life of Birds: Mastery of Flight 2:30 **Animal Planet** Showcase: Danger in Tiger Paradise 3:30 On the Edge: Steve's Singapore Safari 4:30 On the Edge; Snakes and the City On the Edge: Island of 5:00 In the Wild; Lions The Zoo Wild Island: Food for 7:00 Thought 7:30 Aussie Animal Rescue: Seal Pup Rescue 8:00 Crocodile Hunter Diaries: Bundle of Ivory The Natural World: Africa's Forgotten Elephants The Natural World: The Last Tusker

Animal Planet

Showcase: Grizzly

Secret World of

Secret World of

Gardens: Frogs

Gardens

ANIMAL PLANET

The Natural World: Big

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC Storm Stories 12:00 Wildlife Diary 12:30 1:00 India Diaries

Adventure Challenge 2:30 Norway's Hidden Secret 3:30 Wildlife Detectivies 4:00 Havden Tumer's Wildlife Chall 4:30 National Geographic On Assignment Tomorrow's World 6:30 Storm Stories 7:00 Storm Stories 7:30 Sea Hunters 8:30 Wildlife Diary 9:00 India Diaries 9:30 Air Crash Investigation 10:30 Pantanal Cowboy **Built For Destruction** STAR SPORTS

World Pool World Pool 5:00 Championships Gran D Prix(L) 6:00 Chequered Flag: Formula One Grand Prix (L) Hitz (T) Atp Tennis Campbell's 9:00 Hall Of Fame Tennis

Championships

Newport Ri Usa

Semifinal #1(R)

Atp Tennis Campbell's Hall Of Fame Tennis Championships Newport Ri Usa Final(L) **ESPN**

Sri Lanka Tour Of

Australia 3 Test Series

2nd Test Day 3 2nd & 3rd Session(L) Samsung Cricket Show The Natwest Series London England Fina 3:00 Motorsport Asia (R) 3:30 **English Premier** Football League **Premiership** Manchester United Vs Liverp Ool (R) 5:25 Sportscenter Weekend

5:30 Cricket Gold (T) Tri-Series In England 5:30 Championships 2004 The Natwest Series Day 2 1st Session(L) London England Final 10th Odi Highlights(R) Championships 2004 Sri Lanka Tour Of Day 2 2nd Session(L) Australia 3 Test Series Race Day Silverstone Great Britain Foster's 2nd Test Day 3 British Grand Prix(L) Highlights(S) Formula One World 10:30 Silverstone Great Britain Foster's British 12:30 3:00 Silverstone Great 3:30 Britain Foster's British 4:00

Cricket Gold (R) **TEN SPORTS** Tour De France Copa America H/Ls Speedway Grand Prix Copenhagen , Denmark ICC Cricket World Olympic Spirit: Ep 1 5:30 Copa America H/Ls WWE : Experience 6:30 7:00 Olympic Spirit : Ep 1 9:30

Tour De France 11:00 Copa America H/Ls WWE: Experience