THEATRE FESTIVAL SCHEDULES (JULY 20-JULY 23)

Play: Shurjamukha Playwright: Rafigul Islam Director: Shahidul Islam Group: Muktamancha Theatre

Play: Daybaddhya Playwright: Chandan Sen Director: Aarham Alo Group: Bahubachan

July 22 Play: Gandar Playwright: Eugine Ionesco Director: Shafigul Islam Emon Group: Prachyanut

July 23 Play: Bhager Manush Playwright: Mannan Heera Director: Aly Zaker Group: Samay Shankskritik

Venue: Experimental Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy;

Tickets are available at Sagar Publishers, Baily Road and at the venue before shows. Prices: Tk. 30, Tk. 50 and Tk. 100. Schedules, provided by BGTF, are subject to change without

Misted colours in an Italian evening Dhaka Drama Festival 2004 Bangladesh Group Theatre Federation

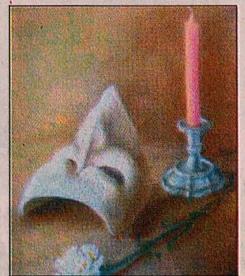
Exhibition of three Italian painters

FAYZA HAQ

T was a delightful display of pastel, tempera and water colours by Italian painters, seen recently at the Italian Ambassador's house. The works had soft muted colours and was a soothing change from the flamboyant abstractions that one confronts so often in the city. Some of the senior artists who were present felt that there was room for more mature work. However, one was quite contented with the fare. You understood what you saw at a flash and there

were no layers of meaning to wade through. The gentle water colours had been done by Guiseppe Rigon, who was born in Vallaverla (Vicenza) in 1928, and is now living near Milan where he is working as a scenographer (who makes settings) for "Alla Scala" Theatre. He studied in the Bera Academy and in the Fine Arts of Venice. He has participated in various international exhibitions and in 1969 received a special prize by the Tourism Board of Vicenza in the "Thiene Exhibition". Critics say that he has nothing to learn of water colour from other painters.

In one of Rigon's works, one found two houses, outlined with black and with splashes of green for lyrical trees in the background and bars of blue for the sky. There was the reflection in the water in front, and the expanse of water included a boat. The scene was a peaceful one indeed. Another scene by the same artist brought in gray boats with brown sails and it had a house in the backdrop, done in splashes of blue pink and orange. There was the reflection of the house and boat, falling softly in front. In a third painting there was a boat in black, with two houses at the back in



One of Laura Frassineti's pastel paintings

brown, with blue and pink clouds at the back. Yet another had details of tiles, pillars, windows, and lamps. At the back was the vast expanse of the sky and in front was the ground in layers of pink and mauve. All the paintings had a soothing ambi-

The tempera paintings were done by Massimo Amadeo. Born in 1962, working for the Italian government, his interest in painting began when he was posted in Belgrade during the war. The bruised reality surrounding him pushed him into

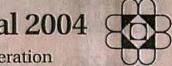
introspection which manifested itself in geometrical symbolism, where colours and forms are transformed into surrealistic images. In one of his paintings one found forms, one twirling and gliding into another. They were shapes of red green, yellow and blue and had twining circles of red, green and black. The background was a vast expanse of pink.

In his next piece, Amadeo had swirls of pink, green and gray, merging and blending into one another. His third piece had rectangles, triangles, circles and oblongs. Yet another piece had geometrical shapes in red and black with semi circles and rectangles in bold colours. Triangles and rectangles had also been included. Dots of pinks and grays were also found in the painting to add to the intriguing formations. Shapes of fish were found in his other painting and on top were two circles with entwining snake-like motifs in splashes of pink and white in a deep green background.

Laura Frassineti's pastel paintings were also powerful. Frassineti was born in Venice where she still works and resides. She studied in Venice in the Fine Arts Academy and in the International Graphic Institute. She has participated in various exhibitions. Her best known solo took place in China, in places like Shanghai and Nanking. One of her paintings has a white mask of a devil with two paint tubes at the side, one being white and the other blue. Another brought in a similar mask, seen with an apple and a stick. Lilies with yellow centres and a bowl of fruit were seen in her other conventional paintings.

The paintings were reasonably priced and one enjoyed the works despite the absence of the

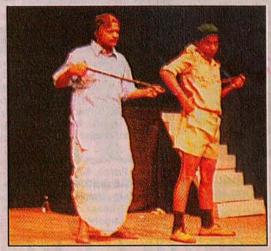
(June 17-July 23)



REVIEW

Narak Gulzar

The play portrays the depressed proletariat



A satire on oppression by the powers that be

Mannan Heera is a popular stage playwright in the country. His two plays-- Mayur Shinghashon and

Bhager Manush -- are scheduled for

the Dhaka Drama Festival 2004. Of

those, Aranyak Natya Dal has

UITE often, rulers turn into oppressors. In the bargain, it is the common people who have to suffer. Indian playwright Manoj Mitra, in his play Narak Gulzar, raises a pertinent question: Is the supreme ruler Brahma, the creator, also an oppressor? If the answer is in the negative, why does the Omnipotent one allow the status quo to continue?

Hard questions, such as the above, remained uppermost in the minds of the audience who saw the play

Narak Gulzar. The work was staged by Drishyapat on July 18 at the Experimental Theatre Stage.

Mitra's allegorical play Narak Gulzar is a satire on the oppressive tendency of the evil feudal lords, corrupt businessmen, terrorists, controversial religious leaders and evil politicians. The blame for creating a hell-like situation on earth was squarely laid at the door of these autocratic people. The setting of the play Narak Gulzar is earth, hell and heaven. The gods Brahma, Narad and Jamraj as well as some human beings are the characters

In Narak Gulzar, Brahma says, 'I have given power to those people who want it. And only to keep the balance, I have created the proletariat.' The gods have sometimes been portrayed in a controversial light. For instance, in his allegorical play Mitra shows Brahma taking a bribe from the evil doers. Of the gods he has shown Narad and Jamraj better than the other gods.

However, Mitra is optimistic in the conclusion. At the end of the play, he has shown the victory of the proletar-

iat over the oppressors.

The typical dialect of Kolkata has been used in the

Hasan Shahriar has failed to direct the allegory properly. Because of his flawed direction, the messages of the allegorical satire become weighty for the audience. His set design as well as the light design is also not up to the

However, Hasan Shahriar as Brahma performed well. As Narad, Ali Mahmud's performance, especially his Bhajans, were well appreciated. The other performers need to hone their skills.

Meeting a popular demand

Four video films released on DVD



Proti Chunia (To Chunia)

CULTURAL REPORTER

Four video films written by Anisul Haque and directed by Mostofa Sarwar Parooki were released on DVD and VCD. The launching ceremony of 'Shehnai Movie Express' was held on Friday last at the Russian Cultural Centre at Dhanmondi, with the release of these popular tele-dramas: Ainamahal (House of Mirrors), Protyabartan (The Return), Kanamachhi (The Hitch-hiking Game), and Proti Chunia (To Chunia). These films were previously shown on different television channels and were immenselypopular. There has long been a demand of these TV dramas on DVD and VCD formats. Now 'Shehnai Movie Express' has been launched to meet audience demand.

The launching ceremony was attended by eminent cultural and literary personalities of the country, namely, poet Belal



Ainamahal (House of Mirrors)

A flute fusion

A musical recital by Ustad Azizul Islam

AFSAR AHMED

Ustad Captain (Rtd.) Azizul Islam is the only Bangladeshi artiste to have taken part in the prestigious silver jubilee celebration of Dover Lane Music Conference -- the biggest Indian classical musical event in Calcutta. His live performance at that celebration was captured by the HMV and later the CD was released in India. The Bangladeshi edition of the CD, launched by Laser Vision, and a flute evening was held at the National Museum Auditorium recently.

Islam's love of the flute goes back to his early days when he was the captain of a ship. In moments of solitude, he often played a flute to alleviate the loneliness out at sea. The ocean's waves gave his flute a rhythm and the movement of the ship gave it a tempo. ' The flute recital of Panna Lal Ghosh always inspired me at that time,' recalls the artiste. And thus stands today's Ustad Azizul Islam.

With the fusion of Jhumra and

Tritaal, he started with raga Mian Ki Malhar which is dedicated to the monsoon. What better way to usher in the rains? Then he played his own composition in raga Imon in Setarkhani taal and raga Jhinjhoti with a blending of Rupak and Kaharba taal. The last attraction was his own composition in raga Kirwani, which he dedicated to violin maestro Pundit VG Jog, sitar player Ustad Belayet Khan and to te singer Niloufer Yasmeen. The audience thoroughly enjoyed Islam's performance.

Prior to the recital, in a small ceremony, chief guest Dr Osman Farruk, Minister for Education, launched Islam's CD. On that CD, the artiste presented raga Sree and Joy-Joyonti and a Bhatiyali dhun. Syed Margub Morshed, Chairman of Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission; Professor Mahmudul Haq, Director General of the National Museum and AKM Arifur Rahman, chairman of the Laser Vision, were also present on the occasion.



'I deal with fundamentalism in my plays' Mannan Heera

already staged Mayur Shinghashon and Samay Shankskritik Goshthi will stage the latter on July 23, at the closing day of the festival.

Regular member Aranyak Natya Dal, Mannan said, 'I like to deal with religious issues, particularly fundamentalism, in my plays. In Mayur Shinghashon, I have written about the sufferings of many Hindus people who had to leave their motherland during the Partition of India only for their religious belief. And in Bhager Manush, 1 wrote about the brutal riot that took place in 1947 during the partition of the Indian sub-continent. I have adapted the play from Urdu playwright Saadat Hassan Manto's Tobatek Singh.'

There are many quality plays in the festival, however, I like SM Solaiman's Golapjan most. The reason behind my liking Golapjan is that the play includes colourful lifestyle of the people of the old Dhaka widely known as *Dhakaia*,' Mannan added.

Within a few days Mannan Heera will complete another script.

ERSHAD KAMOL

Usa (S) Asian Cup 2004 Japan

Extreme Programming

Golf Programming The

Motogp World Champi-

Sachsenring Germany

Related Road To Glory

Female Spirit(T)

Football Asia (T)

Sportsline (L)

onship 2004

Highlights(T)

Sportsline (R)

Gymnastics(T)

Superbike World

Superbike Champion

ships 2004 Monterey

Ca Usa Highlights(T)

ICC Cricket World

Harsha Unplugged

Wagar Younis(T)

Hitz (R)

Vs Oman (L)

'Idol' raises age limit

Think you're too old for American Idol? Think again. The show has decided to raise the maximum age for contenders from 26 to 28, according to the official 'Idol' Web site. Despite Simon Cowell's frequently stated opinion, the minimum age remains 16.

The reason for the change, according to FOX Entertainment President Gail Berman, is that the network felt too many talented older people had been turned away. Don't expect that age-limit bar to be raised any higher anytime soon, though. Berman told the Television Critics Association: 'I'm sure there are people who are tremendously talented above that [age], but we're talking about people who hope to have pop careers

Auditions for the show's fourth season, which will begin airing in January 2005, kick off on August 4 in Cleveland at Cleveland Browns Stadium.

3:30



American Idol judges Randy Jackson, Paula Abdul and Simon Cowell.

4:00

6:00

6:30

7:30

8:00

11:00

12:00

10:30

9:00

TEN SPORT

TV GUIDE

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

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) CHANNEL-i

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

ATN BANGLA News (Bangla) at 7:00 am.10:00am. 2:00 pm. 7:00 pm. 10:00 pm, 11:00

Telecast of BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m,10:00 am, 11:00 am,1:00pm,3:00 pm. 4:00pm.6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.

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

NewsHeadines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30 Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30

Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

Bangladesher Hridoy Satellite Programme Shongbad Potrer Pata Thekey Cartoon show Educational

07:30

01:05

Programme 02:05 Computer Programme Janmabhumi Shukhi Paribar 04:00 Live Telecast of Nitol-TATA National Football League Nazrul songs: Shondha maloti

Quiz quiz 07:30 Musical show: Gaan Shudhu Gaan Protidin Bangladesh Drama: Aparajita 09:00 Drama: Jaley Tahar

Chhaya Kathamala CHANNEL-i Tritiyo Matra Grameen Phone

Cricket online (Live Bijli Boarding Chithi Pelam Aaj Dupurey 01:00 Ebong Cinemar 01:30 Sangbadpatrey Public Reaction

04:30

05:00

05:45

06:10

Darkman 10:30 12:00 Bangla Film: 3:00 Limbo Aashami Grephtar 5:30 (Deeti, Kanchon) 8:00 Banglar Gaan 9:30 Docu-drama Street Sa Re Ga Ma 11:30 2:00 The Apartment Music Plus

Speed Close- Up Juke Box 07:50 08:25 Drama Serial: Sharey Teen Tala 09:35 Drama: Shonali Danar Cheel 10:00 Drama: Taka ntv

Kanamachhi (The Hitchhiking Game)

which he would like to continue.

Chowdhury, educationists Dr Syed Manzoorul Islam and Dr

Muhammad Zafar Iqbal and journalist Sajjad Sharif. They

unwrapped the covers of these four tele-dramas. They

M A Bashir Bhuiyan, the man behind the 'Shehnai Movie Express' has long been interested in bringing out popular and

quality TV dramas on DVD and VCD. This was his first venture

Protyabartan and Kanamachhi were screened after the

ceremony, which were well appreciated by a packed

The launching ceremony were also attended by writer Anisul Haque, director Mostofa Sarwar Farooki, artistes Shrabonti, Marzuk Russell and others. Two of the tele-dramas

sised on the importance of collaboration and team-work in producing creative works in such a composite medium like

> 08:00 Aajker Shakal 08:30 Gaaner Mala 09:00 Khaborer 09:30 Images of Lights 10:02 Band-baddi 10:30 Ekhaney Amaar

> Drama: Journey to 11:30 Shapla Kuri 12:02 Drama 02:30 Teen Purush 03:05 Tifiner Fankey

03:40 Drama Serial: 04:25 Ke Korbey Bajimaat 05:20 Apnar Jigyasha 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Frankly Speaking Drama: Sporsher Band music 09:40 Drama Serial:

Shawla 11:25 Dindaman HBO The Final Curtain Backdraft Mackenna's Gold Orange County

A Nightmare On Elm Frequency

A Nightmare On Elm Street On HBO at 9:30 pm Genre: Horror / Thriller John Saxon, Ronee Blakley, Heather Langenkamp

6:30

7:30

9:05

12:30

12:45

STAR GOLD

STAR PLUS

2:45

9:30

5:00

8:30

1:30

2:00

2:30

Backdraft

Cherish

Splash

Life

HALLMARK

For Hire

Bewitched

Mad About You

Play With Me

Sesame Street

Pete's Meteor

Nightwaves

Horse Whisperer

Babe: Pig In The

Frank Mcklusky C.I.

STAR MOVIES

12:45

4:15

5:00

8:35

10:00

11:45

1:45

12:00

1:00

1:30

3:30

4:00

5:00

The Guardian-

Judging Army

Breaking Through

Mysterious Ways

Breaking Through

The Broken Cord

Spring Awakening

Papa The Great

Kartavya

Bandhan

Bhabhi

Kesar

Dilwale

Gharwali Baharwali

Kasautii Zindagii Kay

Kumkum - Pyara Sa

The Guardian

Season II

Season II



Sharey Teen Tala On Channel-i at 8:25pm Drama Serial Sharmili Ahmed, ATM Shamsuzzaman, Khairul Alam

Kabhi Aaye Na Judai 3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Kahiin To Hoga 4:30 Kaahin Kissi Roz 5:00 Tedhe Medhe Sapney 6:00 Life Nahin Hai Ladoo 6:30 Fox Kids 7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan 8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Dekho Magar Pyaar Se Kasautii Zindagii Kay 9:00 9:30 Kehta Hal Dil 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii 11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi Kahiin To Hoga

Kaahin Kissi Roz

Still Standing

STAR WORLD

1:30 Mac Gyver 2:28 Star Asia Travel Oprah Winfrey 3:30 **Bold And Beautiful** 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway? Miami Vice 6:30 The Simpsons 7:00 Home Improvement 7:30 Friends 8:00 Just Shoot Me 8:30 John Doe The Bachelor 10:30

Law & Order: Svu 11:28 Star Asia Travel 11:30 Baywatch **ANIMAL PLANET** 1:30 The Most extreme Disquise 2:30 Wild Encounters: Great

Scottish Terrier 5:30 Pet Nation 6:00 Lhasa Apso 6:30 Pet Nation 7:30 In the wild Tigers (Bob Hoskins) 8:30 Caught in the Act 10:30 Running Wild In the wild Dolphins 11:30 DISCOVERY CHANNEL Top ten Pizza Para-1:30 Discovery Health Body

Journeys

Pet Nation

Challenge Case Studies in 2:30 Forensic Science Seeds of Destruction The Ultimate Predators I Love My Music, My Animal and My House Schlessinger: Physica Science in Action City Cabs Istanbul, Turkey Streets of the World

Challenge of Ice 7:30 Serengeti Today Going 8:30 Science Frontiers Body Armor Science Mysteries Secrets of Levitation Let's get Physical Celebrity Therapy Military Planes

NATIOAL GEOGRAPHIC Toyota World Of Wildlife 12:00

Whale Shark In India 1:30 Snake Wranglers 1:30 Off The Map 2:30 Chasing Time 3:00 More Weddings &

Another Funeral 3:30 Coconut Revolution 4:30 Croc Chronicles 5:00 Wildlife Diary 5:30 Africa From The Sea Stories Dogs With Jobs 7:00 Toyota World Of

On Assignment 8:00 Snake Wranglers Treasure Seekers 9:30 Chasing Time More Weddings & 10:00 Another Funeral Precious Cargo Croc Chronicles 12:00 Wildlife Diary ESPN WNBA Action (R) 12:00

12:30 Motorsport Asia (R) Tour De France 2004 1:00 Highlights Rest Day(S The Open Champion ship 2004 (Jip) Ayrshire Scotland Final Round(R) 4:30 Cricket Gold (T) Asia Cup 2004 India V Uae 2nd Odi Highlights(R) Sportscenter India (L) Asia Cup 2004 Sri Lanka Vs Uae 4th Odi Highlights(R) Football Focus Extra

Roy Evans Special Part 2(T) Sportscenter India (R) 12:00 Sportscenter Asia (S) STAR SPORTS The Golf Club 2004 (R) Irl Racing Nashville

Gillette World Sport ATP Tennis Gamer TV Gillette World Sport 12:30 Copa America H/Ls **Quarter Finals** 3:00 Beach Volleyball Highlights Gamer TV Gillette World Sport 3:30 4:00 ATP Tennis 4:30 5:00 Copa America Highights Show

Smackdown

Tour De France

Sanjays Modern Masters 10:30 Road to Athens : Ep 5 11:00 Copa America Highlights Show Indy 200 Nashville Tn