

CULTURAL FEAST

Exhibition

Contemporary Group Art Exhibition
Venue: Exhibition Hall of Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, Road 7, Dhamondi R/A
Time: August 12-21

Film Show

Title: Sergei Eisenstein's Retrospective
Organiser: Dhaka Film Society
Venue: Auditorium of Russian Cultural Centre
Time: August 15-17

Print-Making

Artist: Tomoko Ogoshi
Venue: Zainul Gallery, Charukala Institute
Time: August 10-14, from 02pm to 08pm

Fund Raiser

Title: Mohaplan
Organiser: Wrisiz
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpkala Academy
Time: August 13 at 07pm

Artists: Rathindranath Roy, Subir Nandi, Shahin Samad, Lily Islam, Kumar Biswajit, Tapan Chowdhury, Fakir Alamgir, Robi Chowdhury, Prometheus, Kabirul Islam Ratan, Shamil Yusuf

Documentary Show

Title: Amader Banchey Dao (Let Us Live)
Filmmaker: Shahriar Kabir
Venue: Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs, House 22, Road 07, Dhamondi
Time: August 11 at 04pm

The show will be followed by a discussion session featuring Hena Das, Justice KM Sobhan, Professor Borhanuddin Khan Jahangir, Barrister Amirul Islam, Professor Ajay Roy and Professor Kabir Choudhury



Students of Charukala painting for a cause

cametoonandron August 9.

Meanwhile, the teachers of the institution also arranged a special exhibition featuring 80 paintings by 72 renowned artists. With the theme 'by buying one painting you can help the flood victims', this exhibition was inaugurated by AFM Yousuf Haider, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University, on August 6 which continued till August 10.

Art works of famous artists like Mohammad Kibria, Abdur Razzak, ATM Abdul Qayum Chowdhury, Abu Taher, Mohammad Rafiqun Nabi, Abdul Hashem Khan, Monirul Islam, Abdus Shakur Shah, Mohammed Younus, Kanak

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Channa Chakma, Ranajit Das, Debashish Pal, Rokeya Sultan and many others were on sale, comparatively at much lower prices. The prices ranged from Tk. 2500 to Tk. 3000.

A great response was drawn from the people. Around Tk. 1,50,000 has been collected from the sale proceeds.

Music to heal: Concert for the flood victims



Nagar Baul James performs at the concert

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

All around the world, people are reaching out to help the flood stricken in Bangladesh to rise and survive. Though, nature seems to play a game and wash away mankind, humanity still lingers on and tries to save as many as possible.

Along with the several hands that reach out to help the flood victims of Bangladesh, *Rupkatha*, an event management company, also laid out their resources for the flood trodden victims. Sujon and Robin, two young students and also the partners in this project recently organised a concert at the

Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton, to generate funds for donation to these victims.

Big time names of today like Nagarbaul, LRB, Warfaze, Dalchut, Artcell and Black performed to their delight and also the audience's. The bands performed various numbers from their albums and rocked the crowd who sang along.

The funds collected that evening were donated to the many agencies which would be working towards rescuing these flood victims and also to develop their souls and minds so as to once again look forward into their lives with hopes and aspirations.

'The rain inspires me to sing more passionately' -- Shama
Thoughts on Rabindranath

ELITA KARIM

SHAMA Rahman, a Tagore artiste, displays a deep affinity for the rich compositions of the poet. Growing up in an environment surrounded by cultural activists, musicians and artistes, music was second nature to Shama at a very early age.

Initially, trained under Ustad Fazlul Haque, she went on to Bulbul Academy and also trained under the eminent singer Kalim Sharafi.

Shama is greatly inspired by all the categories of compositions in Rabindranath's *Geetitan* and feels that every composition of his, reflects a moment in our lives. Especially *Pojoa* (Prayers) and *Barsha* (Rainy season) inspire Shama. 'We all pray in our own ways,' she said. 'But Tagore certainly had a way with his prayer songs. They are very inspiring and clearly show the dedication he had towards the Creator.'

Continuing on this line, she said, 'Listeners sometimes find it difficult to differentiate between the compositions of *Pojoa* and *Prem* (Love). Rabindranath's love for his Creator is sometimes mistaken for affection towards a beloved.'

Shama's favourite time of the year is the rainy season. 'I love the rain and it really inspires me to sing more passionately,' she claims. 'Tagore has composed a wonderful series of songs complementing the season and I try to sing them with all my heart.'

Shama grew up listening to the legends of Tagore songs. 'I used to listen to Dwijen Mukherjee, Konika Banerjee, Debabrata Biswas and many others,' she says. 'For a while I was really influenced by these personalities and taken in by their styles of singing. After a while, when I grew mature enough to develop my ideas and thoughts, I eventually built up my own style of singing. I think every artiste has this in them and the original style comes out at one time or the other.'

Speaking of the fusion mixes and the remakes of Tagore compositions which threaten to come out and distort the authenticity of these songs, Shama feels, that, Tagore songs can never be distorted. 'Tagore songs can never be distorted



in any way, no matter how much you try,' she said. 'These songs have been here for ages, and a simple remake or a remix can never wipe it off completely. Even though I despise the idea of breaking the *Swarajipi* provided by Rabindranath himself and remaking his compositions, I do appreciate the fact that a lot of different work is being done by the young musicians today. I myself would like to experiment with Tagore songs with simple piano works or the acoustic guitar.'

'Tagore still lives, and would go on living,' smiled Shama in conclusion.

Utsho Bangladesh celebrates 11th anniversary



CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Utsha Bangladesh, a social welfare organisation has been conducting a residential school for the underprivileged children for eleven years. At present 95 students ranging from 3 to 6 years are receiving residential facilities. Besides the academic programme, extra curricular activities are also organised to help the students develop their creativity.

An art exhibition of the students of the school was held at the German Cultural Center, Dhamondi on August 9. Good Morning Laboratory School, Cosmopolitan School, USEP School, Blooming Kindergarten, CRP and Dhaka Education Board Laboratory School also participated with Utsha Bidyaniketan.

The exhibition was inaugurated by noted artist Jamal Ahmed, associate professor, Institute of Fine Arts (IFA) Dhaka and eminent artist Rafiqun Nabi, professor of (IFA) Dhaka distributed certificates among the winners.

Professor Rafiqun Nabi concluded the exhibition by saying, 'It's a noble effort. I would like to give credit not only to the students but also to the members who have worked hard to bring them up. I am delighted to be a part of this programme.'

Nandita Das in Junoon video



CEO's Business Forum (PICBF), working for building bridges of peace for the prosperity of India and Pakistan, the film was launched yesterday in New Delhi.

Saqib Malik, director of the film, said that working with Nandita was a nice experience because she had the perfect expressions, which were required for the project.

Source: Internet

Sponsored by the Pakistan-India

King Kong heroine passes away at 96



Fay Wray is renowned as the damsel in distress in King Kong. Fay Wray, who played the screaming girl kidnapped by the giant ape in the 1933 film King Kong, has died aged 96. A spokesman said the Canadian-born actress had died on Sunday in New York.

Wray starred in about 100 films. She shot to

fame in the 1928 silent classic, The Wedding March, and often played damsels in distress. She said she had not realised at the time 'that King Kong and I were going to be together for the rest of our lives, and longer.'

She recalled how King Kong Director Merian C Cooper 'called me into his office and showed me sketches of jungle scenes, and told me 'You're going to have the tallest, darkest leading man in Hollywood'.'

Naturally, I thought Clark Gable. But then he showed me this sketch of a giant ape up the side of the Empire State Building, he said, 'There's your leading man.' Wray admitted that she had not been 'too impressed' in the beginning.

She made her name in horror movies like Doctor X (1932) and The Vampire Bat (1933), and went on to appear with such stars as Ronald Colman, Gary Cooper and Spencer Tracy. But it was King Kong that secured her immortality on the silver screen.

In April this year film experts voted King Kong the most terrifying movie monster of all time in UK film magazine Empire.

Rare Laurel and Hardy film found

A rare movie featuring comic duo Laurel and Hardy speaking in German has been found by film archivists in Russia. The 40-minute film, *Spuk um Mitternacht* (*Ghost at Midnight*), was a 1931 version of their English hit movie *The Laurel and Hardy Murder Case*. The Munich Film Museum uncovered the film while searching Moscow archives.

Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy spoke phonetically in German with the help of speech

coaches, while native speakers replaced the original supporting cast. 'Because dubbing was still difficult at the start of the sound era, [films] were shot in various languages,' a spokesman for the museum said.

Until the movie was found in July, the only German-speaking piece featuring the two Hollywood stars was a selection of short clips from a German version of their 1931 film *Paradon Us*.

Laurel and Hardy speak German phonetically in the 1931 movie

Source: BBC online

Sponsored by the Pakistan-India

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