

CONVERSATION

Commercial interests have taken over talent --Mozakkyer

SADYA AFREEN MALLICK

LYRICS are the flowers which bloom with melody.' Breathing life into this evocative verse is Muhammad Muzakkyer, a prominent lyricist.

'My office room was a hub for all the senior artistes since the early-70s,' recalls Muzakkyer. 'We interacted with the artistes and composers on a regular basis to make the radio programmes a success. Although it is considered next to obsolete nowadays, radio was the only source of entertainment then.'

Muzakkyer has been closely associated with the cultural arena since 1967. He feels privileged to have started his initial career at the radio. After retiring as the Director, recently, he joined a private TV channel.

The high point of his career was when he established links with great composers: Abdul Ahad, Samar Das, Abdul Latif, Ajit Roy, Shujee Shyam, Alauddin Ali, Anwar Pervez and Selim Ashraf to name a few. This period also saw the rise to popularity of artistes such as Syed Abdul Hadi, Ferdousi Rahman, Khondokar Faruq Ahmed, Sabina Yasmeen, Mahmudun Nabi and many more.

'Why is it that the lyricists of timeless songs often go unrecognised?' contemplates cultural personality Muhammad Muzakkyer. In the early 1980s, his song *Shukh tumi ki boro janley ichcha korey*, sung by eminent singer Runa Laila, was an instant hit. So were many other songs written by him and sung by Sabina Yasmeen, Samina Nabi and Subir Nandi, among other renowned artistes.

He believes that the songs occupy a permanent place only when the lyrics and the tunes merge together in harmony. Wordless songs are mere tunes, which might be hummed or played through instruments.

'Under what circumstances do you usually compose the lyrics?' I ask. 'It's not a question of timing. This is more or less instinctive. Whenever I feel that words come flocking to my mind, whether it's while I am fishing or during busy hours, I make it a point to write. I am then isolated from the rest of the world. It is something, which cannot be explained. It has to be felt from within,' responds Muzakkyer.

'Are you involved with the music composition as



Muhammad Muzakkyer

well?' I ask. 'Well, as all other composers, I too have a definite choice regarding the performer of the song. I even take time to decide on the tempo of the song. It is only after my final nod that the song takes a definite shape,' adds Muzakkyer. It then rests entirely upon the artistes to turn the musical creations into a success.

'The audience now demand more bangs for bucks. Compared to present times, I feel that the songs of the bygone days expressed deeper feelings. It is not that the presenters were more into showbiz only, in the earlier days they empathised with the compositions. Which is why songs were more intense and compact. As the lyrics and tunes matched with the style of the presenters, it blossomed in melody and mood.'

Muzakkyer boasts of arranging over 1,000 programmes so far, which include the state-sponsored programmes. He takes pride in having organised a dance drama during the SAARC summit in 1997, titled

A Symphony of Seven Melodies and later another titled *Golden Pigeon*. A collector of original records of Kazi Nazrul Islam, Muzakkyer is also involved in research on our National Poet.

Heading the programme department of ntv, Muzakkyer directs a popular programme *Kichhu Kotha Kichhu Gaan*. Like a whiff of fresh air, contemporary artistes present unique songs of the bygone days through live performances in this programme.

'Entertainment should be more culturally oriented. We have to abstain from shifting from our roots,' asserts Muzakkyer. 'I often feel that my creativity and consciousness is at a dead end as commercial interests have taken over talent. As the clock ticks away it is time to find a solution,' he concludes.

A bird's eye view of the flood

HARUN UR RASHID

There's a magnificent aspect even in the struggle of our poor countrymen, especially at times of natural calamities like floods. Foreign photographers fail to see this facet of the country and present Bangladesh as a land of poverty, misery and natural disasters. But our youthful photo-journalists can see the gleaming side of that struggle,' said eminent litterateur-educationist Muhammad Zafar Iqbal, while inaugurating a photography exhibition at the Drik Gallery on September 4.

Indeed, displaying some unique glimpses of the people's struggle against the odds of the recent floods, Drik Picture Library is holding the exhibition to raise funds for the flood-

afflicted people. The two-week exhibition is being held on the occasion of Drik's 15th anniversary. The display contains 40 photographs by 16 photographers from different projects of Drik, including Out of Focus and Pathshala. Up for sale, the photographs have been priced at Tk. 2000 each without frame.

The photographs in this exhibition reveal not only the grievous aspect of the floods but also the inspiring and humanitarian characteristics of our people. And this ranges from religious activities to daily household chores to different personal and organisational relief endeavours. One photo, taken by Foysal Ahmed Dadon of Out of Focus, thus portrays some Hindu women of Kamrangir Char pouring milk into the flood water as a ritual,

hoping that the floods would subside.

A number of pictures show families living on rooftops. While living in such misery, these people are not away from their daily work: a picture by Swapna Akhter thus brings into focus a boy swimming through the flood waters while carrying containers filled with drinking water. Another photo of Rabia Sarkar Rima shows a boy holding a teapot and a cup above the water level and swimming towards those awaiting the leisurely opportunity.

The pathetic aspect of the floods has also been captured in several photographs. Abir Abdullah's picture focuses on a corpse of a child tied to a small banana-raft having arrived at a *ghat* in Kukkurhat village in

Gaibandha. Another of Abir's photos show some people living on houses installed on a thick layer of floating waterhyacinth.

Like many places of Dhaka, the posh area of Gulshan also went under knee deep water and an aerial view of Gulshan became the subject of Reza's photographs.

At the inaugural ceremony Muhammad Zafar Iqbal was all praise for the photojournalists of the country as 'they are carrying out remarkable work, often risking their own lives.' He also pointed at the increasing use of digital cameras, which have definitely heightened the quality of photographs. 'And Drik's exhibition is an attestation to this,' said Iqbal.

The exhibition runs till September 17 from 3 pm to 8 pm.



Rabia Sarkar Rima focuses on a boy holding a teapot and a cup above the water level and swimming towards those awaiting the leisurely opportunity; Sajib's photo shows two children engaged in trivial aspects of life while their house is under water



CULTURAL FEAS

Exhibition
Art
Title: The Path Within
Artist: Nasreen Begum
Venue: Bengal Gallery of fine arts, 275/F, road 27, Dhanmondi,
Time: September 01-15, From 12:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Title: Urban Sight
Artist: Kazi Salahuddin Ahmed
Venue: La Galerie, Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road
Time: September 03-20, From 9:00 am to 12:00 pm, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm and on Saturdays from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

Photography
Occasion: The 64th Anniversary of World War II
Venue: Exhibition Hall, Russian Cultural Centre, House 510, road 7, Dhanmondi
Time: September 01-10, From 11:00 am to 7:00 pm

Ceramic Works
Organiser: Clay Image
Venue: Zainul Gallery Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University
Time: September 01-07, From 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Musical Evening
Title: Hridoy chahne hridoy
Artist: Shahin Samad
Organiser: Orchestra
Venue: All Community Club Hall, House 40, Road 35, Gulshan 2
Time: September 10, at 7 pm

Movie to tell shark girl's story

Bethany Hamilton recalls the horrific shark attack which cost her the loss of an arm a year ago. Her story is to be told on the big screen.

A US production company has bought the rights to Bethany Hamilton's upcoming biography *Soul Surfer*.

Now 14, her story proved an inspiration after she got back on her surfboard just months after the attack occurred in Hawaii in 2003.

'Bethany is a shining light with a great, compelling story of overcoming adversity,' said producer Michael Shane.

He added: 'This is a little girl whose life could have been fully destroyed, but she seized the moment and turned it around in a positive light.'

The film has been fast-tracked by production company Romano/Shane and is set to start filming next year, although screenwriters have yet to be hired.

'If everything goes according to plan, we'll be in production early next year in Hawaii,' said Mr Shane.

Bethany's plight hit the headlines around the world after a shark ripped off her left arm just below the shoulder as she lay on her surfboard.

Doctors believe she made such a remarkable recovery because of her fitness levels. At the time, she was one of the top-rated amateur surfers.

She has since become something of a celebrity and her courage has made her a positive role model for teens.



Source: BBC Online

The first TARA festival of Bangladesh in Mumbai

Despite a common cultural heritage, there is room for closer links between India and Bangladesh. TARA, the flagship television channel of Broadcast Worldwide Limited, is one such effort that seeks to bridge the gap in awareness of its eastern neighbour by organising television events in Kolkata, featuring singers and designers from Dhaka.

Now TARA will stage a full-fledged Festival of Bangladesh in Mumbai, the commercial and entertainment hub of India, says a press release.

The festival has four components: Fashion, traditional and modern music, contemporary art and food. A glance at the busy forthcoming schedule for the culture vultures in Mumbai:

September 26, 2004 at the Sheraton Towers
The fashion segment will consist of collections of four leading Bangladeshi designers: Bibi Russell, Lita Chowdhury, Aarong design house and Aneela Haque. Indian models will walk the ramp.

Shakila Zafar will present contemporary Bangla music. A talented exponent of this genre, this will be her first performance in Mumbai. She will sing in Bangla and Hindi.

Noted gourmet Shawkat Osman of Dhaka will organise a food fair. Osman will organise the food fair with a Bangladeshi cook and the chefs at the Sheraton Towers.

September 27, 2004 at the Jehangir Art Gallery
Selected works of 15 renowned artists will be exhibited for a week. Three of the artists will go to India to present their work personally. In a rare opportunity for art collectors in Mumbai, about 100 canvases will be displayed at the exhibition.

Rabindra Sangeet will be presented by Iffat Ara Dewan, Mita Haque and Tania Mannan, the Bangladeshi exponents of the genre.

Finding Neverland

US actor Johnny Depp and British actress Kate Winslett pose at the Venice Lido on September 04. Depp is promoting director Mark Forster's out of competition movie Finding Neverland at the 61st Venice International Film Festival that runs until 11 September with 21 films in competition for the Golden Lion main prize.



PHOTO: AFP

TV GUIDE

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

★ News Bulletin

BTB
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
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am. 7:15 pm. 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Telecast of BTB 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 pm.
Telecast of BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 a.m., 10:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 1:00 p.m., 3:00 p.m., 4:00pm. 6:00 pm and 8:00 pm.
ntv
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 BTB News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
TARA BANGLA
NewsHeadlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm. 11:30 pm.
Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.
BBC WORLD

CHANNEL-I
09:45 Tritiyo Matra
11:30 Shanchita
12:00 Chithi Pelam
12:30 Aj Dupurey
01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Public Reaction
01:35 Bangla Feature Film
04:00 Banglar Gaan
05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:35 Janapoder Khobor
05:45 Alokito Bangladesh
06:10 Music Plus
06:45 Baniyyo o Arthoniti
07:50 Drama Serial: Keboli Raat Hoya Jay
08:25 Drama Serial: Bijli Boarding
09:35 Film Show: Beast Master
10:00 Drama Serial: Amader Chhoto Nodi

ntv
08:30 Gombhira
09:00 Khabor Deshey Deshey
09:30 Expedition to
10:05 Natoker Gaan
10:30 Dhakar Cinema
02:30 Drama Serial: Tin Purush
03:05 Right Click
03:40 Drama Serial:

Chena Dukkha
Achena Shukh
04:25 Putul Naach
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Desher Khabar
08:15 Drama Serial: Sportshe Bairey
08:50 Sunsilik Opshora
09:40 Drama Serial: Chena Dukkha
Achena Shukh
11:20 Dindarpan

ATN BANGLA
10:30 Annordrishti
11:15 Drama Serial: Baba
11:50 Law Based Programme
12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Chawa Theke Pawa
03:45 Uro Cola Saat Rang
04:20 Flying House Special
05:10 Programme Islami sawaal o jawab
06:20 Poraner Gaan
08:00 Shongshar Jibon
08:30 Drama Serial: Bhitu Nironjan
09:00 Sushtha thakun Live
10:35 Katha Mala

TARA BANGLA
1:30 Bishesh Khabor

PICK OF THE DAY

Keboli Raat Hoya Jay
On Channel I at 7:50 pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Sumaiya Shimu, Dolly Zahur, Tanvin Sweetey

Desperately Seeking Susan
On Star Movies at 11:15 p.m.
Genre: Comedy
Cast: Rosanna Arquette, Madonna, Aidan Quinn

2:00 Taka Na Sona	10:00 Twilight Man	7:00 Monsoon Wedding	6:00 Sangeet- 20 M
2:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo	12:30 Americas Sweet-hearts	9:00 Reality Bites	Maal Hai To Taal Hai
3:00 Swapner Rang	2:30 Waters Edge	10:40 Spider	Fox Kids
4:00 Baro Eka Lage	4:30 The Matrix	12:15 Multiplicity	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
4:30 Filmi Furti	6:45 HBO Sneak Peek: Spiderman		Shaka Laka Boom Boom
5:00 Ghare O Baire Serial YUG	7:30 Evolution	1:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	8:30 Dekkho Magar Pyaar Se
6:00 Taka Na Sona	9:30 Batman Returns	2:00 Bhabhi	9:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay
6:30 Shree Ramkrishna	12:00 8 Mile	2:30 Kesar	9:30 Des Mein Nikkla Hog Chand
7:00 Tarpor Chand Utholo	2:15 The Devil's Own	3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai	10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
8:00 Antakshari		3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
9:30 Swapner Rang		4:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz Zindagi Milke Bitayenge	11:30 Kahiin To Hoga
10:00 Baro Eka Lage			
10:30 Live Dashtai			

STAR MOVIES	8:00 Count Of Monte Cristo	10:15 Spider
	12:00 Little Women	2:00 Kiss Of Death
	3:40 Raising Arizona	5:15 Desperately Seeking Susan

HBO	2:00 Taka Na Sona	10:00 Twilight Man	7:00 Monsoon Wedding	6:00 Sangeet- 20 M
	2:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo	12:30 Americas Sweet-hearts	9:00 Reality Bites	Maal Hai To Taal Hai
	3:00 Swapner Rang	2:30 Waters Edge	10:40 Spider	Fox Kids
	4:00 Baro Eka Lage	4:30 The Matrix	12:15 Multiplicity	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
	4:30 Filmi Furti	6:45 HBO Sneak Peek: Spiderman		Shaka Laka Boom Boom
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	8:00 Antakshari		3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
	9:30 Swapner Rang		4:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz Zindagi Milke Bitayenge	11:30 Kahiin To Hoga
	10:00 Baro Eka Lage			
	10:30 Live Dashtai			

STAR PLUS	1:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay	6:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom	9:30 Des Mein Nikkla Hog Chand
	2:00 Bhabhi	7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	8:30 Dekkho Magar Pyaar Se	9:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay
	2:30 Kesar	8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom	9:30 Des Mein Nikkla Hog Chand	10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
	3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai	9:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay	9:30 Des Mein Nikkla Hog Chand	11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
	4:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz Zindagi Milke Bitayenge	11:30 Kahiin To Hoga		

STAR WORLD	2:00 Taka Na Sona	10:00 Twilight Man	7:00 Monsoon Wedding	6:00 Sangeet- 20 M
	2:30 Tarpor Chand Uthlo	12:30 Americas Sweet-hearts	9:00 Reality Bites	Maal Hai To Taal Hai
	3:00 Swapner Rang	2:30 Waters Edge	10:40 Spider	Fox Kids
	4:00 Baro Eka Lage	4:30 The Matrix	12:15 Multiplicity	Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
	4:30 Filmi Furti	6:45 HBO Sneak Peek: Spiderman		Shaka Laka Boom Boom
	5:00 Ghare O Baire Serial YUG	7:30 Evolution	1:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan	8:30 Dekkho Magar Pyaar Se
	6:00 Taka Na Sona	9:30 Batman Returns	2:00 Bhabhi	9:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay
	6:30 Shree Ramkrishna	12:00 8 Mile	2:30 Kesar	9:30 Des Mein Nikkla Hog Chand
	7:00 Tarpor Chand Utholo	2:15 The Devil's Own	3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na Judai	10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Kii
	8:00 Antakshari		3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi	11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi
	9:30 Swapner Rang		4:00 Kaahin Kissi Roz Zindagi Milke Bitayenge	11:30 Kahiin To Hoga
	10:00 Baro Eka Lage			
	10:30 Live Dashtai			

1:30 Mac Gyver	5:30 Pokemon	7:00 Animals
2:30 Oprah Winfrey Show	6:00 Transformers Armada	Amazing Animal Videos Season
3:30 Bold And Beautiful	6:30 Tom and Jerry Show	7:30 The Most Extreme
4:30 Hollywood Squares	7:00 Popeye Show	8:30 Crocodile Hunter Diaries
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway	7:30 The Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show	9:30 Mad Mike and Mark
5:30 Miami Vice	8:00 Dexter's Laboratory	10:30 In Search of The Giant Anaconda
6:30 The Simpsons	8:30 Toonami	11:30 The Most Extreme
7:00 Home Improvement	8:30 Pokemon	
7:30 Friends	9:30 Tom and Jerry Show	
8:00 Just Shoot Me	10:00 Dexter's Laboratory	
8:30 That 70s Show	10:30 The Mask	
9:00 Still Standing		
9:30 Yes Dear		
10:00 Becker		
10:30 Boston Public		
11:30 Baywatch		

STAR GOLD	5:30 Pokemon	7:00 Animals
9:40 THAKSHAK	6:00 Transformers Armada	Amazing Animal Videos Season
1:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit	6:30 Tom and Jerry Show	7:30 The Most Extreme
1:30 JHOOTH BOLE KAWWA KAATE	7:00 Popeye Show	8:30 Crocodile Hunter Diaries
4:25 Kuch Hit Kuch Superhit	7:30 The Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show	9:30 Mad Mike and Mark
4:30 TAHALKA	8:00 Dexter's Laboratory	10:30 In Search of The Giant Anaconda
8:30 EK THA RAJA	8:30 Toonami	11:30 The Most Extreme
12:10 IZZAT - NEW	8:30 Pokemon	
	9:30 Tom and Jerry Show	
	10:00 Dexter's Laboratory	
	10:30 The Mask	

CARTOON NETWORK	5:30 Pokemon	7:00 Animals
1:30 Rubadubbers	6:00 Transformers Armada	Amazing Animal Videos Season
2:00 Baby Looney Tunes	6:30 Tom and Jerry Show	7:30 The Most Extreme
2:30 Scooby-Doo	7:00 Popeye Show	8:30 Crocodile Hunter Diaries
3:00 The Legend of Snow White	7:30 The Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show	9:30 Mad Mike and Mark
3:30 The Powerpuff Girls	8:00 Dexter's Laboratory	10:30 In Search of The Giant Anaconda
4:00 Power Zone	8:30 Toonami	11:30 The Most Extreme
4:30 X-Men	8:30 Pokemon	
5:00 Swat Kats	9:30 Tom and Jerry Show	
	10:00 Dexter's Laboratory	
	10:30 The Mask	

ANIMAL PLANET	5:30 Pokemon	7:00 Animals
1:30 Secret World of Gardens	6:00 Transformers Armada	Amazing Animal Videos Season
2:00 Solitary Bees	6:30 Tom and Jerry Show	7:30 The Most Extreme
2:30 Animal Planet	7:00 Popeye Show	8:30 Crocodile Hunter Diaries
3:30 Vets in Practice	7:30 The Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show	9:30 Mad Mike and Mark
4:00 Battle Scars	8:00 Dexter's Laboratory	10:30 In Search of The Giant Anaconda
4:30 Adipsy Doodle	8:30 Toonami	11:30 The Most Extreme
5:00 Breed All About It	8:30 Pokemon	
5:30 Planet's Funniest	9:30 Tom and Jerry Show	
	10:00 Dexter's Laboratory	
	10:30 The Mask	

AXN	5:30 Pokemon	7:00 Animals
1:30 Worst-Case Scenario	6:00 Transformers Armada	Amazing Animal Videos Season
2:30 World's Most Shocking Moments	6:30 Tom and Jerry Show	7:30 The Most Extreme
3:30 7 Days	7:00 Popeye Show	8:30 Crocodile Hunter Diaries
4:30 Rescue 911	7:30 The Scooby and Scrappy-Doo Show	9:30 Mad Mike and Mark
5:30 The Game	8:00 Dexter's Laboratory	10:30 In Search of The Giant Anaconda
8:30 24 (Season 2)	8:30 Toonami	11:30 The Most Extreme
9:30 Fear Factor	8:30 Pokemon	
10:30 Desperado	9:30 Tom and Jerry Show	
	10:00 Dexter's Laboratory	
	10:30 The Mask	

ESPN	5:30 Pokemon	7:00 Animals
10:30 Lpga Golf State Farm Classic	6:00 Transformers Armada	Amazing Animal Videos Season