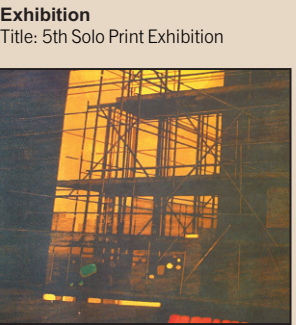


CULTURAL FEAST



Artist: Anisuzzaman
Venue: Divine Art Gallery
Pan Pacific Sonarong Hotel; Dhaka
Time: September 17 at 6:00pm

Organiser: Art Collector
Artist: Rafiqunnabi, Jamal Ahmed, Kuhu, Khalid Mahmud Mithu, Kanakchampa Chakma, Harold Rashid, Goutam Chakroborty, Bipul Shah, Karu Titash and Sulekha Chowdhury
Venue: Art Gallery of Art Collector, BNS Centre, Shop: A/7.8, Plot 87, Sector 7, Uttara, Dhaka.
Time: September 17-October 18, from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm

Title: Shamaman-Shahajan
Venue: Charupath, Munshi Meherullah Road, Jessore
Time: September 10-19, From 10 am to 8 pm

Street Theatre
Title: Quatre symphonies pour une valise
Group: Un trefle a quatre femmes
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26 Mirpur road, Dhanmondi
Time: September 17 at 7:00 pm

Documentary Show
Title: The Naf River & Miracle of the Creation of Man
Venue: Spectra Convention Centre, House 19, Road 7, Gulshan 1
Time: September 17 at 4:00pm

My dream is to establish a 'drama village' for Jatra artistes – Nilu

ERSHAD KAMOL

KAMALUDDIN Nilu has his hands full at the moment. General Secretary of Centre for Asian Theatre (CAT) he is busy with his directorial work for the new production of CAT, *Brand* of Norwegian playwright Henrik Ibsen.

Talking about the play, Nilu says, 'Like other Ibsen's plays, *Brand* has a universal touch. Henrik Ibsen has dealt with fundamentalism in Christianity in this play. I will not edit or adapt the play; rather I will only use the translated version of *Brand, Manzur-e-Moula*. It will be a six-hour play and be staged in two parts on two consecutive days.'

Nilu is hopeful that *Manzur-e-Moula* will be a new type of production from the Bangladeshi perspective. 'I am taking the risk to stage two parts of a play on two consecutive days. We never go after box-office hit productions. CAT always stages classics all over the world,' Nilu says.

On the genesis of CAT, Nilu says, 'I got the idea when I was studying drama in the National School for Drama (NSD), India. I was held up for funds to start a professional theatre group in Bangladesh. During that transitional period I joined Chittagong University as a drama teacher in the Department of Fine Arts as well as appeared on the screen for BTV plays.

Later, in 1994 I got a fund from the Norwegian Embassy to fulfil my desire. In 1996, I established CAT. To run the 36-member professional theatre group, we need Taka 30 lakhs per year, as we pay our activists monthly and the salary range is Taka 3,000 to Taka 20,000. CAT has its own theatre hall and required technical hands. In fact, CAT is a model for professional theatre practice in Bangladesh. We collect money by taking part in the mainstream theatre festivals all over the world. For each show in the festivals we get US \$ 5,000. We sell recorded CDs and our publications during the festivals. Grameen Phone is our sponsor. Moreover, Royal Norwegian Embassy extends patronage to us.'



Recently CAT has started another venture—Theatre for Children project—jointly with the Canadian Embassy. 'In 2005 we will divide CAT into two branches—urban and rural. I am planning to establish the rural branch where I aim to establish a "drama village" featuring selected traditional Jatra artistes,' informs Nilu. 'I really enjoy the indigenous art form and the Jatra artistes have got immense potential. I will try to give the art form a polished shape. I believe that all the classics of William Shakespeare, Christopher Marlowe and others can be adapted well in Jatra. In that Jatra village we will establish a school for the children of the Jatra artistes who will learn the medium from the childhood,' Nilu adds.

Kamaluddin Nilu thinks that theatre groups in Bangladesh should strive for professionalism. To quote him, 'The approach to traditional theatre practice in Bangladesh is not the right one. Theatre leaders usually do not go to watch one another's works. Moreover, they do not

exchange ideas with one another, which is very important for the advancement of any art form. By and large, the theatre activists in Bangladesh are involved with other professions. Theatre in Bangladesh has become a kind of club culture. They are paying more attention to their personal interest rather than creative work. And in maximum cases they have not created any suitable successors. That is why a huge vacuum has been created within every big group. Moreover, the renowned artistes are now very much involved with electronic media rather than theatre, that is why almost every theatrical group is suffering. This can never be a healthy scenario for the theatre of any country.

Another major problem in our theatre is the lack of young stage dramatists. Very few of those who write stage plays have any idea about the medium. May be their plays have got very good messages, however, theatre is not literature. Expression is very important in theatre or any performing art forms. Say for example, Bangla films often deliver powerful messages. However, due to lack of expression the message remains suppressed and the films appear to be mediocre. And the maximum translators have got the same problem. In the case of the translation, they just emphasise on the craftsmanship. That is thousands of available translated plays cannot be staged as the translators are not acquainted with the performing space,' Nilu adds.

In the year to come, CAT is set to take part in two international drama festivals. The group will stage *The Mission* in the NSD festival in India in January 2005 and later they will stage their new production which has not yet been selected for the Berlin drama festival in Germany in May 2005. After the production of *Brand*, Nilu will direct Kafka's *Metamorphosis*, which will be his last stage work. And then onwards Nilu will dedicate his talent for the development of the indigenous art form of Jatra. He hopes that through his efforts, Jatra will have a definite place in the world drama.

Abriti Angan: Bringing recitation under the spot light

NOVERA DEEPITA

Abriti Angan, a recitation group, recently organised a poem rendition programme titled *Halud Patar Gan*. The programme marked the group's eleventh founding anniversary. The organisation awarded talented reciter Golam Sarwar with the Gulam Mustafa Medal, whereas Robi Sankar Moitri received the Aupu Honourary Memorial Award as a promising reciter on the occasion.

Majumdar Jewel, the director of the group, hosted the programme. Poet Saiful Bari, the Advisor of ATN Bangla handed over the award to Golam Sarwar while Robi Sankar Moitri received the medal from eminent drama activist Ramendu Majumdar.

A jubilant Moitri, overwhelmed by the recent award, said, 'Despite our perseverance in recitation, we get very little recognition. That is why I feel that such an award is a significant achievement.' Ramendu Majumdar in his speech once again identified the importance of a separate venue for recitation programmes. He also gave his own perspective on recitation not only as an art form but for developing the inner qualities of a human being.

In his speech, commemorating the eminent recitation artiste Gulam Mustafa, Golam Sarwar ended with a soulful recitation of a poem from Rabindranath Tagore. He



A glance at Halud Patar Gan

emphasised on the need to carry on the struggle to establish recitation as a prominent performing art. Poet Saiful Bari assured every possible help from the television channel ATN Bangla to promote recitation in the country as well as globally. He recited one of his recent poems that depicted the present unrest and hostile situation in the socio-political arena.

The staging of the lyrical drama *Halud Patar Gan* followed the award giving ceremony. Written by Simon Zakaria and directed by Majumdar

Jewel, the performance was as dismal as the muggy weather. The performance started with the song *Halud patar bhoier kapon* that played in the background without any instrumental input. The lighting and the background music were impressive but the performance was monotonous, and to a certain extent, a little unprofessional.

Recitation in our country has come of age. However, organisers should show greater drive to enhance quality productions in this art form.

CD by Nash: A bonanza for music lovers

HARUN UR RASHID

While outside it had started to rain again, an unfazed audience was still pouring in at the auditorium of the Russian Cultural Centre to attend the launching ceremony of a new album, *Ishkuler Bondhu*. Inside the auditorium songs from the album were being played on loudspeakers. And the audience discovered the talent of the new artiste, Nasrin Islam Nash.

Many albums come out at regular intervals. However, not all of them can really create long lasting impression on the hearts of listeners. 'While the tunes of most of these songs seldom show innovation, the lyrics are also devoid of any creative imagination,' said eminent cultural personality Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed at the launching ceremony on September 15.

Nasrin's album, however, breaks new ground. With an unusual title, *Ishkuler Bondhu*, the album contains



Professor Abdullah Abu Sayeed (2nd from left) inaugurating the album of Nash (centre); officials of Laser Vision are also seen

and fast music, background supporting vocal—often in classical style—and a still-maturing voice of Nasrin have made the album a promising work.

The lyrics of Shokal, Swapnil, Saiful Hossain Mukul, Notun Anis, TI Antor and MH Rony have an air of the teenage nostalgia recollected at a later stage of life. Especially the title song, telling the story of a classmate—a good student who used to sit in the first bench, was favourite among the teachers and never attracted attention of the singer, has the sweet feel of one's first love. The lyrics of the song *Eito prothom, Tumi bhalo theko, Tomar neeley, Srabon athoba* and *Akash bollo* also depict the same romantic imagination. Besides composing the music, Basu has also penned a song of the album, namely *Sriman*.

However, the music video of the

album, brought out on VCD, is not a good piece of work. Music videos of six songs were shown at the programme. Cinematography, editing and relevance to the songs did not seem up to the mark. Even the models were pretty stiff in their appearance.

Nasrin's introduction to music was through her elder sister at an early age. However, she took her first musical lessons at the Sangeet Bhaban of eminent Kalm Sharafi, where she learned Rabindra Sangeet. Later she went to the famous MS University at Baroda, India, in 1993. There she studied the Hindustani classical music. At present Nasrin is studying nursing in Oklahoma, USA. In the USA, Nasrin has been singing in the choir of the White Christian Church in Inola.

Nasrin's voice may linger on in the minds of the audience.

U2 to release new Atomic Bomb album in November



Irish rock band U2 recently unveiled the title of their next album, *How to Dismantle an Atomic Bomb*. This musical work evoked the violence and rebellion of their early records.

The album, recorded in Dublin and the south of France, made headlines in July after recordings from it went missing. The disappearance of rough versions of some tracks from a recording studio in Nice, France, had prompted fears they would appear on the Internet before the official release. However, a band spokeswoman said, 'They didn't show up anywhere as far as we're aware.'

The forthcoming album recalls the band's earlier works such as *War*, *Under a Blood Red Sky* and *The Unforgettable Fire*.

The group, and especially frontman Bono, have long been associated with global political causes and fans have been waiting to hear if there will be fresh messages from U2 on their first album since the September 11, 2001, attacks.

Vertigo will be the first single from the album, which is U2's first studio recording since the 2000 success *All That You Can't Leave Behind*.

Laloo turns Bollywood filmstar

He is a rock star, say some thrilled Bollywood actors about Union Railway Minister Laloo Prasad Yadav who is to co-star with them in a film. The man who is arguably India's most colourful politician will make a 'very significant guest appearance' at the end of Mahesh Manjrekar's *Padmashree Laloo Prasad Yadav*.

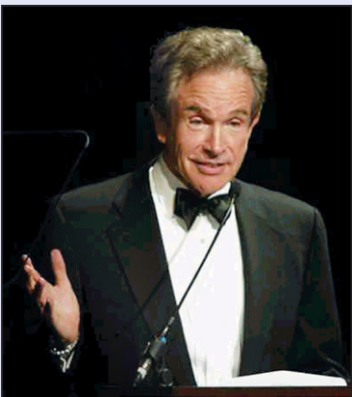
The cast and crew of the film flew down to Patna for a rendezvous with the minister. When he finally allowed Shetty, Kim Sharma, Masumi Makhija and producer Manik Bedi into his durbar, there was instant chemistry.

Director Mahesh Manjrekar who's currently shooting *Life Ho To Aisi* with Shahid Kapur and Amrita Rao confirms the news.

The politician will appear at the end of the film when the three heroes called Laloo, Prasad and Yadav played by Sunil Shetty, Johnny Lever and Mahesh Manjrekar respectively run into him on the road in Patna.



Kennedy Centre to Honour Elton John, Warren Beatty



Elton John and Warren Beatty will be among six entertainers to receive the annual Kennedy Centre honors this year, the Centre said on Wednesday.

The other recipients will be the husband and wife team of actors and producers Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, soprano Joan Sutherland, and composer and conductor John Williams.

The 2004 honorees will be feted at a gala performance in the Kennedy Centre's Opera House on December 5. The function is likely to be attended by President Bush and his wife, the Center said.

'This year the Kennedy Centre honours not the usual five but six extraordinary individuals whose unique and abundant artistry has contributed significantly to the cultural life of our nation and the world,' said Kennedy Centre Chairman Stephen Schwarzman.

Source: Reuters/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
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 pm.
Telecast of BTV 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 BTV News (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.
TARA BANGLA
News-Headlines(Bangla) at 5:30 pm. 7:30pm.
Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm.

CHANNEL-i
07:30 Musical Programme:
Prothom Shur Shongbadpotrey Bangladesh O Public Reaction
09:30 Tritiyo Matra
10:30 Live Show: Tele Shomoy
11:30 Islam Ki Boley
12:00 Talk Show: Kora Alap
12:30 Drama Serial: Sharey Teen Tala
01:00 Banglar Gaan
01:25 Public Reaction
03:00 Islam Ki Boley
04:30 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan
05:10 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:45 Janapoder Khabor
06:10 Music Plus
07:50 Weekly Drama: Khanika
09:35 Drama Serial: Din Choley Jai
10:00 Drama Serial: Ahonish Bhalobashey Ekjon
ATN BANGLA
07:30 The Sword of Tipu Sultan
10:25 Annodrishtee
10:55 Islamic Programme
03:40 Binodon Jummam
05:10 Shesh Akhor
06:20 Amra Korbo Joy
08:00 Rup Madhuri
08:30 Drama Serial: Khowab
09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neel Beguni

09:30 Drama Serial: Baba
10:35 Cine Musical Programme
12:20 Tele film: Bondhu Amar
ntv
08:00 Aajker Shakal
08:30 Jhanakar
09:00 Aain O Jibon
09:30 Expedition to the Animal Kingdom
10:05 Siddika Kabirs Recipe
10:30 Apnar Jigyasha
11:30 Trans World Sports
01:00 Smritir Janalay
02:30 Drama
03:45 Circus
05:20 Tiffiner Fankey
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
08:15 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush
08:50 Pepsi Music Express
09:40 Drama Serial: Premier Golpo Dindarpan
11:25
HBO
7:45 Sudden Death
10:00 Born Free
12:00 Hannibal
2:30 Dancing in September
4:45 The Matrix
7:30 The Truth About Charlie
9:30 The Glimmer Man
11:15 Sex and The City
11:45 Puppet Master 4
1:30 King Kong Lives
STAR MOVIES
8:15 The Pianist
10:45 About A Boy
12:30 Till Human Voices



PICK OF THE DAY

Khanika

On Channel-1 at 7:50 pm
Drama of the Week
Cast: Shams Shumon, Deepa Khondokar, Meghla, Anjali, Anwar Shahi
Ranjan and Arpita go to Cox's Bazar on assignment from the office. After their task, both of them decide to stay there for a few days more. And eventually they become involved with each other. Meanwhile, at the sea shore Ranjan meets Khanika, his previous girlfriend who once refused to marry him. Seeing Khanika so devastated amazes him. Ranjan avoids her and later comes to know the truth that she is severely sick and going to die. And that is why she went away from Ranjan's life. What will Ranjan do now?

2:15 Wake Us	1:30 Chalti Ka Naam	10:30 Jadu Todi Naz	10:30 The Apprentice
3:45 Lost Battalion	Antakshiri	11:28 Karma	11:28 Star Asia Travel
Desperately	Meri Mrs	11:30 Kahani Jurm Ki	11:30 Baywatch
Seeking Susan	Chanchala	12:00 Aatish	DISCOVERY
5:25 Cruel Intentions	Piya Bina	11:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer	11:30 Natural Wonders of the World Episode 2
7:00 Sweet Home Alabama	Taaza Hits	12:30 Angel	12:30 Berman & Berman Sex & The Workplace
8:50 Target (A.K.A. Falcon)	Ek Mulaqat	1:30 Mac Gyver	1:00 Romantic Escapes Golden Isles
10:15 About A Boy	Smriti	2:28 Star Asia Travel	1:30 Celebrity Doubles Year 2003
STAR GOLD	Oli Star Search - Final	2:30 Oprah Winfrey	2:00 Healthy Living Where we are now
9:45 Joshilaay	Maal Hai To Taal Hai	3:30 Bold And Beautiful	2:30 New Detectives : The Case Studies in Forensic Science
1:30 Biwi No. 1	Film Topper - 301 Series	4:30 Hollywood Squares	3:30 Menziwa's Children: The elephants of Zimbabwe
4:45 Himalayputra	Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Dhoom	5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway	4:30 Real Kids, Real
8:30 Lahoo Ke Do Rang	8:30 Sonpari	5:30 Miami Vice	
12:00 Radha Ka Sangam	8:30 Hatim Shararat - Thoda	6:30 The Simpsons	
STAR PLUS	1:00 KabhieKabhie-meregharmeinhbhuc ha	7:00 Home Improvement	
		7:30 Friends	
		8:00 Just Shoot Me	
		8:30 Tna Wrestling I Dare You	

5:00 Adventures Endurance Leap of Fate
5:30 Travelers Seville
6:30 The Last Trail Of Butch & Sundance
7:30 Wild Discovery Watery Creatures
8: +30 Owning The Weather
9:30 Weather Extreme Tornado
10:30 Prosecutors Release Me
11:30 World's Best Kept Secrets of...
ANIMAL PLANET
10:30 Planet's Funniest Animals
11:00 Amazing Animal Videos Season
11:30 Lyndal's Lifeline Elephant Alert
12:30 Miami Animal Police Tiger Trouble
1:30 Nightmares of Nature
2:00 Animal X Animal phantoms
2:30 Wild Encounters Eye of The Tiger
3:30 Animal Doctor V
4:00 Emergency Vets There They Go
4:30 Emergency Vets Breed all about it
5:00 Greater Swiss Mountain Dogs
5:30 Planet's Funniest Animals
6:00 Breed all about it
6:30 Dalmations
6:30 Planet's Funniest Animals
7:00 Amazing Animal

7:30 Videos Season Around The World With Tippi and The Grizzlies
8:00 Elephant Trilogy
8:30 Lyndal's Lifeline Koala Crisis
9:30 Miami Animal Police Pit Bull Raid
10:30 Gorilla Encounters
11:30 Around the World With Tippi and The Wolves
12:00 Namibia's Desert Giants
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC
11:30 Planet Wild
12:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
12:30 Penguin Baywatch
1:30 Red Space Frontlines Of Construction
2:30 Wild Man Of The Himalayas
3:30 Amazing Space
4:30 Extreme Science
5:30 Dogs With Jobs
6:00 Hayden Turner's Wildlife Chall
6:30 Planet Wild
7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife
7:30 Bringing Home The Bear II From Russia With Love
8:30 Battle Of The Hood & Bismarck
9:30 Frontlines Of Construction
10:30 Dam Busters
11:30 Amazing Space
12:00 Extreme Science

STAR SPORTS
9:30 Mrf National Motocross Championship 2004
Event Highlights(R)
10:00 Futbol Mundial(R)
11:00 Cricket Gold(R)
12:30 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Tottenham Hotspur Vs Norwich City (R)
2:30 Samsung Nations Cup 2004 Hungary Highlights(T)
3:30 Fim World Individual Speedway Gp Series 2004 Sweden Highlights
4:30 World Superbike Championships 2004 Netherlands Highlights(R)
5:00 laaf Night Of Athletics Belgium(R)
7:30 English Premier League Preview(T)
8:00 Sportsline(L)
8:30 Tdk Golden League - Zurich Switzerland Highlights(R)
9:30 Classic Boxing Great Fights Of The Late 50's(T)
10:30 Sportsline(R)
11:00 Nba Inside Stuff(T)
ESPN