

GALA EVENT

'Bangladesh Festival' in Mumbai begins

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

ON September 26, TARA TV, the flagship Bangla television channel of Broadcast Worldwide Limited, held a fashion show bringing together eminent designers of Bangladesh at The Regal Room, Hilton Towers. The function was part of a first ever Bangladesh Festival to be held in Mumbai. The designers were big names such as Bibi Russell, Lita S Chowdhary, Aneela Haque and The Aarong

House. On the same day renowned Bangladeshi singers like Iffat Ara Dewan, Mita Huq, Shakila Zafar and Tania Mannan enthralled the audience with their spectacular performance.

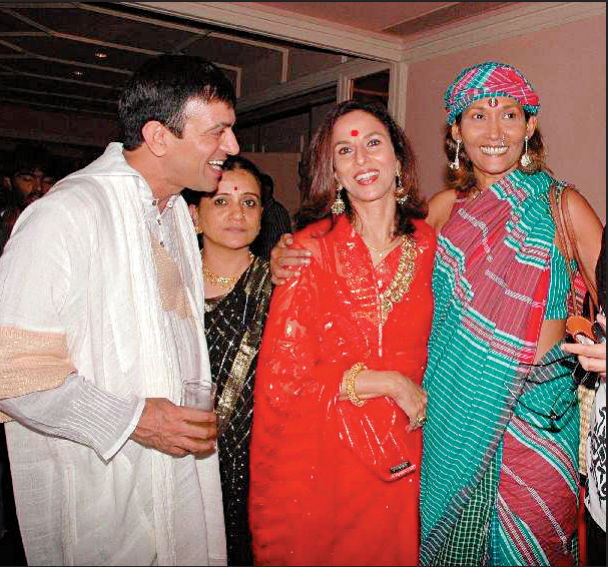
The Bangladesh Festival, which started on September 26, will be on till October 3, 2004, showcasing and introducing Bangladesh to Indian audiences through four components. Fashion, Traditional and Modern Music, Contemporary Art and Food.

Seen enjoying the fashion show were eminent personalities like Pandit Jasraj, Shobhaa and Dilip De, Neena Gupta, Anil Dharker, Ila Arun, Isshita Arun, Nisha Jhamwal, Krishna Mehta of Zeba, Gerson D'Cunha, Raveena Raj Kohli and Harish Bhimani amongst others.

The programme was telecast live from Mumbai. About 100 canvases are on view at the exhibition, most of which are on sale, providing a rare opportunity to collectors in Mumbai.



A model displays Aneela's creation



(R-L) Bibi Russell and Shobhaa De seen with the organisers



A sample of haute couture by Bibi

DOCUMENTARY

Nijhum Dwip: Far from the madding crowd

AFSAR AHMED

SOLITUDE prevails over the small island raised from the heart of the Bay of Bengal and on the estuary of the Meghna. Only the sweet carols of a melange of birds and the suppressed roars of waves of the Bay of Bengal break that silence. So it is called Nijhum Dwip, the word 'nijhum' meaning silence. Through the footages of the documentary *Nijhum Dwip*, recently screened at the Spectra Convention Centre, director A Masud Chowdhury takes us to this magical land.

Ballar Char, Kamolar Char, Char Osman and Char Muri create the

14,000 acres lyrical landscape of the island that is known today as Nijhum Dwip.

It was back in the 1960s when a small piece of alluvial land rose in the heart of the sea. Fishermen named it Baluaar Char because of its sandy landscape. In time the name changed into Ballar Char. There is a saying that a person named Osman first came to this remote area in search of a better future. Thus the island is called Char Osman after him. The island however got its present name in 1973.

People from other islands like Hatia, Shabazpur and Ramgati were attracted to the fertile nature of this isolated land in the early 1970s

and came and settled there. Now 11,000 people live in the island where an engine trawler is the only means of communication with the mainland.

Masud's documentary projects footages of the canals heavily vegetated mangrove forest deep in the island. Kamolar Khal, Shataphul Khal, Dubai Khal, Chowdhurir Khal and many more canals, all of them directly linked with the sea, flow across the island and give it a picturesque look.

'Lonabon'-- as the locals call the manmade mangrove forest--is located on the north of the island. The forestation started in the 1970s with Keora, Bain, Geoya and other

trees and now the forest covers around 9,500 acres of land.

The forest is a sanctuary for the deer. Footages of flocks of *Chitra Horin* (Spotted Deer) roving on the banks of a canal transport the viewer to wild nature. Apart from the deer, there are seven different species of mammals and 16 species of reptiles with varieties of trees and plants.

With their periscope-like eyes, *Meowa*--the mud skippers--play around the muddy *lonabon*. Hottiti, pigeon, kingfisher, crane--around 35 species of birds treat the island as a sanctuary. The fishing spree of the big white cranes is a delight for spectators. In the south, however, fearful sharks have often been spotted near the shore.

Around 85 percent of the island dwellers depend on fishing. *Cheowa*, a small snake-like fish, is a good hunt for the fishermen for making *shutki* (dried fish). Housewives and children of the fishermen also hunt for lobsters during January-April. The fishing technique of *Bata Machh*, a small jumpy fish, with special kind of nets is an amusing sight.

In the evening, solitude descends on Nijhum Dwip. The busy day bazaars are an exception in the otherwise quiet island. With 60-watt bulbs teeming, the shops in the market attract visitors.

The film has some brilliant footage and good narration. However to reach a wider audience it is necessary to have English subtitles. This would make it possible for people all over the world to get a glimpse of this enchanting island.



Flocks of Spotted Deer roving on the banks of a canal



NOVERA DEEPTA

Channel i celebrates its founding anniversary on October 1. The channel has come a long way in its journey as the first ever digital satellite channel of the country. To celebrate the momentous occasion, Channel i has organised different programmes. In the last five years Channel i has introduced many television programmes with new concepts. Besides, the channel has been a trend setter in telecasting telefilms, mega serials and world premiers of films on television.

Channel i has also introduced different awards. Channel i Performance Award is the most noteworthy among them. For the first time this award for 2003 was given to outstanding performers at a ceremonious programme in Dubai.

The event was held at the Al Nasr Leisureland of Dubai on September 2 this year. Faridur Reza Sagar, Director (Programme), Channel i, claimed 'This was the first ever award-giving ceremony of the country with

the participation of a record number of 35 Bangladeshi artistes. The audience numbered to about 3,500.'

The award has been granted to 17 artistes in different categories and three special awards have been given to three institutes: Lifebouy, Berger Paints and *Prothom Alo* for their contribution to the society. Both eminent and promising artistes of Bangladesh entertainment world have participated in the show. To name them, Runa Laila, Sabina Yasmin, Jewel Aich, Riaz, Purnima, Mahfuz, Srabonti, Moushumi, Shakila Zafar, Mehrin, Ankhi Alamgir, Kumar Biswajit, Aiyub Bachhu, Selim Choudhury, Syed Abdul Hadi, Amzad Hossain, Razzak, Afzal Hossain, Humayun Faridee, Shomi Kaysar and others.

Programme director Hasan Abidur Reza Jewel said, 'The ceremony was the first of its kind by a Bangladeshi television channel to arrange such an event.' The theme song of the programme was a medley of three songs: two popular patriotic songs like *Shab kata*



Jubilant Sabina and Runa at the show

janala, *Hayre amar mon matano desh* and the theme song of the channel *Amar Channel i*. The music was composed by Manam Ahmed. Debashish Biswas and Farzana Brounia compered the

show. On the occasion of the founding anniversary of Channel i, the programme will be telecast on October 1 at 3.00 pm on Channel i.

Joys and sorrows of violin notes

HARUN UR RASHID

It is rare nowadays to see live performances of instrumental music in the country. Young violinist Nusrat Mumtaz Ruposhi, however has broken new ground with her commitment to her art. The lone female violinist of the country has successfully staged a number of shows in recent times featuring some brilliant violin notes. On September 27, Ruposhi performed her latest solo recital at the Shishu Academy auditorium.

Organised by music house Gaaner Dali and sponsored by Standard Chartered Bank Ltd., the evening featured four original compositions by Ruposhi. The pieces marked classical compositions as well as fusion of the classical with western music.

Ruposhi's first presentation, and the longest one, was titled *Dawn to Dusk*. Based on the ragas Bibhash, Yog and Tilong, the composition corresponds to the moods of the different parts of a day from dawn to dusk. Accompanied chiefly by *tabla* and *dhol*, with bass guitar, keyboard and octopad as supporting instruments, the melodious classical rendition marked some beautiful works on the violin. The *sawal jawab* between the violin and the *tabla* especially gave the audience a rare occasion of amusement.

The second composition of Ruposhi was *Bodhu Biday*, which is also the title piece of Ruposhi's only album released recently. The piece particularly remains nostalgic for the violinist, for it was inspired by her aunt, the late



Ruposhi strikes passionate notes on her violin

actress-danseuse Rowshan Jamil. 'When I was working on my album, my aunt was admitted to the hospital. She would repeatedly ask me to complete my recording of *Bodhu Biday*. But I thought of waiting until she returned home after

treatment...I never thought she would pass away so soon without listening to my album,' reminisces a melancholy Ruposhi. 'Aunt gave me several more ideas for my composition and I will be releasing these soon,' she says.

Bodhu Biday is composed in the country's folk musical style and expresses emotions related to the different phases of a rural marriage ceremony.

Ruposhi's last two compositions--*Emotion* and *Rhythm of Joy*--were a blend of the oriental and western styles of classical music. Based on raga Yogia, *Emotion* speaks a universal language--that of emotion. Composed on raga Kirwani, *Rhythm of Joy*, on the other hand, brings out the jovial mood of victory.

Regarding her experimentation of fusion between the classical and western music, Ruposhi says, 'If people from the West can experiment with their music, why can't we?' While retaining the classical element, she believes that 'we can also create new styles of music through such blends.'

Bangladesh is the birthplace of a number of internationally acclaimed maestros of instrumental music--Ustad Alauddin Khan, Ustad Ayet Ali Khan to cite only a few. Live performances by these artistes were always a rarity.

The upcoming Ruposhi blazes a new trail with her courage and dedication to live concerts in instrumental music.

ETC Book Fair 2004

'Book: A garden carried in a pocket'

Etcetera is the obvious stop for those who believe in this popular Arabian maxim, as well as book worms and book collectors. Come October 1, the shop--one of the largest retail stores in Bangladesh--will host a book fair titled 'ETC Book Fair 2004', says a press release.

For the first time, Penguin International, a leading international publishing house, will come to Dhaka to promote the fair. This month-long fair will be a veritable bonanza for book lovers as they peruse a range of books such as international bestsellers, educational books, South Asian fiction, lifestyle, cookbooks and much more.

As an added attraction, special prices will be offered to buyers. Clearly October 1 is a day marked on the calendar for book enthusiasts.

Sheikh Ishtiaq: Homage to the singer

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Today is Sheikh Ishtiaq's 5th death anniversary. On this occasion, Soundtek is releasing a VCD containing 12 of Ishtiaq's popular numbers. A group of new young models have performed in these music videos directed by Ferdous Akik. The album will certainly evoke nostalgia among Ishtiaq's fans. Likewise, the younger generation of music lovers will get a chance to listen to the melodious voice of the late musician.

Ishtiaq's name is well



known to listeners of Bangla modern songs during the 1990s. This talented singer and music composer had produced some wonderful

numbers that became hits among the lovers of good music.

Merited with some good lyrics and unique tunes, numbers like *Neelanjana*, *Nandita tomar kotha*, *Ekdin ghum bhenge dekhi*, *Durer akash kachhey elo*, *Sriti kenoe shudhu kaday*, *Jotirmoy*, *Bhagyer daktar* and a few others won the hearts of music lovers. Besides his own songs, Ishtiaq also composed music for several songs of other artistes.

The Culture Desk of *The Daily Star* pays homage to the musician.

TV GUIDE

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

<div>★ News Bulletin</div>
<div>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) at 11:30 pm. CHANNEL-i News (Bangla) at 7:15 am. 9:00am. 7:15 pm. 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15am. 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 News-Headlines(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</div>

30-09-2004 CHANNEL-i 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:45 Tritiyo Matra 11:00 Agora Shopping 11:30 Kichhu Megh Kichhu Raddur 12:00 Chitthi Pelam 12:30 Aaj Dupurey and CityCell Taroka Kathon 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction 02:15 Priyo Natak 04:00 Banglar Gaan 04:30 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan 05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:35 Jonopoder Khorob 05:45 Shab-e-barat er Ranna 06:10 Music Plus 06:45 Aamar Chhobi 07:50 Keboli Raat Hoya Jai 08:25 Drama Serial: Porityakto Bari 09:35 Drama Serial: Kathamrito 10:00 Close Up Hit Wave ntv 08:00 Aajker Shokal 08:30 Chena Shur 09:00 Sports World 09:30 Expedition Animal Kingdom ShaplaKuri 10:05 Dhakar Cinema 10:30	30-09-2004 CHANNEL-i 09:30 Shongbad Potrey Bangladesh and Public Reaction 09:45 Tritiyo Matra 11:00 Agora Shopping 11:30 Kichhu Megh Kichhu Raddur 12:00 Chitthi Pelam 12:30 Aaj Dupurey and CityCell Taroka Kathon 01:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction 02:15 Priyo Natak 04:00 Banglar Gaan 04:30 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan 05:00 Sa Re Ga Ma 05:35 Jonopoder Khorob 05:45 Shab-e-barat er Ranna 06:10 Music Plus 06:45 Aamar Chhobi 07:50 Keboli Raat Hoya Jai 08:25 Drama Serial: Porityakto Bari 09:35 Drama Serial: Kathamrito 10:00 Close Up Hit Wave ntv 08:00 Aajker Shokal 08:30 Chena Shur 09:00 Sports World 09:30 Expedition Animal Kingdom ShaplaKuri 10:05 Dhakar Cinema 10:30
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02:30 Drama Serial: Sporsher Bairey 03:05 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan 03:45 Drama Serial: Sheola 04:25 Gambhira 05:20 Mahilangan 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Aain O Jibon 08:20 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush 08:50 Special Programme on Shab-e-barat 11:25 ATN BANGLA 10:30 Annodyrishti 11:05 Magazine show: Ek Dui Teen 11:35 Islamic Programme 12:10 Sharnali Sadakalo 12:50 Special Programme: ATN Shondhai Musical Programme 03:45 Sundor Jiboner Jonno 05:10 Cinema Cinema 05:45 Islami Sawal O Jawab 06:20 Special Programme on Shab-e-barat 08:00 Special Islamic Programme HBO 10:15 Diagnosis Murder 12:00 Training Day 2:30 The Man Who Wasn't There 4:45 Proof of Life 7:30 John Carpenter's Ghosts of Mars	02:30 Drama Serial: Sporsher Bairey 03:05 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan 03:45 Drama Serial: Sheola 04:25 Gambhira 05:20 Mahilangan 06:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:50 Aain O Jibon 08:20 Drama Serial: Ronger Manush 08:50 Special Programme on Shab-e-barat 11:25 ATN BANGLA 10:30 Annodyrishti 11:05 Magazine show: Ek Dui Teen 11:35 Islamic Programme 12:10 Sharnali Sadakalo 12:50 Special Programme: ATN Shondhai Musical Programme 03:45 Sundor Jiboner Jonno 05:10 Cinema Cinema 05:45 Islami Sawal O Jawab 06:20 Special Programme on Shab-e-barat 08:00 Special Islamic Programme HBO 10:15 Diagnosis Murder 12:00 Training Day 2:30 The Man Who Wasn't There 4:45 Proof of Life 7:30 John Carpenter's Ghosts of Mars
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PICK OF THE DAY  Proof of Life On HBO, September 30 at 4:45 pm Genre: Action / Drama / Thriller Cast: Meg Ryan, Russell Crowe, David Morse	 Lal Nil Beguni On ATN Bangla, October 01 at 9:00 pm Drama Serial
9:30 On Deadly Ground 11:30 The Sum of All Fears STAR MOVIES 10:45 Predator 12:30 Predator 2 2:15 Kiss Of Death 3:45 Bollywood Queen 5:20 Killer Bees 7:00 Kung Pow: Enter The Fist STAR GOLD 9:50 Dil Vil Pyar Vyar 1:30 Shirdi Sai Bhaam 5:00 Ram Aur Shyam 8:30 Soldier 12:10 Daffa 302 STAR PLUS 3:00 Kabhi Aaye Na	3:30 Judai Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 4:00 Kahiin To Hoga K.Street Pali Hill 5:00 Zindagi Milke Bitayenge 6:00 Maal Hai To Taal Hai 6:30 Fox Kids 7:30 Kummum - Pyara Sa Bandhan 8:00 Shaka Laka Boom Boom 8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se 9:00 Kasautii Zindagi Kay 9:30 Saara Akaash 10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar
10:30 Angel 11:30 Baywatch AXN 2:30 Guinness World Records 3:30 7 Days 4:30 Worst-Case Scenario 5:30 Rescue 911 6:00 Plunkett & Macleane 8:30 CSI: Crime Scene Investigation 9:30 Now See This 10:00 Wrc 2004 Rally 10:30 Ripley's Believe It Or Not! 11:30 Wild On ANIMAL PLANET	11:00 Kii Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi 11:30 Kahiin To Hoga K.Street Pali Hill STAR WORLD 1:30 Mac Gyver 2:30 Oprah Winfrey 3:30 Bold And Beautiful 4:30 Hollywood Squares 5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway 5:30 Miami Vice 6:30 The Simpsons 7:00 Home Improvement 7:30 Friends 8:00 Just Shoot Me 8:30 Smallville 9:30 Buffy The Vampire Slayer

4:30 The Protectors 5:30 Animal Precinct 5:30 The Planet's Funniest Animals 6:00 Barking Mad 6:30 Aussie Animal 7:00 Monkey Business III 7:30 Ultimate Predators 8:00 Extrasensory Perception 8:30 Young and Wild First Breath 9:00 Young and Wild Breaking Through 9:30 Growing Up Wild, Cheetahs 10:30 Around The World With Tippi 11:00 Secret World of Gardens 11:30 Secrets of the African Jungle Ants	4:30 Dream Jets 5:30 Dogs With Jobs 6:00 Hayden Turner's Wildlife Chall 6:30 Planet Wild 7:00 Toyota World Of Wildlife 7:30 Wild Giants Of Denali 8:30 National Geographic Special 9:30 On Assignment 10:00 On Assignment 10:30 National Geographic Special 11:30 Dream Jets STAR SPORTS 12:30 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Portsmouth Vs Everton (R) 2:30 Asia Golf Travel (R) 3:00 Extreme Program-ming Sports Mania (T) 4:00 Uefa Champions League 2004/05 Phase 1 Matchweek 2(R) 6:00 Ifa Shield Semi-Final 1(L) 8:30 Sportsline (L) 9:00 Futbol Mundial (T) 9:30 Football Crazy (S) ESPN 9:00 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Liverpool Vs Norwich City (R) 11:00 Uefa Champions	League 2004/05 Phase 1 Matchweek 2 (R) 1:00 World Volleyball Grand Prix 2004 Argentina Vs Australia (R) 2:30 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Newcastle United Vs West Bromwich Albion (T) 3:30 Motorsport Asia (T) 5:00 Football Crazy (L) TEN SPORTS 10:30 Pakistan V Zimbabwe 7:00 Pakistan V Zimbabwe (Review) 8:00 WWE: The Bottom Line 9:00 The Airtel Golf Show German League Highlights 11:00 Trans World Sports 12:00 WWE: The Bottom Line 01-10-2004 CHANNEL-i 07:30 Musical Programme: Prothom Shur 09:30 Public Reaction 09:45 Tritiyo Matra (Birthday Special) 10:30 Live Show: Tele Shomoy (Birthday Special) 12:00 Aamar Channel-i 01:00 Bhalobashi Tai Boli Channel-i 03:00 Performance Award 2003 05:45 Janapoder Khabor
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