

CULTURAL FEAST

National Zainul Festival 2004



Occasion: 90th Birth Anniversary of Shilpakariya Zainul Abedin
Organiser: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy, Bangladesh National Museum and Bengal Foundation
Time: December 10-30
Schedule:
 December 12-January 07
Special Exhibition of Zainul Abedin
Time: 11am to 7pm on weekdays and 3:00pm to 8:00pm on Fridays
Venue: Bengal Gallery of Fine Arts, 275/F, Road 27, Dhanmondi, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy and Bangladesh National Museum.
 December 17-30
Handicrafts Fair
Time: From 11am to 7pm on weekdays and 3:00pm to 8:00pm on Fridays
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
 December 22-24
Folk Song Festival
Time: Everyday at 6:00pm
Venue: Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy Premises
 December 24
Seminar on the life and works of Zainul Abedin
Time: at 9:30am
Venue: National Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Musical Soiree
Artiste: Samina Chowdhury
Organiser: Orchestra
Venue: All Community Club Auditorium (House 40, Road 35, Gulshan 2)
Time: December 25, 06pm

Theatre festival

Organiser: Theatre Art Unit
Venue: National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy
Duration: December 20 to 26

Date	Time	Play	Group
21-12	do	Shodhbodh	Anya Theatre (India)
22-12	do	Nakhhabila	do
23-12	do	Brand	CAT
24-12	4:00	Dui Taranga	Chupkatha (India)
do	7:00	Mrs. Soriano	do
25-12	6:30	Prjapati	Natyakendra
26-12	do	Shonkranti	Aranyak Natya Dal

Sponsored by: Uro Cola, Bengal Wares and Food Mart
Tickets available at: Sagar Publishers, Theatre Corner and Pathok Shamabesh

CHÖBI MELA III.

Small Spaces, Big Dreams

Singaporean photographer presents the modern-life dilemma

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

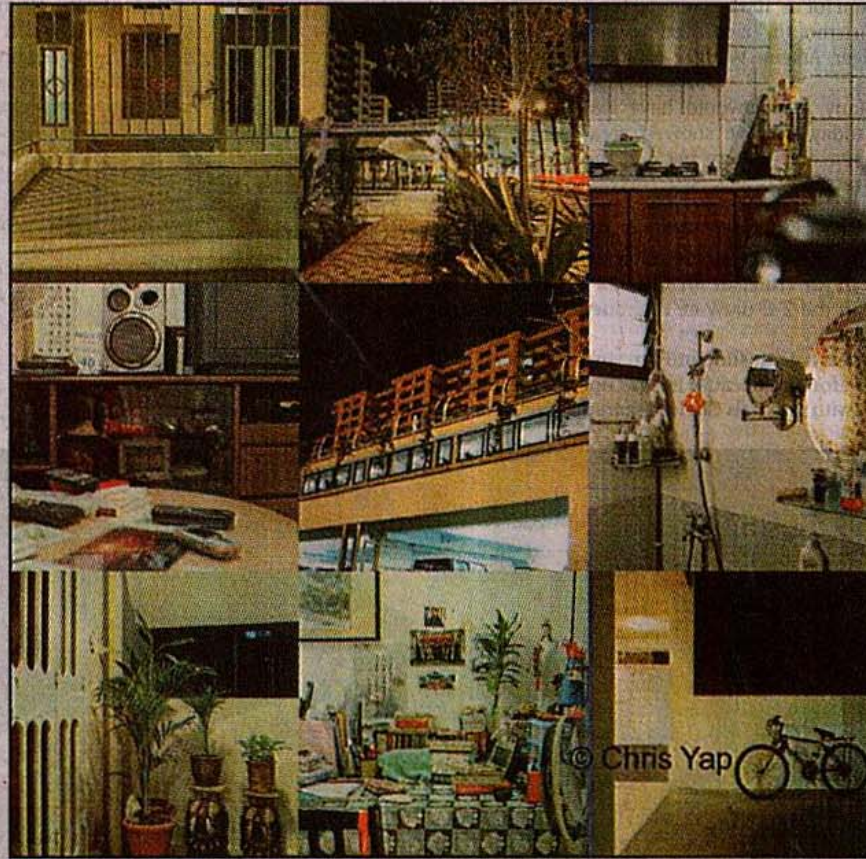
CHRIS Yap's presentation of his subject—*Small Spaces, Big Dreams*—at Drik Gallery as part of the ongoing Chobi Mela III is very interesting. A symmetrically presented collage in style, the display brings in the photographer's subject in the small space of the frame—corresponding to its title.

Yap believes that 'human beings are born with an innate resistance to the changes around'. 'While we constantly hear about people caving in under pressure—be it physical or spiritual—we don't give in easily,' he says. The modern life necessitates space having 'multitude of uses, simultaneously or otherwise'. And just keeping that in mind, Yap presents nine different shots on a single canvas portraying the 'multitude of uses' brilliantly.

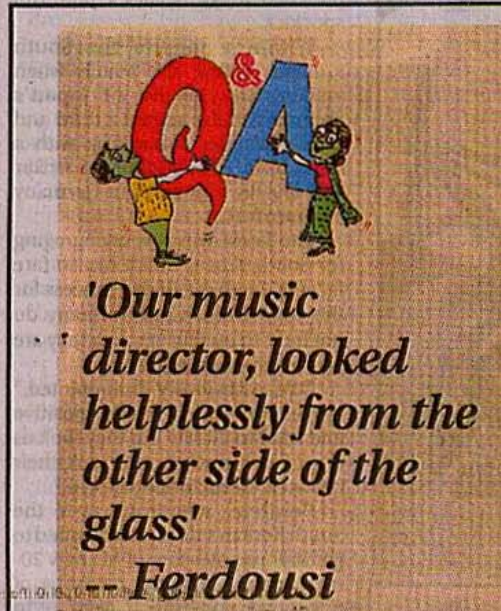
'In land-scarce Singapore, we learn to deal with limits in living spaces,' Yap explains. 'The void deck below the public housing blocks is a place for both living and dying. The bathroom can be a private sanctuary. The home is a workplace, and a workplace is often more hospitable than home,' says Yap. His canvas presents glimpses of the living room, kitchen, balcony, bathroom and portico, among others.

The collage projects the continuous litany—'Make space, make space', but it also reflects the conviction of the city-dwellers—'We are resistant.'

The exhibition runs till December 23, the closing day of Chobi Mela III.



A symmetrically presented collage by Chris Yap



Ferdousi Rahman a singer of repute, stepped into the world of music as a young girl of six. She has been a major figure in the cultural scenario for more than 50 years. The Daily Star met up with the eminent singer recently. Excerpts:

What's your nickname?
 Mirna—it's a Russian name.
What keeps you going?
 Music—and more music. I feel that throughout my career—first as a singer and later as a teacher—I was blessed.
The programme, which I conducted on children, Esho Gaan Shikhi is still popular. With a gap of two years I have been training the young talents on TV from the very inception. Khan Ataur Rahman, Asad Rahman and a few others have occasionally conducted the programme, but somehow people have always admired my work of presentation.
What's the sweetest thing about you?
 People often ask how I manage to smile all the time and enliven the atmosphere wherever I go. I take that as a compliment.

What is the worst thing about you?
 Nowadays, I get agitated quite fast and get tense over trivial matters.
What interests you other than music?
 I take great interest in designing saris for myself. In doing so, I find that our desi materials are fun to work on. I also love to experiment with new dishes at regular intervals. In addition, I am into interior designing.
Any hilarious experience you would like to share with us?
 During the early '60s, we were quite used to live broadcasts from the radio. And there were times when we had amusing experiences as well. At Shahbag radio station, we were performing for some special event. Big names like Laila Arjumand Banu, Raushan Ara Masud and many others were also performing. All of a sudden, Raushan Ara Masud began to giggle over something. As you know laughing is contagious, and it was impossible for us to stop laughing. Abdul Ahad, our music director, looked at us helplessly from the other side of the glass. Somehow, we managed to finish the song and we all sighed with relief at the end.

What are your memorable experiences?
 During my long career, I have had the privilege to work with great composers such as Abdul Ahad, Sattya Shaha, Samar Das, Khalil Anand, Nisar Bazmi and many more. As artists, we utilised our time optimally. Even while travelling through the mountainous regions of Muree during our musical tours abroad, on a bus, I remember taking lessons from the classical maestros Nazakat Ali and Salamati Ali.
Your first playback / superhit playback
 My first playback was a famous bhawaiya O Mor Kala Rey Kala for the film Asia, in 1958. The song Poraney dola dilo ekon bhromora for the film Sutorang, directed by Subash Dutt, composed by Sattya Saha was the first superhit song out of over 1,000 songs I have sung playback.
What are your prestigious awards?
 I have been awarded with many prestigious awards like the Ekushey Padak and the Swadhinata Padak—but the most important thing to me is the love of my ardent fans.



Theatre Art Unit Jugopurti Natya Utshob '04



'We hope to make the festival a success' -- Mohammad Bari

ERSHAD KAMOL

Mohammad Bari is the founder General Secretary of the theatre troupe—Theatre Art Unit. Initially he started his theatre activities with Dhaka Padatik in 1989. Later, along with eminent theatre personality of the country—SM Solaiman—he formed Theatre Art Unit on October 22, 1992.

The ongoing drama festival is their third effort. Earlier the troupe arranged two festivals in 1992 and in 1998. Of the 12 productions of the group Mohammad Bari has performed in all the plays except *Golapjan*, which is a solo performance by the protagonist—Golapjan. Last year, their latest production *Trinaporne Shalmonjori* won the best stage drama award and Bari played a vital role in the play. He is one of the major cast members of the play *Court Martial* which has already completed the 150-show milestone.

Following the death of SM Solaiman, Bari is now bearing the responsibility of the director for the play—*Court Martial*. As the co-convenor of the current festival, Bari says, 'It is difficult to arrange a festival, particularly bringing theatre groups from other countries. Cultural activities in Bangladesh need promotion. The festival has been arranged in the most modern and expensive theatre hall in the country. We are proud of the arrangement, since this is the first time that we are organising a festival in the



National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy. We hope to make the festival a success.

Preview: Shodhbodh



A satire presented by Anya Theatre

What happens to those who ape Western culture mindlessly?

Tagore's play *Shodhbodh* satires the lifestyle of those Bangalees who are

greatly influenced by Western culture.

Today Anya Theatre, the troupe from Kolkata, stages *Shodhbodh* at the National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala Academy at 6:30 p.m. as part of the weeklong drama festival arranged by Theatre Art Unit.

Through the love story of Satis and Nalini, Rabindranath Tagore has shown the follies of the fashionable elite class of this region who are influenced by the West.

Bivas Chakraborty directs *Shodhbodh*. Badal Das is the light designer while Ranjit Chakraborty is the set designer.

Shulakkhana Chakraborty, Anita Sarkar, Partha Bandyopadhyay and others perform in the play.

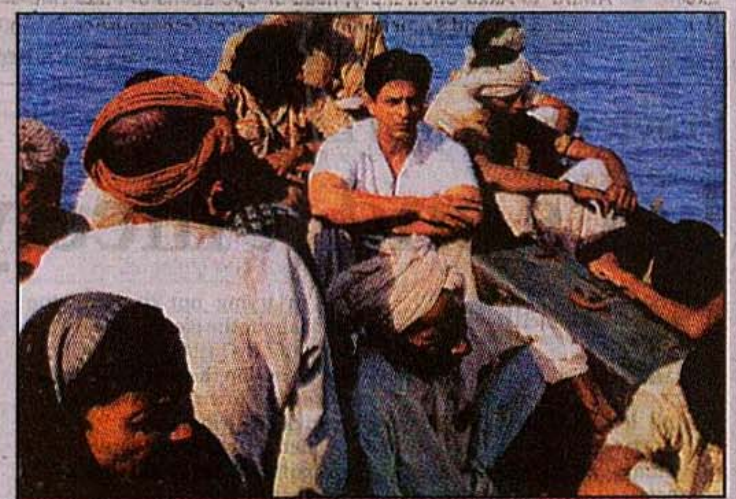
Swades lights up the silver screen

CULTURAL CORRESPONDENT

Three years ago, Bollywood director Asutosh Gowariker had set the box office on fire and won an Oscar nomination for his film *Lagaan*, starring Aamir Khan in the lead role. And now he is back to his roots with the commercial release of his much-hyped *Swades* featuring another Khan and Bollywood's safest box-office bet Shah Rukh Khan.

There are certain things common between *Lagaan* and *Swades*: internationally-feted Allah Rakha Rahman is the music director of both, the two films are set in a village and deal with thought-provoking issues, the heroines in both the movies (Gracy Singh in the earlier and Gayatri Joshi in the second) make their screen debut.

But the similarities end there. *Lagaan*, set in pre-Independence India, was action-packed and revolved around a one-day cricket match. *Swades*, on the other hand, portraying the story of an Indian engineer (played by Shah Rukh



Shah Rukh Khan in Swades

Khan) at the American space agency NASA and his return to his village, is more emotional, filled with romance, humour and great music, says Gowariker.

'Shah Rukh is able to get into the skin of the character he portrays in the film and AR Rahman's music will greatly contribute to the film's appeal,' said the director.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Aparupa
 On BTv at 9:00pm
 Genre: Drama serial
 Cast: Abul Hayat, Ishita, Mahfuz Ahmed
 Directed by Shahidul Islam Mintu



Enter the Dragon
 On HBO at 9:30pm
 Genre: Action / Crime / Thriller
 Cast: Bruce Lee, John Saxon, Kien Shih
 Directed by Robert Clouse

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.
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, 7:30 pm.
 Tara News (Bangla) at 8:30 pm, 11:30 pm.
 Tara News Bangladesh (Bangla) at 9:30 pm.
BBC WORLD
 Every hour on the hour

BTv
 07:30 Bangladesh Holiday
 09:05 Special Programme
 09:15 Live Telecast of 2nd Test Match between Bangladesh and India
 04:30 Open University
 05:05 Jibondhara
 06:10 Shondhya Malati
 06:35 Programme from Chittagong Centre
 07:05 Quiz Quiz
 07:30 Gagan Shudhu Gaan
 08:30 Drama Serial: Bikeloy
 09:00 Drama Serial: Aparupa
 10:25 Teknat Theka Tetulia
 10:30 Katharnala
CHANNEL i
 09:30 Shongbad Poltray
 06:45 Trito Matra
 10:45 Gramen Phone
 11:30 Aamir Chhobi
 12:00 Chhiti Pelam
 12:30 Aaj Dupurey
 01:00 Ebong Cinema Gaan
 01:25 Public Reaction
 01:30 Bangla feature film: Prohori (Sohel Rana Nulian)
 03:45 Banglar Gaan
 04:15 Special Programme
 04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
 05:30 Sports
 06:30 Music Plus
 06:30 Anondo Bichitra
 07:50 Close up Juke box
 08:25 Polo- Mon Khuley Balu
 09:35 Drama Serial: Chalothe Chalbe
 10:00 Drama Serial: Banche Je Ki Shukh
ntv
 08:00 Aajker Shakal
 08:30 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela
 09:20 Crime Watch
 10:05 Natokar Gaan
 10:30 Fashion Talkies
 11:00 Chhobor Gaan
 11:30 Putul Naach
 12:02 Purono Ekok Netok
 02:30 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela
 03:05 Tifiner Farokoy
 03:40 Drama Serial: Prottyogito
 04:25 Ke korbe bajimil
 05:15 Iltashar Ei Diney
 06:20 Shubho Shondhya
 06:50 Frankly Speaking
 08:10 Drama: Sporsher Boinoy
 08:50 Terai Tami
 09:40 Drama Serial: Shaokla
 11:25 Dindarpan
HBO
 7:00 The screaming room-books into horror
 7:30 The Godfather Part II
 11:30 HBO sneak peek: Men in Black II
 12:00 Fallen
 2:30 Balto 2: The Wolf Quest
 4:00 Route 666
 5:45 Not another teen movie
 7:30 Chill factor
 9:30 Enter The Dragon
 11:30 The sweetest thing
 1:15 The Godfather Part II
 5:15 Not Another Teen Movie
STAR MOVIES
 8:30 I Don't Buy Kisses Anymore
 10:30 Special Forces
 12:10 Creepshow II
 1:40 The Touch
 3:30 Comic Book Villains

4:05 Chamber The
 7:00 Crocodile Hunter The: Collision Course
 8:30 40 Days And 40 Nights
 10:00 The Hitler
 11:45 Winning London
STAR PLUS
 11:00 Meri Saheli
 11:25 Film Topper - 301 Series
 11:30 Shaadi Number One
 12:00 Kora Kagaz
 12:30 Hit Filmen Hit Sangeel- 20 M
 1:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
 1:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
 2:00 Bhabhi
 2:30 Kesar
 3:00 Saamhi
 3:30 Kyunkit Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
 15:30 Kahin To Hoga
 4:30 K.Street Pali Hill
 5:00 Maan
 5:30 Hit Filmen Hit Sangeel- 20 M
 6:00 Shaadi Number One
 6:30 Fox Kids
 7:30 Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
 8:00 Helko Dollie
 8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se
 9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
 9:30 Kohla Hai Dil
 10:30 Kahani Ghar Ghar Ki
 11:00 Kyunkit Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
 11:30 Kahin To Hoga
 12:00 K.Street Pali Hill

6:30 Sumo: Dance Of The Gargantuans
 10:00 Young Global Hot Shots
 10:30 Riddles Of The Dead S2
 11:30 Rolex Awards
 12:00 Rite Stuff
ANIMAL PLANET
 11:30 Animal Planet Showcase
 12:30 Buddha's Giants
 1:00 Pet Nation Breed All About It (5&6) English
 1:30 Springer Spaniel
 2:00 Ushuaia Nature Ushuaia (nature) Links to the Past
 2:30 Wild Discovery Mzima: Hunt Of The River Horse
 3:00 Solimna Frontiers
 3:30 Mutants-Part 3 (W)
 4:00 Seven Wonders of the Industrial World, Zero Hour Raising The Kursk
 4:30 Drama On Discovery can Prayer Heal?
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 7:30 Blue Realm
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6:30 Frost
 Fastest, Tallest, Biggest Superstructures IV
 7:00 Antonov 225
 7:30 America's Most haunted places Chicago
 8:00 FBI Files The Firefight
 8:30 Great Hotels Great Hotels II Hotel/Hotel Biba, the
 9:00 Popular Mechanic for Kinds Popular Mechanics
 9:30 For Kids (ii) Desert
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