

CULTURAL FEAST

National Zainul Festival 2004



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.

Exhibition

Title: Bandhan



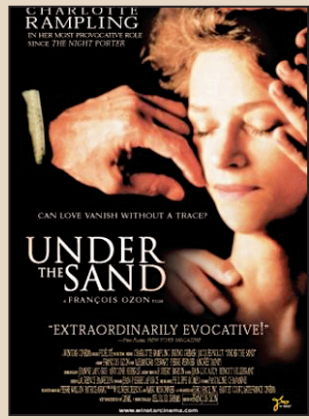
Mrito Pakhi by Rafiqun Nabi

Artists: (Bangladesh) Quamrul Hasan, Aminul Islam, Qayyum Chowdhury, Debdas Chakraborty, Hashem Khan, Samarjit Roy Chowdhury, Monirul Islam, Rafiqun Nabi, Nitun Kundu, Mahmudul Haque, Abdus Shakoor, Farida Zaman, Ranjit Das and Maksudul Ahsan; (India) FN Souza, MF Husain, KG Subramanyan, Jogen Chawdhury, Sanat Kar, Uttam Kumar Basak and Aditya Chokravarti
Venue: Shilpangan, House 25, Road 5, Dhanmondi

Time: December 30-January 8, from 10am to 1pm and 5pm to 8pm

Film Festival

Title: Eastern and Western Film Session
Organiser: Jahangirnagar Film Society
Venue: Goethe Institut, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Time: January 3-4
Schedule
January 04



3:30 pm Under the Sand (France)
5:30 pm Ilgrido (Italy)

Tête-à-tête

Milia's deep affinity with Tagore songs

KAVITA CHARANJI

A Swe journeyon, who can tell from which direction your gentle touch comes this way—in the fragrance of some unknown flower, some intimate joy, some wayfarer's songs...

Lending her voice to this evocative devotional (Puja) song of Rabindranath Tagore is the vivacious Milia Ghani, a talented exponent of Tagore songs. Having touched the peak of her musical career during the Liberation War and after, she is back for a while from Bucharest, Romania.

Milia has a deep affinity with Tagore songs. To quote the articulate singer, 'I think that the most important element of this genre is the deep message which is conveyed both spiritually, emotionally, and in some cases, socially. The message is basically that of the unity of nature, God and man.'

To date, Milia has chalked up several achievements in the genre: *Modhur Dhoni*, a cassette and LP (1988), a CD titled *Amar Na Bola Bani* (1998) and a cassette called *Jokhon Eshechile* (2000).

There have been gaps in her singing career, acknowledges Milia. She has moved around a great deal: in countries such as Egypt, Indonesia, the US, Armenia, Kazakhstan and now Romania, where her husband Owaize Saadat is the country manager of the World Bank.

Milia, however feels that she is a gainer. 'It has been an enriching experience. I feel I am a citizen of the world. That is another thing I have taken from Tagore—I have strong Bangalee roots and have the openness of accepting other cultures as well,' says Milia.

She has impeccable credentials in Rabindra Sangeet. She has studied in the school of Chayyanaut under Wahidul Haque, Phool Mohammad and Sanjida Khatun. She also has the distinction of learning music under Kanika Banerjee and Nilima Sen at Shantiniketan. In addition, she has had Mithun De and Munshi Raisuddin as private tutors. 'I learnt more than just

music from Shantiniketan; it was the Tagorean way of life—where you accept, you forgive and try to be less materialistic, try to block off the predicaments of your life through a lot of spiritual thinking and going through an internal change,' asserts Milia.

Kendra and was also a member of a musical squad with many colleagues from Chayyanaut. This squad went from refugee camp to camp, trying to improve the morale of the people. A twin aim was to raise awareness about the Bangladesh cause within India.

moves, whenever I sing I try to understand and live through every syllable I sing which is what Tagore does to me.'

What is the difference between Milia's heyday and the contemporary music scene in Bangladesh? For one, she believes, Bollywood has a more powerful influence on the masses than before because it is more glitzy and fun. It also has a strong visual effect. 'On the other hand, you have to feel Tagore's music rather than see it,' points out Milia.

The major divergence, says Milia, is that greater congeniality and team spirit among the singers marked the 1970s. There was also a strong sense of purpose, which she describes as 'a mission'.

But Milia doesn't allow all this to get to her. She has plans to shortly launch a Rabindra Sangeet CD with her daughter Srabonti, also a singer. She also plans to join up with other artists and do a small concert in Romania. 'I did one in Armenia but it takes a lot of planning and organisation,' she says.

Milia is all praise for the current generation, which she describes as 'very motivated.' She has a message for aspiring singers: do not lose the intrinsic message of Tagore or other genres of music. In her view, 'It is important to sing with your heart rather than just your voice. Sometimes I find that missing. The performances are excellent, the technical quality has gone up, and the young are very well trained. However, mere technical perfection is not enough.'

Though she says that she is currently in the periphery of the Tagore song scenario, she is a firm believer in his philosophy of 'the spiritual aspect of human beings, a love for nature and accepting life's setbacks with magnanimity and forgiveness.' 'I am still in the process, not even close to reaching my goal,' says a modest Milia.



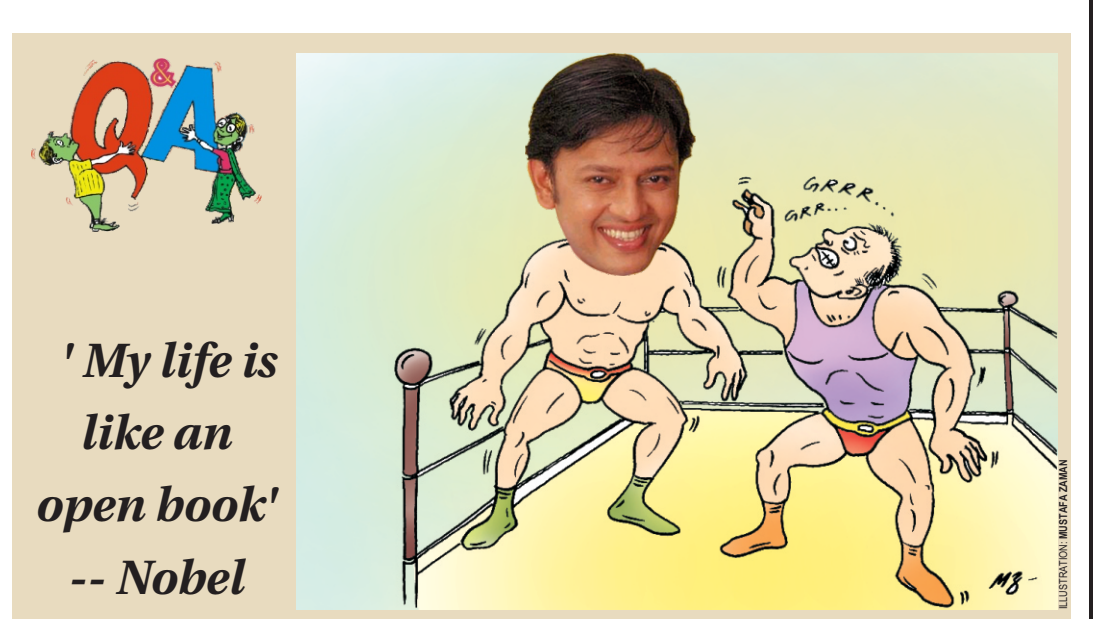
'My music is my spiritual release. Though technically I may not be a perfect singer because of all the moves, whenever I sing I try to understand and live through every syllable I sing which is what Tagore does to me.'

According to Milia, she was at her best musically between the ages of 20 to 27 in the 1970s. Going back to the Liberation War days, she has memories of leaving Bangladesh. Her parents took the hard decision of sending Milia and her sister to their uncle in Kolkata since they apprehended that the girls' outspokenness would land them in trouble. And so in this period, she was in Shantiniketan and Kolkata.

And so the squad travelled within Kolkata, Delhi and other Indian cities.

'I think that 1971 was an integral part of the Bengali nationalism movement in which I participated. And Tagore was the epicentre of the Bengali nationalism movement,' maintains Milia.

Music for Milia is a passion and often bails her out when she has the blues. As she says, 'My music is my spiritual release. Though technically I may not be a perfect singer because of all the



'My life is like an open book'
-- Nobel

Nobel is a popular model and actor who received several awards as a model. His face features on several ads. Here he speaks on diverse issues with our cultural correspondent.

Excerpts of the conversation

What do you value the most?
My family.

What if you were chosen for a James Bond movie?
First of all, I would get information about the film-maker. If I were satisfied with his credentials, I would gladly accept the proposal. But if I had qualms about his ability, I would skip the offer.

Who would you co-star be?
Definitely Aishwarya Rai because she is like an angel.

What if you were offered to become a wrestler?
If I have to face big fighters like HHH, then I would run a mile out of fear. Maybe I would try to convince him that he can become more famous by becoming a model and quitting wrestling altogether! And obviously I would try to learn those techniques that he applies to win the game.

Ever imagined winning Taka 10 million in a lottery?
Several times. But, I really don't know if that would be

sufficient, since, I have so many things on my wish list.

What is your philosophy of life?
Whatever I do, I always try to keep my originality. The mask, that we all wear in order to impress people, should be less important as that is not our real self.

What if a genie granted you three wishes? What would that be?
Firstly, I would want to do something memorable for our advertisement industry. It is not that I want to be a prolific performer; I just want to act in quality commercials.

Secondly, I want to spend more time with my kids. And finally I want to improve myself in every step I take. This holds good for all the spheres of life.

Any secrets to share with your viewers?
Oh no! I don't have any actually. I can't keep secrets, everybody knows everything about me. My life is like an open book.

Could immortality be the key to greater achievement?
I don't really think so. As everything has an end point, human life too has an end point. And if someone lives forever, he or she would never have the urge to make a contribution to society. Life would be truly devastating and uninteresting.

Aishwarya does not rule out kissing in films

REUTERS, Los Angeles

Aishwarya Rai, one of the top stars of India's prime film industry, said in a recent television interview, she won't rule out kissing in films when she moves from "Bollywood" to Hollywood -- although she says it is certain to create a minor scandal among her fans.

In an interview on CBS 60 Minutes, Rai, recently named by a British magazine as the world's most beautiful woman, danced around the subject of screen sex, which is banned in India and many other countries where her films play.

"It would definitely be a topic of discussion. ... They're going to enjoy (talking about it). ... In our society, you don't really see people around the street corner kissing or being extremely or overtly physically demonstrative," she said.

"We'll cross the bridge when we reach it," she said, adding: "We'll work on the story, work on the scene. I'll work on the part and -- and let's see."

Rai, 31, stars in the new British film *Bride and Prejudice*, an adaptation of Jane Austen's classic tale, and is considering several projects that will bring her to Hollywood.



'We'll cross the bridge when we reach it,' Aishwarya
She is virtually unknown in the United States even though fans have created more than 17,000 Web sites devoted to her and her beauty compared to Grace Kelly, Ingrid Bergman and Elizabeth Taylor.

Peter Rabbit gets hieroglyph tale

BBC ONLINE

Beatrix Potter's classic children's book *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* has been translated into ancient Egyptian hieroglyphs by the British Museum. The translation turns the story of a mischievous rabbit into symbols of the Egyptian world, shapes and squiggles. Peter Rabbit becomes a square, a semi-circle, an ellipse and a rabbit image.

The "time seemed appropriate" for the hieroglyph version, due in April, translators said, as the story had already been published in 35 languages.

The British Museum holds early drawings of Peter's sister Flopsy as well as having leading experts in hieroglyphics--so decided to put the two together, a spokesperson said. The task was carried out by Richard Parkinson, a museum expert, and John Nunn, a medical researcher with an interest in Egypt.



First page of The Tale of Peter Rabbit: 'Once upon a time, there were four little rabbits and their names were Flopsy, Mopsy, Cotton-tail and Peter...'

They had to overcome limited modern knowledge of the language and different literary traditions between ancient Egypt and England a century ago.

Potter's landscape and wildlife would also have been unfamiliar to ancient Egyptians--who had no words for things like blackberry, gooseberry, blackcurrant and potato. "Beatrix Potter's words sometimes do not readily fall into ancient Egyptian," they wrote in the foreword. "The surviving texts provide no easy model for such colloquial phrases as 'Now run along, and don't get into mischief.'"

The hieroglyphics were based on those of the Middle Kingdom, from the 21st to 18th Centuries BC. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit*, meanwhile, was first published in 1902 and has sold more than 40 million copies worldwide.

Led Zeppelin track voted best song

Led Zeppelin's haunting 1970s classic *Stairway To Heaven* has been voted the best pop song of all time -- just a week after bagging best rock song in another poll. More than 20,000 music fans voted -- and amazingly no Beatles records made the top ten!

Zeppelin - fronted by the legendary Robert Plant - just beat *One By One* by U2 to top spot with Guns 'N' Roses' anthemic *Sweet Child 'O Mine* making third place.

John Lennon beats his band the

Beatles with his solo classic *Imagine*, at no.6. The Fab Four's first hit is *Let It Be* at no.11.

Other classics in the top 20 include Queen's *Bohemian Rhapsody* (7), *Brown Eyed Girl* by Van Morrison (12) and *Wonderwall* by Oasis (19).

The Virgin Radio poll also revealed the 1980s was the most popular decade - polling more votes in the top 500 than any other.

The decade that gave us Madonna, Wham! and Duran Duran gave the list

158, compared to 141 from the 1970s, 95 from the 1990s and only 60 from the 1960s. The rest were from the past five years.

The 80s produced loads of great songs from a host of talented bands, from The Specials and The Police to the Jam and U2 -- and of course Madness, although how Baggy Trousers was only at number 486 I don't know.

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Ally McBeal
On Star World 5:30pm
Genre: Comedy/Drama
Cast: Calista Flockhart, Courtney Thorne-Smith



Incredible Vacation Videos
On Discovery at 11:30pm
Documentary Show
Discovery Travel and Living

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, 9:00 am, 7:15 pm, 9:00 pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.
Teletext of BTW news (Bangla and English) at 11:30 pm.

ATN BANGLA
News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00 am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.
Teletext of BTW 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.
Teletext of BTW 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

CHANNEL i

09:30 *Shongbad Potrey*
Bangladesh and Public reaction
09:45 *Tritio Matra*
09:45 Grameen Phone Cricket Online
11:30 *Aamar Chhobi*
12:00 *Chithi Pelam*
12:30 *Aaj Dupurey*
01:00 *Ebong Cinemar Gaan*
01:25 *Public Reaction*
01:30 *Bangla feature film*
03:45 *Banglar Gaan*
04:15 *Special Programme*
04:45 *Sa Re Ga Ma*
05:30 *i sports*
06:00 *Music Plus*
06:30 *Anondo Dichitra*
07:50 *Close up Juke box*
08:25 *Polo- Mon Khuley Balo*
09:35 *Drama Serial: Chalchhe Chalbe*
10:00 *Drama Serial: Bangchhe Je ki Shukh*

ATN BANGLA
10:30 *Talk Show: Annadrishi*
11:15 *Drama Serial: Mohona*
11:50 *Business This Week*
12:30 *Bangla Feature Film*
03:45 *Uro Cola Saat Rang Shomoshomoyik*
04:20 *Aynar Shamney*
08:00 *Drama Serial: Chhottot Ei Jilbon*
08:30 *Drama Serial: Gulshanubar*
09:00 *Drama Serial: Bogimast*
09:30 *EK Dui Teen*
10:35 *Prekhhapot*

ntv
08:00 *Ajker Shakal*
08:30 *Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela*
09:20 *Crime Watch*

HBO

10:05 *Natoker Gaan*
10:30 *Fashion Talkies*
11:00 *Chhobir Gaan*
11:30 *Putul Naach*
12:02 *Purono Ekok Natok*
02:30 *Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela*
03:05 *Tifiner Fankey*
03:40 *Drama Serial: Anyarokom*
04:25 *Ke Korbe Bajimat*
05:15 *Ithasher Ei Diney*
06:20 *Shubho Shondhya*
06:50 *Frankly Speaking*
08:10 *Drama: Sporsher Bairey*
08:50 *Dehoghari*
09:40 *Drama Serial: Shaela Dindarpan*
11:25 *After The Rain*
10:15 *The Job*
12:00 *The Fabulous Baker Boys*
2:15 *Countdown*
4:00 *Getting There*
5:45 *Rock Star*
7:45 *The Glimmer Man*
9:30 *Gotti*
11:45 *Striptease*
2:00 *The Fabulous Baker Boys*

STAR MOVIES

8:45 *The Jackal*
10:45 *Fear*
12:30 *Ring Of Darkness*
2:00 *Man From Elysian Fields*
3:45 *Raising Arizona*
5:30 *Stuart Little*
7:00 *Jet Lag*
8:25 *Bread My Sweet*
10:15 *Fear*
12:00 *To Kill A King*
7:05 *Vishwasghaat*

STAR PLUS

10:30 *Simran Show*
11:00 *Meri Saheli*
11:30 *Shaadi Number One*
12:00 *Kora Kagaz*
1:00 *Kasauti Zindagii Kay*
1:30 *Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan*
2:00 *Bhathi*
2:30 *Kesar*
3:00 *Saarthi*
3:30 *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhu Thi*
4:00 *Kahin To Hoga*

STAR WORLD

9:55 *Iski Topi Uske Sar*
1:30 *Arjun*
4:45 *Jeevan Ki Shatranj*
8:30 *Arjun Pandit*
12:00 *Paap Ki Aandhi*
4:30 *K.Street Pali Hill*
5:00 *Maan*
6:00 *Shaadi Number One*
6:30 *Fox Kids*
7:00 *Kumkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan*
8:00 *Hello Dollie*
8:30 *Dekho Magar Pyaar Se*
9:00 *Kasauti Zindagii Kay*
9:30 *Kehta Hai Dil*
10:30 *Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki*
11:00 *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhu Thi*
11:30 *Kahin To Hoga*
12:00 *K.Street Pali Hill*
7:00 *Home Improvement*
7:30 *Friends*
8:00 *Newsradio*
8:30 *Casino Road Trip*

ANIMAL PLANET

8:30 *Miami Animal Police: Labrador Life Savers*
9:30 *Wild Kruger National Park*
10:00 *Monkey Business*
10:30 *The Planet's Funniest Animals*
11:00 *Amazing Animal Videos*
11:30 *Little Saki's Monkeys*
12:00 *Scottish Terrier*
12:30 *Boys Ranch, Termite Sniffer, Model Dog*
1:30 *Emergency Vets Helping Hands*
2:00 *Changing of the Guard*
2:30 *Cell Dogs*
3:30 *Animal Precinct 4*
4:30 *Detection-Partners For Life*
5:30 *Aussie Animal Rescue 2*
6:00 *Roo Rescue*
6:30 *Monkey Business*
7:00 *The Planet's Funniest Animals*
7:30 *Amazing Animal Videos*
8:00 *Amazing Animal Videos*
8:30 *Call Dogs Rockville*
9:30 *Animal Precinct 4*
10:30 *Wild And Dangerous*
11:00 *Nightmares of Nature*
11:30 *Frogs - Leaping Wizards*
12:00 *Storm Stories*
1:00 *Riddle Of The Dead*
2:30 *Truth Files*
3:30 *National Geographic*

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

8:30 *Battle For The Planet*
9:30 *Truth Files*
10:30 *National Geographic Special*
11:30 *Riddle Of The Dead*
12:30 *The Simran Show*
1:00 *Storm Stories*
1:30 *Riddle Of The Dead*
2:30 *Truth Files*
3:30 *National Geographic*

DISCOVERY

8:30 *The Future of Air Traffic Control*

STAR SPORTS

7:30 *HitZ(R)*
8:00 *Pakistan Tour Of Australia*
8:00 *3 Mobile Test Series*
8:00 *Day 3, 2nd & 3rd Session(L)*
12:30 *Dakar Rally 2005*
1:00 *England Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series 3rd Test Day*
2:27 *England Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series 3rd Test Day 3, 1st Session(L)*
4:30 *Dakar Rally 2005*

ESPAN

7:00 *Sportscenter Asia (S)*
7:30 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
9:30 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
11:00 *Pakistan Tour Of Australia 3 Mobile Test Series 3rd Test Day 3*
12:00 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
12:00 *NorwichEngland*
12:00 *Norwich City Vs Liverpool (R)*
2:00 *World Tennis Bowling Masters 2004 (R)*
3:00 *HitZ (R)*
3:30 *Hyundai Hopman Cup*
6:30 *XVII Perth Australia (S)*
7:30 *Dakar Rally 2005*
8:00 *England Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series 3rd Test Day*
8:30 *Sportscenter India (L)*
9:00 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
9:00 *Liverpool Vs Chelsea (R)*
11:00 *Motorsport Asia (R)*
11:30 *Sportscenter India (R)*

TELEFONICA

5:00 *England Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series 3rd Test Day 3 2nd & 3rd Session(L)*
9:30 *Sportsline (L)*
10:00 *Road To The Australian Open (T)*
10:30 *Sportsline (R)*
11:00 *Pakistan Tour Of Australia 3 Mobile Test Series 3rd Test Day 3*
12:00 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
12:00 *NorwichEngland*
12:00 *Norwich City Vs Liverpool (R)*
2:00 *World Tennis Bowling Masters 2004 (R)*
3:00 *HitZ (R)*
3:30 *Hyundai Hopman Cup*
6:30 *XVII Perth Australia (S)*
7:30 *Dakar Rally 2005*
8:00 *England Tour Of South Africa Castle Lager/Mtn Test Series 3rd Test Day*
8:30 *Sportscenter India (L)*
9:00 *English Premier Football League 2004/05*
9:00 *Liverpool Vs Chelsea (R)*
11:00 *Motorsport Asia (R)*
11:30 *Sportscenter India (R)*