

CULTURAL FEAST

Cultural event in aid of tsunami victims

Organiser: Chhayana
Venue: National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala
Date: February 3 and 4

Exhibition

Title: Les Jours de Jean-Jacques Rousseau
Artiste: Jean-Jacques Rousseau
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhaka
Time: January 27-February 10

Space Exhibition

Title: Exploring the Solar System
Organiser: British Council
Venue: British Council, 5, Fuller Road, Dhaka-1000
Time: January 16-February 15, from 10am to 6pm

Art Exhibition

Title: Exposition
Artiste: Ronni Ahmed
Venue: Alliance Francaise, 26, Mirpur Road, Dhaka
Time: February 18-26

Film Screening

Title: New German Feature Films
Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society
Venue: Goethe-Institut (German Cultural Centre), House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Time: February 01-03

Schedule

February 01
4:30pm Good Bye, Lenin
6:40pm Do Fish do It?

February 02

4:00pm Lichter
6:00pm Der alte Affe Angst

February 03

4:00pm Punkitchen und Anton
6:00pm Das fliegende Klassenzimmer
8:00pm Emil und die Detektive

CD Launch

Title: Athi Raat
Artiste: Nazrul Islam
Venue: Training Centre of Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Time: January 27, at 4:00pm

Play

Title: Dhawa Mastan Moron
Group: Manipuri Theatre, Sylhet
Director: Shubhashis Shamir
Venue: Shamila Auditorium, Baily Road
Time: January 28, at 7:00pm

Tête-à-tête

Jeetu Ahsan: Juggling books with acting scripts

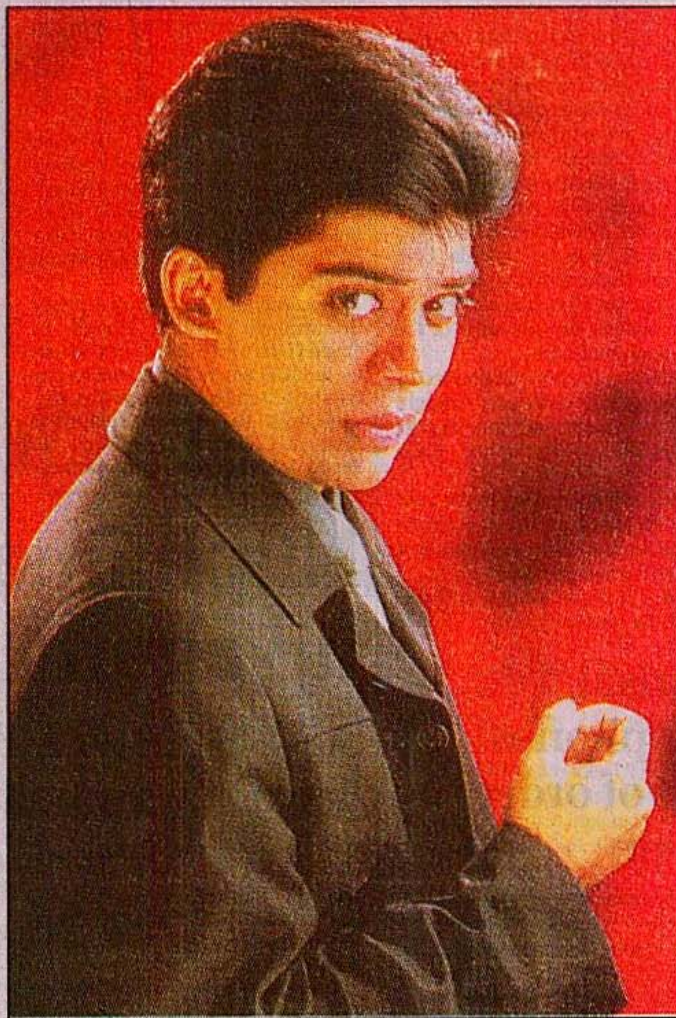
FAYZA HAQ

DIFFICULT to imagine a mere five-year-old boy acting? Well, one early starter was Jeetu Ahsan who from this tender age used to follow his father, Syed Ahsan Ali Sydney, to the studios. He made a niche for himself as a child artiste in ETV plays such as *Jonaki Joley*, *Ekti shetur golpo* and *Shatjon jatri*. Later he studied at St Joseph's School where he was part of a cultural club that presented Mamunur Rashid's play, directed by Azad Abul Kalam.

When he stepped into his university days at North South University, as a member of the drama club, he did plays such as *Payer awaz pawa jae* and *Danda*, directed by Khan Ataur Rahman. He also took part in *Tasher Desh*. In 2000, when he was 23, he was introduced to the small screen by Abdullah al Mamun in *Joar Bhata*.

Talking about his sources of inspiration, Jeetu says, "I was greatly encouraged to act by Raisul Islam Asad, Abdullah al Mamun, Humayun Faridi, Ferdousi Majumdar and Shubarna Mustafa. Of course, my father remains my favourite. From India, I admire Amitabh Bachchan and Dilip Kumar. Today I am busy with a number of mega serials."

It has been a tight rope walk for Jeetu to combine his acting with his university studies. As he asserts, "Combining my MBA with acting schedules is not at all easy. Both the Master's and acting career require mental agility. Somehow I have managed so far."



Jeetu: An early starter

Talking about his favourite roles, Jeetu points to *Joar Bhata*, where he played an anti-hero character who turned heroic at the last point. He

also enjoyed his role in Humayun Faridi's *Tobu o protikkha* for ntv. A recent interesting role is in *Ekti shundorshokal*.

Going back down memory lane, he recalls the days when he aspired to follow the footsteps of his father as an actor. He also did not have the liberty to choose a role but had to be content with the parts dished out to him by well-known directors.

Things have changed radically since then. Today, after five years of professional acting, he is allowed to read the script and make up his mind about the role and not accept every role that comes his way. The other problem is combining studies with acting. At times, he was expected to go overseas, or at least up to Cox's Bazaar for shooting but his studies did not permit that. At times, his schedules were very tight, as he rushed to his acting from his studies, and returned home to go back to his books. Often he had to turn down the offers. Sometimes the remuneration was unsatisfactory.

It has, often been a hard grind for Jeetu. He doesn't have much time for hobbies, except reading books and has had to give up pastimes such as hunting, fishing and cricket. He is not a great one for glamour, and his wardrobe is simple, except for festive occasions such as Eid, weddings and other special days. He is lucky to enjoy the close friendships of other artistes such as Tarin, Ishita, Sabbir, Joy, Shahid and Srabonti.

Jeetu has his hands full: he has acted in more than seven mega serials, 30 single episode TV plays and 15 tele films. Currently he is acting in six mega serials, including *Ghun poka*, *Sporsher baiery*, *Shaola*, *Jhut jhamela* and *Ek jonomey*.

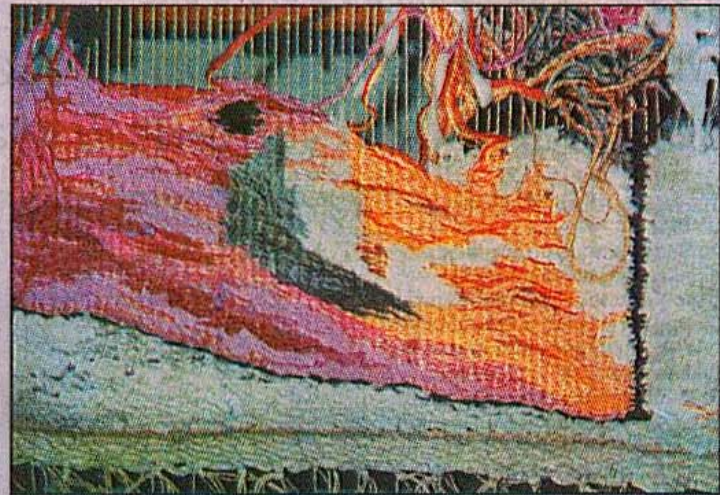
Introducing Benedicte Giersing

A life interwoven in tapestry

KAVITA CHARANJ

Hues of purple, red, white and green and a host of other colours go into Norwegian Benedicte Giersing's exquisite tapestry works. And that's not all. Many works reuse and recycle old clothes of her children, algae, coral and even cassette tape, metal, stones and shells she found in her travels around the world.

"My life has been a tapestry both personally and in my work," says the low profile Benedicte. This sentiment is easily understandable. Each work captures her emotions of sadness and happiness and tells the story of her numerous voyages. For instance, one of her



A wall hanging by Benedicte

such as red, black and cream. As Benedicte says, "This work, *Soul Searching*, describes my feelings at that point of my life. The red symbolises happiness. Then there is a bleak colour (cream) and then is the sad part in black and grey and earthy colours. If you look at it from afar, it looks like an abstract work of art. If you look carefully enough, you will see a face in the tapestry."

There is another work with blues, whites and a few other colours. The period: her time in Kathmandu. This work is inspired by the mighty Himalayas and is embellished with what looks like a tree (actually a coral Benedicte found in Yucatan peninsula in Mexico). There's also a shrimp-like piece that is actually, in all probability, algae found on the Hua Hin beach in Thailand. Says Benedicte, "There is a lot of white, which could depict the snow, which

I greatly miss." There are also what look like little houses—made from synthetic yarn.

Benedicte is nostalgic about her work. She has done around 12 pieces and estimates that it could take from three months to three years to complete a tapestry piece. However, one of her prized tapestries is based on an old painting of her then three-year-old daughter. This childlike work in mixed media (wool, cotton and old T-shirts) she says, depicts a bathtub.

Enriching her work are her frequent travels with her husband, who currently works with Unicef Bangladesh. The globe trotting couple has been to places like France, Nepal, US and Vietnam. "In the 25 years since I first began weaving tapestry, this art has become my survival kit," she says.



Benedicte Giersing

tapestries, which she began in Paris and finished in Kathmandu in 1992, uses old T-shirts of her children. Each of the colours tells its own tale. The predominant colours are purple, green, blue, yellow, pink, turquoise and others

Bombay Dreams comes to Mumbai



A scene from the grand musical show

PALLAB BHATTACHARYA, New Delhi

After wowing West End and Broadway, Andrew Lloyd Weber's grand musical *Bombay Dreams* is to come to the city that inspired the project Bombay.

Producer company Really Useful Pictures is assessing the feasibility of holding the show in India. According to Kerry Comerford, general manager of the company, the search was on for finding local partners to stage the show in India and also the possibility of including some Indian

faces in the cast.

The expensive and glitzy production captures the story of a slum resident in Bombay who dreams of being a Bollywood star and falls in love with the daughter of an eminent director. *Bombay Dreams*' music is composed by AR Rahman and has Farah Khan as one of the choreographers.

Bombay Dreams ran to full houses in West End in London for two years before it shifted to Broadway in New York in April last year.

Audrey Tautou to star in Da Vinci film

French actress Audrey Tautou, star of hit film *Amelie*, will play the female lead in the film adaptation of *The Da Vinci Code*. The movie version of Dan Brown's best-selling novel on a global conspiracy surrounding the Holy Grail mythology is being directed by Ron Howard and also stars Tom Hanks.

Tautou will play Hanks' code-cracking partner Sophie Neveu. Neveu and Harvard symbolologist Robert Langdon (Hanks) work together to solve a mystery murder in the Louvre museum. The Louvre Museum, scene of the gruesome murder at the beginning of the novel, recently gave permission for filming to take place there, *Variety* reported.

Source: Internet



Artistic Touch



Popular performers Srabonti, Tisha and Mehreen seen at the "Elite Ranga Mehendi Utsab" in the city recently. Fahmida Nabi, Shahed Sharif Khan, Kanakchampa Chakma and Kayes Chowdhury were also present at the occasion. Students of the Fine Arts Institute inaugurated the weeklong festival by painting delicate designs on the palms of the stars. The event continued throughout the day. Similar events will be held during the Ekushey Book Fair and Baishakh Mela (the Bangla New Year festival), says a press release.

TV GUIDE

PICK OF THE DAY



Swapnochuri

On Channel 1 at 7:50pm

Eid Special Drama

Cast: Tisha, Ahsan Habib Nasim, Dr. Ejaz, Ahsan Haque Minu, Taru Mustafa, Shirin Bakul, Zahid, Bakul, Arif, Akash, Shamim Haydar, Shiropo Purna, Arya Sreshtha

Script, cinematography, art direction and direction: Khaled Mahmud Mithu

Synopsis: The story is about a boy who seeks success. However, he experiences the hypocrisy of the affluent, which does not mind deceiving others for self-aggrandisement. Despite his bitter experiences, he finds love and an honest life with his beloved.

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) at 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.
Telecast of BTV 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.
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 Shubhechha Nin
08:20 A Compilation of Band Programmes
08:45 Chhayachanda
09:00 Live Telecast of the ODI match between Bangladesh and Zimbabwe
05:30 Eid Special Drama: Buddhichor
06:00 Desh Jangad
06:30 Eid Special Drama: Hridoyar Ekl Okul
07:00 News Headlines, Weather forecast, Share Market
06:30 Eid Special Drama: Blyer Agye O Portey
10:25 Toknai Theka Tatula
10:30 Eid Special Drama: Rupali Megh
12:05 Satellite Programme

CHANNEL 1

09:30 Shongbad Potrey
Bangladesh and Public Reaction
10:45 Trilopya Maitra
11:00 Sports Line
12:00 Shishu Rajoy
12:30 Ajdipurye O Cilyell
Tarakakothon
01:00 Eborng Cinemar Gaan
01:30 Gaaner Mela
02:30 Telefilm: Man Pora
03:30 House-Full
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Moner Moto Gaan
07:50 Drama: Swapnochuri
09:35 Eid Special Drama

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Ananda Jhilmil
11:15 Palagaan
12:15 Bangla Feature Film: Bhakobesha Karey
Koy
03:35 Gaaner Shurey
Taruja
04:10 Telefilm: Tomar

Protikkhoy

Eid Shobar Jonyo
Eid Special Drama: Dracula Teeth
Eid Special Drama: Brishir Agye
Eid Special: Eid Ananda Gaaney

ntv

06:20 Aajker Shakal
07:50 Telefilm: Kobi
11:00 Transworld Sports
12:05 Millennium
02:35 Anyorakam
03:05 Amra Ekhon Unish Kuri
03:45 Nitye Anandey
04:25 Apachoy 25 Minutes
05:20 Apnar Jigyasha
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:55 Nani Gharey Bairey
08:15 Siddika Kabir's Recipe
08:50 Kichhu Katha Kichhu Gaan
09:40 Drama Serial: Shyoola
11:25 Dindarpan

HBO

Permanent Record
Blind Side
Harts in Atlantis
Showdown in Little Tokyo
Maid in Manhattan
Assassins
The Glass House
Tales From the Crypt
28: Two for the Show
Charlie's Angels
The Final Curtain

STAR MOVIES

8:25 Hart's War
10:30 Santa Clause 2
12:15 American Born
Confused Desi (Abcd)
2:00 Double Impact
3:45 Rent Control
5:25 Blue Streak
7:00 Creature

STAR WORLD

8:35 Romancing The Stone
10:30 Santa Clause 2
12:15 The Wisdom Of Crocodiles
10:30 Charmed
11:30 Wild Card
12:30 Manhunt
1:30 Koffee With Karan
2:28 Star Asia Travel
3:30 Oprah Winfrey
4:30 Bold And Beautiful
6:30 Hollywood Squares
7:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway
5:30 Ally Mcbeal
7:00 The Simpsons
7:30 Home Improvement
8:00 Friends
8:00 Newsradio

STAR PLUS

1:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
1:30 Kunkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
2:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
2:30 Kesar Saamri
3:30 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
4:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
5:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
6:00 Kahaani To Hoga
6:30 K Street Pall Hill
7:00 K Street Pall Hill
8:30 Narsimha

ADDONALD

7:00 Disney's The Weekenders
7:30 Kunkum - Pyara Sa Bandhan
8:00 Hello Dollie
8:30 Dekho Magar Pyaar Se
9:00 Kasauti Zindagi Kay
9:30 Sanjivani - A Medical Boon
10:30 Kahaani Ghar Ghar Ki
11:00 Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bhi Thi
11:30 Kahaani To Hoga
12:00 K Street Pall Hill

DISCOVERY

11:30 Beyond The Bermuda Triangle: The Devil's Sea
12:30 Killer Crocs of Costa Rica
1:30 Trouble with Sleep
2:30 Extreme Survival Pressure
3:30 Oracle of the Desert, The: Magic of Siwa
4:30 Mysteries of the Smithsonian
5:30 Zach's Ultimate Guide
6:00 Big Cats
6:30 Living Pulse
7:00 Wind Driven
7:30 Natural World
8:30 Fragments of Eden
Ultimate Cars Racers

ANIMAL PLANET

11:00 Amazing Animal Videos
11:30 Wild and Dangerous
12:00 Rhino Patrol
12:30 Nightmares of Nature
1:00 Labradors
1:30 Canine Companion, Tucson Training Dog, Rattling Dog
2:00 Outward Bound
2:30 Lhaso Apso Ipso Facto
3:00 The Tiger's Fortress
4:30 Danger in Tiger Paradise
5:30 Wild Rescue
6:00 The Concrete and Crocodiles
6:30 Monkey Business
7:00 The Planet's Funnest Animals
7:30 Wild on the Set Have You Herd?
8:00 Rodents of the World
8:30 Babies of the Tropical Forest
9:30 Biggest Nose in Borneo
10:30 Australia Uncovered
11:30 Muddy Waters
12:30 Big Five, Little Five Lion

STAR SPORTS

12:30 Indian Premier Hockey League - Tier II (R)
2:30 Australian Open Men's Singles Quarterfinal (L)
6:00 Australian Open Highlights Day #10 (S)
7:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Highlights (T)
7:30 Sportsline (L)
8:00 Indian Premier Hockey League (L)
10:30 Sportsline(R)
11:00 Australian Open Highlights Day #10(R)
12:00 Australian Open Highlights Night #10 (S)

ESPN

8:30 Nba Action (R)
9:10 Tri-Series In Australia
5:30 Vb Series Australia Vs West Indies 6th Odi 1st Session (L)
12:45 The National Bank Series Wellington New Zealand New Zealand Vs Sri Lanka 2nd Test Day 5 3rd Session (S)
Tri-Series In Australia Vb Series Australia Vs

WEST INDIES

6th Odi 2nd Session (L)
England Tour of South Africa Test Series
Centurion 5th Test Day 5 Highlights (R)
Sri Lanka Tour of New Zealand 2nd Test Day 5 Highlights (S)
Hitz (T)
Sportscenter India (L)
Goals! (T)
Tri-Series In Australia Vb Series Australia Vs West Indies 6th Odi Highlights (S)
Hitz (R)
Sportscenter India (R)
Job - Harsha Ki Khoj Studio Round #3(R)

TEN SPORTS

8:00 European PGA Golf H/Ls South African Airways Open
10:00 WWE Smackdown
10:30 German League Highlights
11:00 European Tour Weekly 2005: Ep 3
11:30 ATP Tennis: Ep 12
12:30 Highlights
1:00 Sportswatch
3:00 Cricket Classics: Ind v NZ, 17/4/1998
4:00 V8 Motorsport Championship 04
4:30 Sportswatch
5:30 Italian Serie A - Highlights
6:30 WWE After Burn
7:30 German League Highlights
8:00 European Tour Weekly 2005: Ep 3
10:00 Cricket Classics
11:00 Portuguese League H/Ls: Ep 18
12:00 WWE After Burn