

CULTURAL FEAST

Cultural event in aid of tsunami victims

Organiser: Chhayanaat
Venue: National Theatre Stage at Shipakala
Date: February 3 and 4

Play

Title: Dhruva Mestari Moron
Group: Manipuri Theatre, Sylhet
Director: Shubhashis Shamir
Venue: Mahila Shamli Auditorium, Bally Road
Time: January 28, at 7:00pm

Exhibition

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

Book Publication

Ceremony

Title: Diner Sheshey Chumer Deshey (on renowned composer Abdul Ahad)
Guests: Muhammad Habibur Rahman, Mustafa Nurul Islam, Prof. Anisuzzaman, Prof. Zillur Rahman Siddique, Manzur-e-Mowla, Prof. Serajul Islam Chowdhury, Prof. Karunamoy Goswami
Venue: Begum Sufia Kamal auditorium, National Museum
Time: February 04, at 4:30pm

Film Screening

Title: New German Feature Films
Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society
Venue: Goeite-Institut, 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 Uchta
6:00pm Der alte Ate Angest
February 03
4:00pm Punkitchen und Anton
6:00pm Das fliegende Klassenzimmer
8:00pm Emil und die Detektive

Films were clearly in her destiny

In conversation with Champa

HARUN UR RASHID

ONE would think that Champa was destined to become an actress. Her two elder sisters Suchanda and Babita had already become popular film heroines and the younger one was expected to follow suit. Besides, she had an almost irresistible attraction for the fashion world.

Explaining her initial reservations about joining the film industry, Champa says, "Initially I detested filmdom as I watched my sisters being pestered by their fans and their family life being hampered. They avoided going out as the frenzied fans hounded them. Fans would ask them silly questions like what they ate, even wanted to touch them to see if these silver screen goddesses were real!" Champa, therefore, hated the excess public attention and decided not to enter filmdom.

However, Champa was destined to join filmdom. After her first film, she has chalked up a long list of about 200 titles in the nearly two-decades of her movie career.

Champa's introduction to the glamour world took place through her fascination for modelling. "I always loved modelling and wanted to perform myself," she says. She first modelled for Cite cosmetics. "Saiful Anam Tutul made the TV ad. At that time TV ads were a series of still photographs accompanied by commentary," recalls Champa. Later, the heroine-to-be was featured in many TV commercials and calendars before becoming a TV actress.

Champa reveals her fondness for acting. "At an early age I had to take charge of our family after my mother's death. Simultaneously with carrying on the household chores, I would also find time for recreation. And my favourite recreation was playing different roles: often I played the mother of my dolls; sometimes I played the



Champa

beloved of some imaginary young man I had seen in a movie."

Champa would often lip-synch with songs like the heroines of films. She would also record recitations from storybooks and later listen to them. "One day I was caught red-handed by my father while I was imitating none other than him!" recalls Champa. "But my father, usually a grave angry man, burst into laughter seeing my acting," she adds.

One day actor-director Abdullah Al Mamun, who often used to visit their house, offered Champa a role for a TV play. Initially, Champa felt a little nervous. A sympathetic

Mamun said that she would not have to go outside for shooting.

"The shooting took place in our house," says Champa. And she did her debut TV drama *Duub Shatar* in which she played a girl who can foretell the future. Gradually, Champa featured in many of BTV's popular plays including *Ekhaney Nongor*, *Akash Bariye Dao* and *Shazadur Kalo Nekab*.

Champa might not really have come into filmdom had her eldest sister Suchanda not asked her to play a role in her production. "The story was about three sisters and Suchanda Apa had already cast herself and Babita," Champa says.

"She explained to me that three real-life sisters would perform the best in such a film." The film *Tin Kanya* (Three Daughters) became a huge success.

"But at this point I was somehow overcome by a tremendous lure for the silver screen," says Champa who had previously thought that *Tin Kanya* would be her first and last film. "Soon I did my second movie produced by actor Alamgir," and she became a full-fledged film actress in a short time. This Eid saw the release of Champa's latest film *Shasti*, based on a story of Rabindranath Tagore.

Besides winning at home, in her long career in films Champa has earned international acclaim doing films under the direction of renowned filmmakers such as Goutam Ghosh and Buddhadev Dasgupta. Watching the play *Ekhaney Nongor*, Goutam Ghosh chose Champa for the role of Mala in his epic film *Padma Nodir Majhi*. She has also performed in Buddhadev Dasgupta's *Lal Dorja*, Sandip Ray's *Target* and latest Goutam Ghosh's *Abar Aranye*.

At present, however, Champa has withdrawn a little from mainstream films "just when I thought I had gained experience in acting and had the opportunity to show it off," she says. "The environment in the industry has deteriorated to such an extent that it is now almost impossible to work here like before," she adds. More-

over, Champa believes that it is time she gave her family more attention. "One could say I am thoroughly enjoying my life with my family. Know what? Today we bought some earthen vessels from the village and Babita Apa and myself are cooking *Koi* fish and chicken. It has a country flavour which is second to none. These are the little things I want to enjoy in life. All this brings great satisfaction for me," says the National Award winning actress.

OUR TALENTS

Bangladesh's rich cultural heritage has been built up by many notable talents. Some of them have passed away, while some are still contributing to their chosen fields. Here we continue to highlight their laudable moments in alphabetical order.

Bulbul Chowdhury

One of the most active proponents of dance, Bulbul Chowdhury was born Rashid Ahmed Chowdhury, on January 1, 1919 in Chittagong.

From childhood, Bulbul was keenly interested in dance, music, painting, poetry and writing. His career began with *Chatak-Dance*, a dance that he had choreographed himself, at a cultural function at Manikganj High School.

After his matriculation, Bulbul came to Calcutta and joined the Presidency College. Ms Hemlata Mitra, a well-known social worker, first discovered the spark of genius in him. She invited him to perform in an important charity show, his first public appearance on stage. Here, he partnered with the famous dancer Sadhana Bose. This was his first step towards fame. He performed in front of an august audience in the Empire Cinema Hall. In those days this was by no means an ordinary event.

A creative genius and a remarkable organiser, Bulbul helped establish the Oriental Fine Arts Association (OFA) in 1937.

He was not only fond of dance but also literature. He wrote articles on the bright future of dance with special reference to the Cultural Society of Bengal. He also wrote a novel, *Prachi* (1942), on the Second World War, as well as a number of short stories.

Bulbul's performance was distinctively different in technique and spirit. This was inspired by his patriotic feelings, love of art and spirit of adventure.

Within a few years, his exceptional performances had earned widespread reputation across Dhaka and Kolkata. His dance drama on the World War was, in particular, widely acclaimed. One of his boldest stage performances, *Quit India*, was performed in England—a direct protest against colonialism.

In January 1940, Bulbul came to Dhaka with his troupe and performed a number of dance dramas. During the Second World War, he moved to Chittagong and worked at different places from 1943 to 1947. In 1953 he visited Europe with his troupe, performing in Britain, Ireland, Holland,



Belgium and France.

Bulbul drew ideas for his dance from common myths and legends, folk tales, and history. Most importantly, by showing that dance was part of the Muslim-Mughal tradition, he helped break down Muslim conservative attitudes and make dance respectable and popular. A prolific artist during his active life of about 20 years, he wrote and choreographed 70 dance dramas, among them were *Abhimanyu*, *Indrasabha*, *Sapure* (Snake Charming), *Kobi O Basanta* (Spring and the Poet), *Moru Sangeet* (Song of the Desert), *Fashal Utsah* (The Harvest), *Iraner Panthashalay* (In an Iranian Tavern), *Solrab O Rustam*, *Khudito Pashan* (The Hungry Stone), *Bharat Chhoro* (Quit India), *Anarkali* and many more.

He passed away in 1954, but his wife Afroza Bulbul, carried on his work through the setting up of the Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (BAFA) in Dhaka, named after him.

Chhayanaat Bhaban wins Rajuk approval



The model of the proposed Chhayanaat Bhaban

Rajdhani Unnayan Karttripakkho (Rajuk) has recently approved the revised design of the proposed Chhayanaat Bhaban.

In a press release the Chhayanaat authority informed that Rajuk gave its nod on January 17 to the completion of the proposed cultural institution of the renowned organisation.

The construction work of the Chhayanaat Bhaban, which was halted for a long time due to disapproval of the design by Rajuk, will start soon, hopes Sanjida Khatun, president of Chhayanaat.

Benson & Hedges hits the road with musical show

The country's established musicians such as Aiyub Bachchu, upcoming talents like Kaniz Subarna, alternative band Black, remix whiz Habib and previous Star Search winners are going to hit the roads of the country with the fusion musical road show titled AMPFUSION, organised by Benson & Hedges, says a press release. As the title makes clear, the organisers are set to promote the concept of fusion music all over the country.

The first show will be on January 30 in Khulna at Khulna Club Tennis Court. Then the musicians will visit Bogra on February 1 and the venue will be Bogra Parjatan Motel. The people of Sylhet can enjoy the fusion music on February 6 at Jalalabad Gas Auditorium. On February 8, the musical roadies will hit the port city Chittagong and the venue will be at Agrabad Hotel. The last show will be held on February 10 at the Ball Room of Hotel Sheraton, Dhaka.

For music buffs in the several locales, it will be a great opportunity to watch live performances of fusion music.



SHORT TAKES

Douglas to film new Romancing sequel with Ash

REUTERS, Bombay

Oscar-winner Michael Douglas has signed up Indian film producers to shoot a sequel to the films that helped make him a big-screen star two decades ago.

Douglas, 61, will produce and star in *Racing the Monsoon*, which will revolve around a diamond robbery in India and follow up on the pair of 1980s hits, *Romancing the Stone* and *Jewel of the Nile*, India's Percept Picture Company said Tuesday.

Aishwarya Rai, a successful Bollywood actress who is now trying to crack Hollywood, is likely to play the female lead. The

film will be directed by Steven Carr, who shot *Daddy Daycare* and *Doctor Doolittle 2*. Production is due to start by the end of 2005.



Romancing the Stone was a 1984 action film starring Kathleen Turner and Douglas. *Jewel of the Nile* featured the same pair a year later.



The adventures of super Ringo

You look at Ringo Starr, and see an ex-Beatle. You are not Stan Lee. "We were talking and kidding around and I said (to Starr), 'You're known all over the world, and you've got the most distinctive way of talking, and I think if we did a cartoon of you it would be fantastic,'" the comic-book legend said. "Wouldn't it be cool if we could make you a superhero?"

Starr agreed that, yes, it would be cool. And, thus, another origin story was born. Lee's POW! Entertainment recently announced plans for an animated series to feature the dulcet Liverpoolian tones, music and crime-fighting tactics of the rockidol.

The show doesn't have a name yet. Neither does the character, really. "At the moment, it's just Ringo," Lee said. "The name Ringo is magic." A DVD, likely to feature



three episodes of the drummer's exploits, will debut either late this year or early next.

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

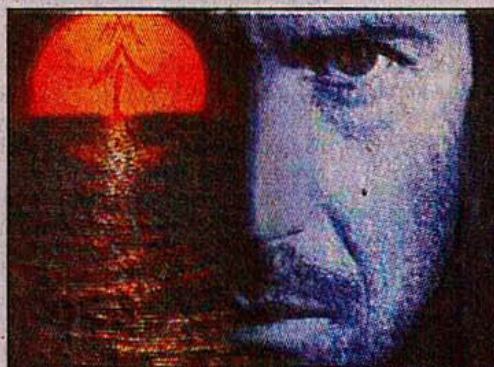
PICK OF THE DAY



Ek Janamey

On ATN Bangla at 9:30pm

Drama Serial

Cast: Tarin, Jeetu, Meer Sabbir, Ferdousi Majumdar
Script and direction: Abdullah Al Mamun

Waterworld

On HBO at 9:30pm

Genre: Drama / Action / Adventure / Sci-Fi / Thriller

Cast: Kevin Costner, Chaim Girafi, Rick Aviles
Directed by Kevin Reynolds

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.
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.
Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 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.
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 8:30 pm.
01:05 Smriti Jannay
02:35 Drama: Aranya Phul
03:45 Milenium

BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL-I

09:45 Trilobyte
10:30 Gramine Phone Tele Show
12:00 Kora Aalap
12:30 Drama Serial: Shampurna Rangin
01:00 Banglar Gaan
01:30 Public Reaction
02:30 Trilobyte
04:15 Dekhar Gaan Shonar Gaan
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:15 Janopader Khabar
05:30 Shamoyiki
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Aamrader Gaan
07:50 Drama of the Week
09:35 Drama Serial: 69
10:00 Close Up Juke Box

ATN BANGLA

10:30 Anandishte
11:05 Friday's Islamic Programme
03:40 Bindon Jumrabar
05:10 Shash Akhar
06:20 Aamra Korbaj Joy Rup Madhuri
08:00 Drama Serial: Knowab
09:00 Drama Serial: Lal Neel Beguni
09:30 Drama Serial: Ek Janamey
10:35 Cine Aha
12:20 Tele Film: Chandrabhato

ntv

08:00 Ajiker Shakal
08:30 Drama Serial: Urey Jay Bak Pakkhi
09:30 Special Programme on AIDS
10:30 Aamar Jigyasha
11:30 Trans World Sports
01:05 Smriti Jannay
02:35 Drama: Aranya Phul
03:45 Milenium

05:15 Uthasheer Ei Diney
05:20 Tiffin Phakey
06:20 Shubho Shondhya
06:50 Amra Ekjon Udash Kuri
08:30 Drama Serial: Urey Jay Bak Pakkhi
08:50 Pepsi Music Express
09:40 Dialogue: Harry K Thomas
11:25 Dindarpan
HBO
9:30 Pollock
12:00 Disclosure
2:30 The Cat's Meow
4:45 Cinema Secrets III: Catcatchers events
Hollywood Style
5:15 The Relic
7:30 Sirdab of The Seven Seas
9:30 WaterWorld
12:15 Saint Sinner
2:00 The Relic
4:15 Sudden Death

STAR MOVIES

7:00 Chasing Holden
8:45 About A Boy
10:30 Made Up
12:15 Deadly Beltrayal
1:45 Den Of Lions
3:40 Hope Ranch
5:15 Life Or Something Like It
7:00 Swifman
8:25 Ravenous
10:15 Made Up
12:00 Poolhall Junkies

STAR GOLD

9:55 Hazeqat
1:30 SARFAROSH
4:45 Kirodh
8:30 DIL VIL PYAR VYAR
12:00 Vijeta

STAR PLUS

8:30 Kabhi Khushi Kabhi

9:30 Dhoom
10:30 Parley Ke Peechey
11:30 Simran Show
12:00 Rajdhani
1:00 Kora Kagaz
1:30 Hasna Mat
2:30 Chalti Ka Naam
3:00 Meri Mrs Chanchala
3:30 Pitya Bina
4:00 Aur Phir Ek Din
4:30 Rajdhani
5:00 Parley Ke Peechey
5:00 Patang
6:30 Adventures Of Mickey And Donald
7:00 Disney's The Week-enders
7:30 Kabhi Khushi Kabhi Dhoom

8:00 Sonpari
8:30 Karma
9:30 Shararat - Thoda Jadu
10:00 Todi Naz
10:00 Kujla Sim Sim
11:00 Kalcchakra
12:00 Kahani Jumi Ki
Hollywood Squares
8:00 Whose Line Is It
8:30 Anyway
9:00 The Drew Carey Show
9:30 Oprah Winfrey Show
10:30 American Idol
11:30 The Chronicle: News From The E
12:30 Adventure Inc
1:30 Magnum P.I.
2:28 Star Asia Travel

2:30 Oprah Winfrey
3:30 Bold And Beautiful
4:30 Hollywood Squares
5:00 Whose Line Is It Anyway?
5:30 Ally Mcbeal
6:30 The Simpsons
7:00 Home Improvement
7:30 Friends
8:00 Newsradio
8:30 Tru Wrestling
9:30 The Apprentice
10:30 Koffee With Karan
11:27 Star Asia Travel
12:00 Cover Story

Wild Discovery 25 Years of Survival
1:30 Wildest Islands Of Australia
2:30 Story of Evolution
Human Instinct The Will To Win
3:30 Fields of Armor Nightmare In Normandy
4:30 World's Best Kept Secrets of Money
5:30 Real Kids Real Adventures
6:00 Diet Busters
6:30 Desmond Morris' The Human Sexes Maternal Dilemma
7:30 African Wild Dogs
8:30 Wings Extreme
Machines-00hara Airport

12:30 National Geographic
1:30 Frontlines Of Construction
2:30 Riddle Of The Dead
3:30 The Simran Show
4:30 Storm Stories
5:30 Riddle Of The Dead

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Erratum
In yesterday's issue the Pick Highlight items were inadvertently misplaced. We regret any inconvenience of our readers.