

CULTURAL FEAST

Cultural event in aid of tsunami victims

Organiser: Chhayanat
Venue: National Theatre Stage at Shilpakala
Date: February 03-04

Book Publication

Ceremony

Title: Diner Sheshey Ghumer Deshey
Organiser: Dhaka University Film Society
Venue: Goethe-Institut, House 10, Road 9, Dhanmondi
Time: February 01-03

Film Screening

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

Exhibition

Title: Painting Show 2005
Artiste: Javed
Venue: Shilpanjan, House 25, road 5, Dhanmondi
Time: February 05-09, from 10am to 1pm

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

Lala Rukh shows finesse and flamboyance in sculpture

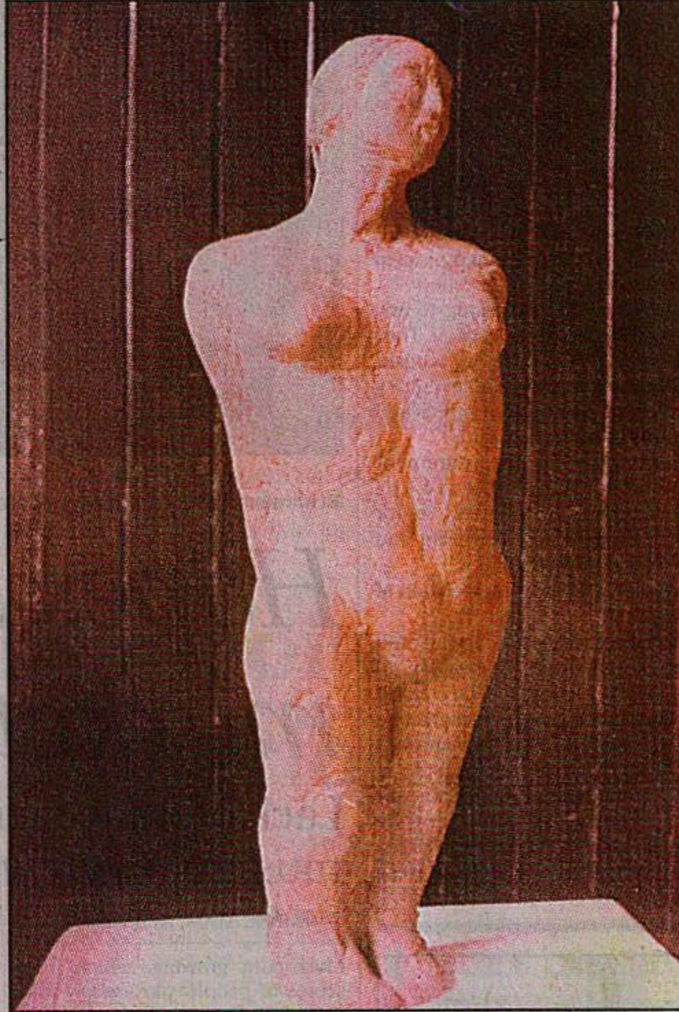
FAYZA HAQ

LALA Rukh Selim, a well-known sculptor, editor of the quarterly Art, and an associate professor at Fine Arts Department, Dhaka University, had a unique ambience as a child. She grew up surrounded by art history, classical literature and music of various genres.

With a supportive family, Tawfiqur Rahman, a sculptor for a husband, and a host of intellectual friends like Wakilur Rahman, from Berlin, and Saiful Haq, a well-known architect, she is least bothered about fame.

If there is anybody that inspires her in particular it is sculptor Novera Ahmed from France, who had her exhibition at the then Central Public Library, Dhaka, in 1960.

The sculptor says that the open-mindedness of her family helped her to find her feet. Lala Rukh said that she grew up with



A sculpture by Lala Rukh Selim

massive volumes on fine arts which belonged to her grandfathers, parents and older siblings like her sister, Gul Rukh. She was taught that art was an integral and vital part of life, she says.

territory in Bangladesh: there was much for her to experiment with. 'Its 3-D form intrigued me no end: it was more real than anything else that I'd experienced: at that time, I found its tactile quality greatly interesting and promising in 1981,' she elaborates.

Furthermore, Hamiduzzaman Khan, a family friend, guided and

inspired her. So did art books, like those on Michaelangelo and others that contained Indian sculpture illustrations. She learnt about Ram Kinkar Baiz even before she went to Shantiniketan to do her Masters. Touching on her interest in sculpture, Lala Rukh recalls an incident when her husband, in the then East Pakistan days, when she was still a student, obtained a catalogue, which revealed the portrait of Novera Ahmed. She thought that it was some glamorous overseas actress from another era.

The fact that she had created over 100 sculpture pieces within a short space of time affected her enormously. 'I found it mind-boggling that a woman sculptor of that time could be so prolific,' Lala Rukh comments. As a student at Dhaka, she had found Henry Moore motivating too—but she did not care to emulate him: she wanted to do something of her own, with her lust for adventure and her daring for self-expression. Her quarterly, Art, a superb magazine by all standards, is not only edited by her, but partly funded too, since 1993.

'I only do work when it's conducive for me: I don't believe I must have regular exhibits. I'm not very prolific in terms of my creative output. I was, at first, part of the 'Shomaey group', when I exhibited with them in 1990 and 1995; I've taken part in numerous national and other group shows. I have been teaching since 1994 and I enjoy that too along with my editing work,' Lala Rukh concludes.

Benazir: A promising Odissi dancer

NOVERA DEEPTA

Dance was initially a therapy for Benazir Salam, a promising Odissi dancer. 'My dance lessons began very painstakingly. Being a sickly child my mother, who had the idea that physical exercise is conducive to health, admitted me to a dance school,' Benazir reminisces.

She has travelled a great distance since those days. Benazir started learning dance at the age of four under first guru Abdul Hasib Panna of Nikkon Shilpi Goshthi, a local dance school in Rajshahi. As a student she won prizes in the National Children's Award Competition arranged by Shilpakala Academy four times. Later, she learnt Kathak under Shibli Mohammad and Bharatnatyam under Belayet Hossain Khan. Shaju Ahmed and Minu Haque were also her gurus.

In 1985, dance teacher and choreographer Laila Hassan, impressed by Benazir's performance, invited her to work on dance direction. In 1996 she went to study dance at Rabindra Bharati University under an Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) scholarship. She scored the top position in both honours and masters and specialised in Odissi. She also got the first prize in the annual competition arranged by the West Bengal State Academy of Music. She still takes dance lessons from Murolihdaran Majhi in West Bengal.

A regular teacher at the Shishu Academy, Benazir has also directed the dance drama Hridoye Mandirilo Damadam Guruguru. She took part in many awareness-based programmes organised by Shishu Academy.

Benazir teaches Odissi at her school named Nupur. To quote her: 'There is little chance to develop fusion dance from Kathak. However, Odissi has the softness and attractive quality that other dance forms lack. For instance, the movement of the body is very flexible in this dance. So one can easily develop a different type of dance with the mudras of Odissi.'

'Most of the dance schools in our country offers a limited chance for proper training and most of the teachers are not properly educated. Neither do they give enough time to the students,' Benazir says, adding, 'Some-



Unravelling the wonders of Odissi dance

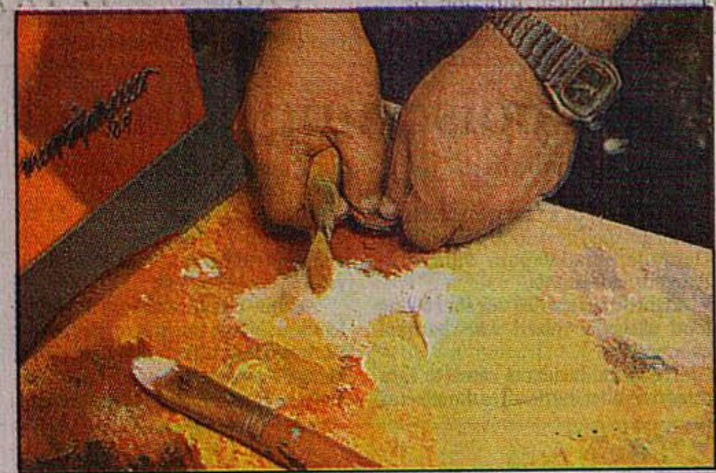
times they cannot even match the mudra with the song they are playing in background.'

There is no suitable platform for the dancers in our country, believes Benazir. For example, dance programmes have short slots on television. Talking from first hand experience, she says, 'I tried to complete my doctorate on dance but could not because of the unfavourable educational scenario which is not conducive to higher studies in dance. And, again, there is no separate dance department in our universities.'

Benazir says, 'Many people still have some negative ideas about dance. Here in Bangladesh the dancers think that there are only four genres of dance such as Kathak, Bharat Natyam, Kathakali and Kuchipudi. In reality, there are more genres such as Odissi, Mohini Attam, Gouri and Manipuri.'

To the beginners of Odissi dance, Benazir has a word of advice: learn the grammar of dance. And, she believes there is no substitute for learning the basics with devotion and honesty.

B&H initiates art dialogue "Ampart"



Artist Murtaja Baseer mixing colors on his palette for Ampart

After the Ampfusion, Benson & Hedges has started an initiative on the visual arts called Ampart, says a press release.

Ampart offers artists an opportunity to work closely with a mentor to create art and display their creations. This year noted artist Murtaja Baseer has expressly created a number of oil-on-canvas renditions in his Wings series. He will also lead Ampart by conduct-

ing a one-of-a-kind 'Mentor & Protégé' session. As part of this programme, Masters of Fine Arts (MFA) students of the Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University will participate in a 10-day learning session with Murtaja Baseer starting from February 06. Fifteen applicants will be chosen for the 'Mentor & Protégé' programme.

Given the current scenario of art education and experience-gathering options in the visual arts arena in our country, this distinctive method of working side-by-side with a master artist promises to promote the aesthetic excellence of budding artists. It also heralds a new era of visual art where skilled artisans proudly display their individual expressions.

After the session with Murtaja Baseer, another session titled 'Create & Display' will be organised, featuring the artistic creations of Murtaja Baseer and his students.

Brad & Jen stay bonded in business

Their partnership in marriage may be ending, but it looks like the business union formed between Brad Pitt and Jennifer Aniston may endure.

Publicists for the recently separated celebrities have told media sources that the couple hopes to remain partners in Plan B, the production company they co-founded with entertainment mogul Brad Grey.

Among the numerous upcoming projects for Plan B is a Martin Scorsese-directed thriller, The Departed, to star Leonardo DiCaprio and Matt Damon. The anticipated movie is expected to start filming this spring.

Source: Internet

Konkona features in Aparna's 15 Park Ave.



The mother-and-daughter duo

One of India's best known filmmakers, Aparna Sen, is all set to start her new film. The director of Paroma and Paromita Ek Din is making an English-language film. Entitled 15 Park Avenue, the film will feature her Mr & Mrs Iyer stars Rahul Bose and daughter Konkona.

Says Konkona, 'Isn't my mom best at making English-

language films? Which are the films she's best known for? Her first film as director, 36 Chouringhee Lane. And then Mr & Mrs Iyer. I'm really excited about 15 Park Avenue. It's one of the best scripts mom has written. In fact, she has just wrapped it up.'

Konkona is also excited about coming together with Rahul again after Mr & Mrs Iyer.

'We do share a very special on-screen bonding. And we're close friends in real life. But 15 Park Avenue won't be anything like Mr & Mrs Iyer. It's the story of two non-Bengali sisters living in Kolkata. It'll hopefully complete a trilogy of well-received English-language films by mom,' she says.

The film puts an end to Sen's year-long ordeal when her other directorial projects fell through.

Meanwhile, Konkona is all set for the release of her first Hindi film, Madhur Bhandarkar's Page 3 and also to begin work on Mira Nair's The Namesake.

Call her the new age Shabana Azmi, and Konkona blushes. 'Now that's what I call a compliment. Shabana sweetly keeps sending a lot of projects and scripts to me. By some strange coincidence, a lot of socially relevant films are coming my way. I like that.'

'But I think a film needs to be engaging for the message to come through. No point in just making dry message-oriented film. In my new release Amu (directed by Shonali Bose), where I play an Indian American who returns to India to search for her parents, I think the message has been engagingly put across.'

'But you must excuse my American accent in Amu. It isn't half as good as my Tamil in Mr & Mrs Iyer!'

Source: Internet

TV GUIDE

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-1 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. ATH 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. Latest News (Bangla) at 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am, 1:00pm, 3:00 pm, 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 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 08:15 Programme From Archive 09:30 Satellite Programmes 12:15 Shangbadporer Pata Thekey 12:30 Health Bulletin 01:05 Banchori 02:05 Computer Time 02:30 Selected Programme 03:05 Sports Programme 03:35 Shikhi Poribar 04:05 Cartoon Film 04:30 Prottyeye 05:05 National Television Debate Competition 05:45 News For Children 06:10 Geetarjoli 06:25 Programme From Chittagong Centre 07:00 News Headlines, Share Market and Weather Forecast 07:05 Mali O Manush 07:30 My Three Sisters 08:25 Protidin Bangladesh 08:30 Drama Serial: Ekka Dokka 09:00 Drama Serial: Bhalobasha Bhalo Na 11:30 Hridoye Mali O Manush 12:00 Chhiti Pelam 12:30 A J Dipuray O Citycal Tarokakhon 01:00 Eobong Cinema: Gaan 01:25 Public Reaction 01:30 Bangla Feature Film: Medhur Milton (Shabnur Omar Sanny) 04:15 Iskuler Chorita 04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma

05:30 Jarjala 06:00 Music Plus 06:30 Chhaya Jhankar 07:50 Jibon Jekhaney Jemon 08:25 Rupkatha 09:35 Drama Serial: 69 10:00 Drama Serial: Kahinir Shonohoney 08:00 ntv 08:30 Anjker Shakal 09:30 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela 09:20 Shanskriti Ei Shopahon 10:02 Alankar 10:30 Gallery 11:00 Mon Amar Shandhan Kori 11:30 Ki Katha Tahar Shathrey 12:02 American Cinema 01:00 Patirkar Khabor 01:30 TVC 02:35 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela 03:15 Anar Jigyasha 05:20 Shubho Shondhya 06:20 Air O Jibon 06:50 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela 08:50 Right Click 09:40 Drama Serial: Akashay 09:45 Anek Raat 11:25 Dindapan 08:00 ATN BANGLA 10:30 Annodshiti 11:05 Drama Serial: EK Janoney 11:35 Cine Aha 12:30 Bangla Feature Film: Porichoy 03:15 Drama Serial: Ghun Poka 03:50 Children's Programme 04:30 Drama: Debashieh Therapy 05:00 Gram Ganjer Khabor 05:45 Jibon Jigyasha 06:25 Three Stooges

PICK OF THE DAY



Hulk On HBO at 08:30 pm Directed by Ang Lee Genre: Sci-Fi/Action/Drama Eric Bana, Jennifer Connelly, Sam Elliott, Nick Nolte It seems to scientist Bruce Banner that his father David has been performing genetic experiments on him at a young age—but these are memories Bruce tries hard to erase. One day, an accident in Bruce's laboratory exposes him to intense gamma radiation that alters him physically and mentally, turning him into a raging green monster when stressed. Fellow scientist and ex-girlfriend Betty Ross tries hard to help Bruce deal with his inner demons. Misunderstood and feared, the Hulk goes on the rampage against the elements that seek to bring him down.

STAR MOVIES 9:30 The Wisdom Of Crocodiles 11:15 Signs 1:10 Rapid Fire 2:45 Holy Man 4:45 Bruce Almighty 6:30 Opening Night 7:00 Kaena: The Prophecy 8:30 Corto Maltese STAR GOLD 9:00 Maya 9:30 Coolie No.1 1:00 Raja Hindustani 4:30 Maya 5:00 KHILADI 420 8:30 Shark Zone 11:00 SAAZISH STAR PLUS 11:00 Men Mrs Chanchala 11:30 Chalti Ka Naam Ankaishiri 12:30 Chupa Rustam 1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron 1:30 Mirch Masala 2:05 Hit Film: Hit Sangeel-20 M 2:30 Altabar 6:00 Hit Film: Hit Sangeel-20 M 6:30 Disney's Mickey Mouse Works 7:00 Marsupilami 7:30 Ssshhhh...Ko Hai... 12:05 Hit Film: Hit Sangeel-20 M STAR WORLD 12:30 Phily 1:30 The Chronicle: News From The E 2:30 Charmed 3:30 The Apprentice 4:30 Manhunt 5:30 Fashion TV 6:00 Travel Asia 6:30 Baywatch Hawaii 7:30 The Simpsons 8:00 Parkinson 8:30 Rendezvous With Simi 9:00 Mountains Of The Wolf 9:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows Becoming Alexander (WT) 11:00 The Kumars At No. 42 11:30 Top Drive Getaway Koffee With Karan

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC 11:00 Serious: Desert 11:30 Dogs With Jobs: S3 12:00 Crittercam-Wildtech Adventures 12:30 National Geographic Special 1:30 Frontlines Of Construction 2:30 Frontlines Of Construction 3:30 Frontlines Of Construction 4:30 Frontlines Of Construction 5:30 Frontlines Of Construction 6:30 National Geographic Special 10:30 Next Wave 11:30 Truth Files DISCOVERY 11:30 Terrorism Revealed: Aviation Security: Are We Safe In The Skies? 12:30 Wild Discovery Lemur's Tale, A 1:30 Discover India Men Of Salvation: The Mahakumbh Mela 2:30 Drama on Discovery Nap Attack 3:30 History in Colour of War Total War 4:30 Terrorism Revealed: Discovery Spotlight: The Hunt For Osama Bin Laden 5:30 Mystery Hunters 6:00 Hypnosis/Pet Psychics The Baby Whisperer 1 Elizabeth Wilkinson 6:30 Triumph of Life, Wild Asia Brain Power 7:30 Wild Discovery 8:00 Mountains Of The Wolf 8:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows Becoming Alexander (WT) 9:30 Discovery's Biggest Shows Top 100 Films Of All Time, The 10:30 Night Safari Untamed Earth Episode 2 11:30 Coloured Lives Altered Statesmen Eden ANIMAL PLANET 11:30 In The Wild Whoopi Goldberg: Zoo Babies 12:30 Growing up Wild Cheetahs 1:30 Shark Gordon Hawaiian Tigers 2:00 On The Edge Ultimate Killers Deadly Defenders 2:30 Girls Night Talking With Animals-Crowded Worlds 3:30 Australia Uncovered National World Big Red Roos 4:30 Australia Uncovered Growing up Marsupial Moms 5:30 Australia Uncovered Muddy Waters 6:30 Australia Uncovered National World Dangerous Australians 7:30 Australia Uncovered Jules' Most Dangerous: Down Under 8:30 Girls Night in Talking With Animals Open World 9:30 The Natural World Natural Canine Conspiracy, The 10:30 The Animal Planet Showcase Profiles Of Nature, Series 12 Rodents Of The World 11:30 TV With Teeth In Search Of The King Cobra ESPN 9:30 Icc Cricket World (R) 10:00 Sportscenter Sportscenter Weekend (T) 10:05 Australia Pakistan Vs West Indies 7th Odi Highlights (R) 11:25 Australia Vs Pakistan 8th Odi 1st Session 7:30 Harsh Closeup Dream Job 8:30 Africa South Africa Vs England 1st Odi 8:30 The Golf Club The Golf Club 2004 (T) 9:00 Football Extra (L) 10:00 Australian Open Australian Open Mixed Doubles Final(L) 11:00 Football Extra (R) 2:00 Australian Open Men's Singles Final(L) 5:00 Icc Cricket World (R) 5:30 Spanish Football League 2004/05 (R) 7:30 Hit (T) 8:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Tier I Hyderabad Ap India Hyderabad S.L.Sane Vs Wartha Wamors (L) 8:30 Hit (R) 11:00 Fa Cup Fa Cup 2004/05 Fourth Round(R) TEN SPORTS 8:00 WWE Experience 9:00 Winning Post 9:30 India-Pakistan Unforgettables 10:30 Sportswatch European PGA Golf 05 11:00 Callix Masters 2:00 Transworld Sports: Ep 4 3:00 India-Pakistan Unforgettables 4:00 Indian Golf Show Legends: Tiger Woods 4:30 WWE Heat 5:30 Transworld Sports: Ep 4 7:30 India-Pakistan Unforgettables 8:30 Sportswatch 9:00 Italian Serie Atcb 11:30 WWE Heat