

CULTURAL FEAS

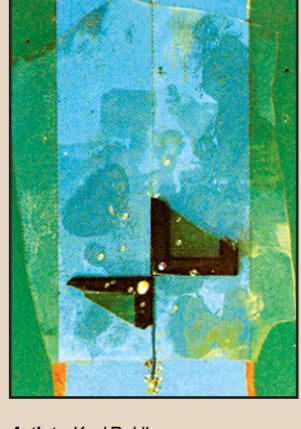
Space Exhibition

Title: Exploring the Solar System
Organiser: British Council
Venue: Novo Theatre
Time: January 16-February 15, from 10am to 6pm

Art Exhibition

Title: Painting Show 2005
Artist: Javed Jali
Venue: Shilpangan, House 25, road 5, Dhanmondi
Time: February 04-09, from 10am to 1pm

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



Artist: Kazi Rakib
Venue: Gallery Kaya, House 20, Road 16, Sector 4, Uttara
Time: February 01-07, from 11am to 8pm

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

Solo Concert

Artist: Kumar Biswajit
Organiser: Fusion
Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy Auditorium
Time: February 10

Photography Exhibition

Title: Sylhet: On Its Own
Artists: members of North South University Photography Club
Venue: Room no 100, BTA Tower, 29, Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Banani
Time: February 03-05

Drama Festival

Nagarik Natyangan Natya Utshab 2005
Organiser: Nagarik Natyangan
Venue: Experimental Theatre Hall, Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy
Date: February 6-12, at 6:30pm
Schedule
Feb 06 Sh a r o m a (Nagarik Natyangan)
Feb 07 Janatar Rangashala (Do)
Feb 08 Golmatha Chokhamatha (Do)
Feb 09 Brand (CAT)
Feb 10 A m i B i r o n g a n a B o l c h i (Nagarik Natyangan)
Feb 10 Shikrokti (Abhash, India)
Feb 11 Char Adhyay (Do)
Feb 12 Apurba Golap (Do)

Plays for the seasons

FAYZA HAQ

A SHISH Khondakar's a passion for theatre goes a long way back in time. He recalls being attracted to the stage as a child and his family encouraging him, especially his mother. As there were drama classes at school in Gaibandha, he took part in plays on weekends. To begin with, as a college student he joined the Podatik theatre group. He was interested not only in the performance but other aspects of the theatre.

He was happiest to be able to learn from foreign theatre personalities in the process. Talking to them made him fascinated with world theatre. To fulfil his dreams in 1986 he got a scholarship to study theatre at the National School of Drama (NSD) at New Delhi. He studied in India for three years, where he was formally introduced to world theatre. There he met many teachers and academicians connected with the theatre world.

Ashish began his environmental theatre in the 1990s, when he returned to Bangladesh, his artistic career having been developed through the disciplines at New Delhi. Returning home he was faced with the stage and street theatre. He wanted to bring in a new form, and began with the environmental theatre which centred the play around a particular space. Mohammed Amin, done in the pond



A scene from Ashish Khandakar's *Bouder Pathshala*, an adaptation of Moliere's *The School for Wives*

space of the Institute of Art, Dhaka University, was one of the first of these environmental plays.

After that came *Chandbindu* about the Bangla Academy's Bardhaman House. Here he worked with the history of a particular space, so that the play brought up the background of the area where the play was being staged. Environmental theatre became interwoven with space theatre as in *Dateline Jaggannath Hall*, which dealt with the attack on the students' halls on

March 26 in 1971. The three-hour play was staged near the mass grave. Next, he produced *Karkhana* at the Teachers Students Centre (TSC). Members of other theatre groups also participated in his environment plays. Sometimes the actors went outside Dhaka, as to Idrupor Fort in Munshiganj, to perform *Shei Shomotatey Ei Jonopodey*. "This developed community cultural awareness," says Ashish.

Ashish has worked with many

stage plays too such as *Raja Protapaditya*, *Girish Karmad's Ogni Jal, Father and The Freedom of the City*. He has also written some plays such as *Ekti Shironamhin Natok*, based on the Liberation War of Bangladesh.

Dwelling on the problems that he faces, Ashish says, "In the Third World you face a number of difficulties. Here in Bangladesh, people prefer the satellite to the stage. But theatre remains 'the mother of art', and I'm proud of being a theatre activist. This is though I often feel the dearth of necessary finances and a national theatre institute where we can develop our skills over a period of say four years. There is nothing like the Royal Shakespeare Academy here."

Talking about the Friday Theatre School that he has recently set up for children at the Alliance Française, Ashish says that the children here will learn the basic elements of acting and the school will provide the necessary acting knowledge to build up artistic capacity in the field of theatre. They will learn basic elements such as the primary knowledge of acting. They will be taught to concentrate, imagine, and control their voice and speech. They will have to master their gestures and memory development. Mask and doll making will also be a part of their course.

Nagorik Natyasanpradaya produces *Mahabharata* trilogy

ERASHAD KAMOL

Nagorik Natyasanpradaya is all set to stage a trilogy: *Gandharir Abedon*, *Karna-Kunti Shangbad* and *Biday Obhishap* from Rabindranath Tagore's *Sanchaita*. All the excerpts of the trilogy have been drawn from the *Mahabharata*, but Rabindranath Tagore has his own interpretation—all the central characters in the play express different aspects of the rationality of human beings. Moreover, the trilogy has an anti-war tone.

On the theme of the trilogy, Ataur Rahman, the director of the play, says, "Structurally it is not a trilogy, but all the lyrical-plays deal with same issue—the fall of morality in human beings. The issue is contemporary. In contemporary global society we see the prevalence of lies,

diplomacy and anarchy. *Biday Obhishap* deals with humanitarian issues. *Gandharir Abedon* introduces the conflict between truth and relationships. In this part, central character *Gandhari* raises her voice against the injustice of her sons. In the contemporary world we rarely protest against the evil deeds of our beloved. And the final part—*Karna-Kunti Shonbad*—portrays *Karna* as a hero, needed badly in contemporary society to fight against injustice.

"All the lyrical-plays are written in verse form. The language is difficult. The theatrical presentation of lyrical-play is not easy. Voice modulation differs from mere recitation. I strive to present the verses through a wonderful juxtaposition of dialogue delivery and choreography," says Ataur.

On the technical aspect of the

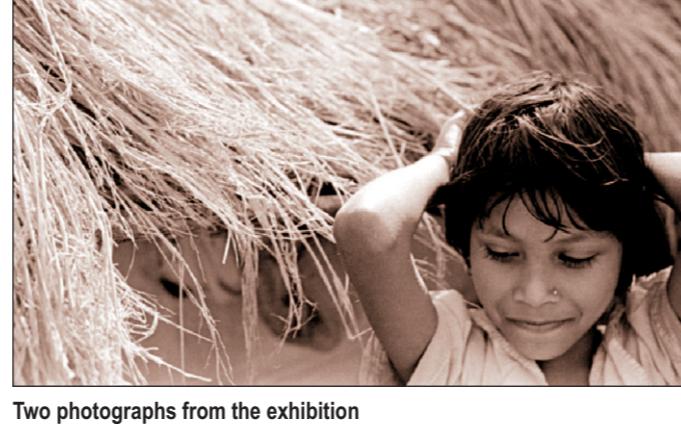
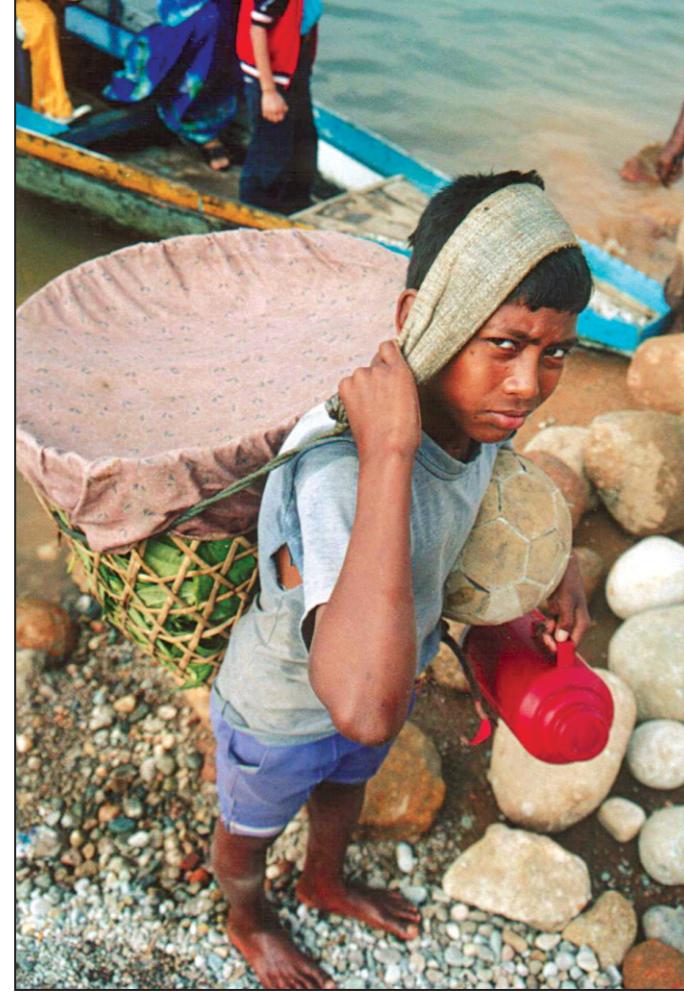
trilogy, Ataur says, "To make the trilogy more theatrical, set designer M Saiful Islam, light designer Nasirul Haque Khokon and music composer Khaled Khan will assist me. Light designer Khokon will support the directorial composition through symbolic colour effects. Set designer Saiful has designed a stylish set for the proscenium arch and Khaled Khan is composing music based on some classics for the trilogy."

Trilogy is the 37th production of Nagorik. So far, the troupe has produced five Tagore plays of which Ataur Rahman directs two. *Trilogy* adds one play more to Tagore's productions of the group.

Nagorik Natyasanpradaya stages *Trilogy* on February 13 at the National Theatre Stage.

Exhibition

Rediscovering Sylhet



Two photographs from the exhibition

Hollywood

Bond bets on *Casino Royale*

GoldenEye helmer Martin Campbell has been given the chance to try another day. The brain trust behind the 007 franchise have tapped Campbell to direct *Casino Royale*, the 21st film featuring the one and only Bond, James Bond.

Barbara Broccoli and Michael Wilson of Eon Productions together with MGM announced the move on February 03. The film had previously been pushed back from an anticipated November start date to sometime next year while the search for a director was underway.

Campbell is currently at work on *Legend of Zorro*, the sequel to *The Mask of Zorro*, starring Catherine Zeta-Jones and Antonio Banderas. His first foray onto Bond turf marked Pierce Brosnan's introduction to the 007 role in 1995's *GoldenEye*. The Irish-born actor went on to star in 1997's *Tomorrow Never Dies*, 1999's *The World is Not Enough*, and 2002's *Die Another Day*.

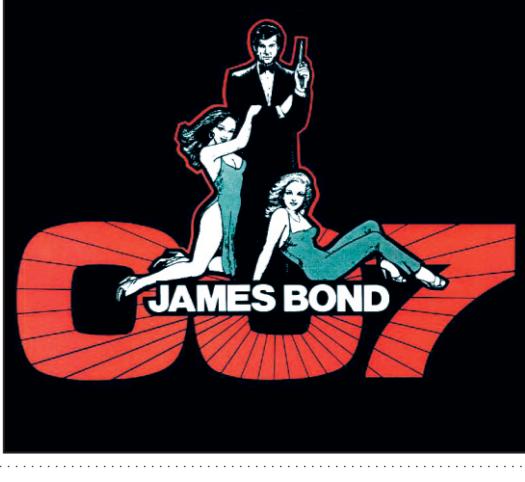
However, it seems unlikely that Campbell will have the chance to direct Brosnan again. In a July 2004 interview with *Entertainment Weekly*, the thespian sounded ready to turn in his "license to kill". He follows in the footsteps of fellow Bond men Sean Connery, George Lazenby, Roger Moore and Timothy Dalton.

Rumors of who will be the next secret agent to keep company with the likes of Miss Moneypenny have included *Hulk* vet Eric Bana, Jude Law, Heath Ledger and Orlando Bloom. The BBC reported last month that one British oddsmaker has stopped taking bets on the next 007 after wagers on Dougray Scott, best known as

the baddie in *Mission: Impossible 2*, began to increase in recent weeks.

According to Eon Productions, no decisions about Bond casting have been made.

Casino Royale was Bond creator Ian Fleming's first book and the only title not initially purchased by Eon Productions.



Lopez to reunite with Selena director



Latina beauty Jennifer Lopez is turning to her *Selena* director Gregory Nava to reignite her movie career after a string of flop films.

JLo leapt to fame in 1997 with her portrayal of tragic Mexican singer Selena Perez in Nava's film, but—despite a critically-acclaimed performance in *Out of Sight* in 1998—the actress has fallen foul of critics with a series of flops, including *Gigli*, *The Wedding Planner* and *Enough*.

In Nava's forthcoming movie, Lopez will play an American reporter sent to the Mexican-US border town of Ciudad Juarez to investigate the mysterious killings of dozens of females there—a real life phenomenon.

Filming is expected to start in March.

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

BTW
08:15 Quiz Quiz
08:40 Bishwa Protidin
09:00 Satellite Programme
12:15 Shangbadpater Pata
Thekey
12:30 Health Bulletin
01:05 Niboden
02:30 Shukhi Poribar
03:05 SAARC Janajibon
03:30 SAARC Telefilm
05:05 Naba Anandey Jago
Shamakalin Arthony
06:00 Desh Janapad
06:10 SAARC Shangshkriti
07:00 News Headlines,
Shan Market,
Weather Forecast
07:30 Shurey Shurey
08:25 Protidin Bangladesh
08:30 Amar Ekuashy
09:00 Drama
10:25 Teknaf Thekey Tetulia
10:30 SAARC Round Up
10:40 SAARC Symphony
11:00 SAARC Discussion
12:05 Satellite programmes

CHANNEL-i
News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 7:15pm, 9:30pm, 10:30, 12:15am. Telecast of BTV news (Bangla and English) at 11:30pm.

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 11:30pm.

CHANNEL-i
09:45 Tritiyo Matra
10:35 Na Bala Kotha
12:00 Ebor Cinemar Gaan
Chithi Pelam
12:20 Dhaka Guide
12:30 Aaj Dupure O Citycell
Tarakakothon
01:00 Bangla Film: Goriber
Raja Robinhood
02:15 Public Reaction
Live Telecast From the
Ekuashy Book Fair
03:45 Banglar Gaan
Dekhbar Gaan Shonar
04:45 Sa Re Ga Ma
05:15 Janapader Khabor
05:30 Cine Music
06:00 Music Plus
06:30 Drama Serial:
Dhalchut

ATN BANGLA
News (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

STAR MOVIES

10:15 Opening Night
10:45 The Gathering
10:25 Musical Programme
12:10 Drama Serial:
Bangla Feature Film

STAR PLUS

11:30 Hati Gangai Maiya
12:30 Hit Filmene Hit
Sangeet

STAR GOLD

1:45 Killer Bees
3:30 Igby Goes Down
5:05 Con Air
7:00 Sunshine State
5:00 The Amazing Panda
6:45 Kingpin
9:00 HBO Sneak Peek:
9:30 Intolerable cruelty
11:30 Tales From The Crypt
12:15 Ziddi
3:00 The Amazing Panda
Adventure

STAR WORLD

1:30 Star Bestsellers
2:00 Hit Filmene Hit Sangeet
2:30 Pardesi Babu
4:30 Gold Preview Black
8:30 Yes Madam (Hindi)
11:00 Dillagi

STAR PLUS

3:00 Action Man
4:00 Cops
4:30 Koffee With Karan

STAR GOLD

1:45 Maya
Ghar Ho To Aisa
24: As Ye Sow
4:30 Ziddi
8:00 Gold Preview Black
8:30 Yes Madam (Hindi)
11:00 Dillagi

STAR WORLD

1:30 The Kids From Room
402
2:00 Roboroach
2:30 Monster Farm
3:00 Action Man
3:30 The Kumars At No. 42
4:00 Cops
4:30 Koffee With Karan

STAR PLUS

11:30 Hati Gangai Maiya
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