

CULTURAL FEAS

My Heroes

Ferdousi on her co-actors

NOVERA DEEPITA

Spring or Pahela Falgun is here once more. It is time for flowers such as shimul and palash, colour and festivity. One such idyllic spring day, The Daily Star caught up with charismatic actress Ferdousi Majumdar.



Novera Deepita

Ahsan Ali Sydney

was my first co-artist. Acting in a television play named Rahu, written by Abul Fazal, we became a popular duo in the 1960s. The play had a similarity with Shakespeare's Macbeth and was a grand success at that time.



Ahsan Ali Sydney

Abdullah Al Mamun

as co-star was the driving force in my entry into the entertainment media. I have acted with him in so many TV and stage plays that it is difficult to even remember all the names.



Abdullah Al Mamun

Raisul Islam Asad

was my co-actor in the popular drama serial Shangshaptak, adapted from Shahidullah Kaiser's novel. He is a very co-operative and friendly person.



Raisul Islam Asad

Udichi Drama Festival 2005 (February 11-16)

Bou Bashonti

A play with the spirit of Liberation War

ERSHAD KAMOL

Usually plays on the Liberation War portray only freedom fighters, the Pakistani Army and their collaborators. Ratan Siddiqui's play Bou Bashonti is an exception to this trend.



A colourful presentation of the play Bou Bashonti

Udichi Drama Unit production, Bou Bashonti at Mahila Samity Stage on February 11, includes common characters of a village such as a feudal lord, two thieves, peasants, village maidens, a tailor and others.

When the freedom struggle begins, the usual activities like marriage and love do not change; but the total structure of the village changes. A village fraud, turned into a Pakistani collaborator, strives to become the village leader.

Azad Abul Kalam, through his directorial skills, has presented the play from a unique angle by dwelling on the psychological element during the war.

By depicting a tailor making flags in the opening and closing scene, he tries to capture the dream of the common people. In the opening scene, by showing three Pakistani

flag and one Bangladeshi flag with the National anthem of Pakistan, he turns the spotlight on the dream of freedom.

At the end of the play, the director indicates the lack of patriotism after independence.

Azad has used masks for his players. The aim is to represent a total community by using a few artists. By the doll-like movement of the artists, he indicates that the common Bangladeshi villagers are always attracted by the urban way of life.

Using some painted nets at the backstage, set designer M Shaiful Islam successfully portrays life in rural Bangladesh. The remainder of the set provided the director with more space

Drama Festival

Udichi Natyashab 2005

Organiser: Udichi Central Drama Branch

Venue: Mahila Shamiti Auditorium

Date: February 11-16, at 6:30pm

Schedule

Feb 13 The Freedom of the City (Udichi)

Feb 14 Circus Circus (Prachyanaut)

Feb 15 Jalbalika (Padatik Natya Shangshad)

Feb 16 Chilekothar Sepai (Udichi)

Strokes across the cosmos

Ali Imam's 2nd solo exhibition at Bengal Gallery

HARUN UR RASHID

Artist Ali Imam possesses a unique optimism regarding the cosmos. There is no element of decline or destruction in his art works. On the contrary, his paintings are a dynamic expression of human emotions derived from the elements he observes around him.

Titled Cosmic Journey, the display contains 36 artworks of Ali Imam—32 oil paintings and four charcoal drawings. Besides the basic Cosmic Journey series, the artist presents some other series and solo works in the display, but all his themes and treatment of subjects correspond to the main the-

matic pattern of the exhibition.

Imam's Cosmic Journey series is a collage presentation of his creative imagination which is fed with the "intense, multi-dimensional and ever-expanding emptiness" of the cosmos. Human and animal figures and geometrical frames abound in his canvases along with the symbolic presentations of that vastness.

The collective experience and passion of the human being is also depicted in a few works of this series. His expressionist brush strokes, often abstract, portray the essential relationship between the universe and mankind. On the other hand, the horses in his paintings are incarnate with the beauty of speed and the animal's fluid motion. Horses feature in another series



Cosmic Journey-3

named The Horse and the Galaxy.

Another series of Imam has the bird as the central thematic symbol while female figures and Bauls accompany the creature. Especially the piece titled Baul and the Bird shows the mystery embedded in the freedom—both physical and spiritual—symbolised by the bird and the Baul.

The human face has been another favourite subject for Imam. The human face appears to him as a sort of a replica of the cosmos. And in this expedition of capturing facial expression, Imam has often chosen familiar faces like those of Albert Einstein, Kazi Nazrul Islam and Shamsur Rahman.

The whole display conforms to Imam's aesthetic nature nurtured by his architectural learning. And thus Imam becomes an important proponent of the modern perception of the human existence and the universe.

The exhibition is open till February 22.

Playwright Arthur Miller dies

REUTERS

Playwright Arthur Miller, a titan of American theatre who wrote Death of a Salesman and was revered for works that spoke for the common man, has died. He was 89.

Miller's personal life, including a stormy marriage to Hollywood actress Marilyn Monroe, often captivated America. His left-wing views had brought a face-to-face clash with the US Congress during the 1950s crack-down on communist sympathisers.

The playwright died of congenital heart failure Thursday night at his home in Roxbury, Connecticut.

Death of a Salesman, a tragedy whose central character, failed businessman Willy Loman, became an archetype for shattered dreams, is considered a 20th-century classic. The play won him a Pulitzer Prize and a Tony Award at age 33.

His other major works included All My Sons, A View from the Bridge, and The Crucible.

Fellow playwright and friend Harold Pinter told the BBC that Miller's plays "are among the finest works that have been produced in the 20th century." Author Salman Rushdie, president of international writers association PEN, said in a statement: "He made plays with the grandeur and power of high tragedy, revealing



Playwright Arthur Miller looks on as his wife actress Marilyn Monroe (R) signs an autograph for a fan in New York in May 21, 1958.

what he called...the dream rising out of reality."

Broadway lights went dark at 8 pm on Friday as a tribute to the playwright.

Miller emerged out of the 1930s Depression to write social dramas with the power of Greek tragedy. His private life was equally dramatic, notably his doomed marriage to Marilyn Monroe. He wrote his first produced

screenplay, The Misfits, for Monroe based on a short story he wrote before their 1956 marriage. The 1961 film was the last ever made by either Monroe or co-star Clark Gable, who died from a heart attack soon after.

Miller's most recent work Finishing the Picture was produced in Chicago last year and drew on his experience with Monroe on the set of The Misfits.

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.

CHANNEL-i

News (Bangla) at 7:15 am, 9:00am, 7:15 pm, 9:00pm, 10:30, 12:15 am.

ATN BANGLA

News (Bangla) at 7:00 am, 10:00am, 2:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 10:00 pm, 11:00 pm.

ntv

News Headlines (Bangla) at 10:00 am, 12:00 am, 6:15 pm, 9:30 pm.

TARA BANGLA

News Headlines (Bangla) at 5:30 pm, 7:30 pm.

BBC WORLD

Every hour on the hour

CHANNEL-i

09:45 Triloy Matra
10:30 Tele Prescription
11:30 Hridoye Mati O Manush
12:00 Ebong Cinemar Gaan
12:30 Aji Dupurey O Citycell Tarokakolhon

ntv

08:30 Aajker Shakal
09:05 Drama Serial: Jhut Jhamela
09:20 Shanskriti Ei Shoptako

Jhamela

08:50 Right Click
09:40 Drama Serial: Akashey Anek Raat Dindarpan
11:25 ATN BANGLA
12:30 Annodishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Janomey Cine Aha Smritir Monikothay

HBO

8:30 Mortal Thoughts
10:30 Street Justice: Legacy
12:30 Bones
2:30 The Frighteners

ATN BANGLA

08:50 Annodishti
11:05 Drama Serial: Ek Janomey Cine Aha Smritir Monikothay
12:50 Public Reaction
02:30 Ghumpoka
03:15 Drama Serial: O Amar Chhokhu Nai

STAR PLUS

1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
1:30 Mirch Masala
2:05 Hit Film: Hit Sangeet
2:30 Thakshak
6:00 Hit Film: Hit Sangeet

STAR GOLD

9:00 Maya
9:30 Dil Chahata Hai
1:30 Jajanttram Mamantram

PICK OF THE DAY



O Amar Chokkhu Nai
On ATN Bangla at 3:15pm
Drama Serial
Cast: Sharmili Ahmed, K S Firoz, Rokeya Prachi



Primal Fear
On HBO at 8:30pm
Genre: Drama / Thriller / Crime
Cast: Richard Gere, Laura Linney, Edward Norton

STAR PLUS

1:00 Musafir Hoon Yaaron
1:30 Mirch Masala
2:05 Hit Film: Hit Sangeet
2:30 Thakshak
6:00 Hit Film: Hit Sangeet

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

12:00 Serious: Desert Frontlines Of Construction
12:30 When Nature Strikes Back
2:30 Riddles Of The Dead

Laboratory

Nick's Quest
10:00 Extreme Contact Great Grouper Adventure
10:30 Cell Dogs, Ridgeland In the Wild Asian Elephants

Billion Year War

Menzwi's Children: The Elephants of Zimbabwe
8:30 Barcelona: 1000 Days to the Future
9:30 Disaster At the Death Coast
10:30 Night Safari Snow Monkeys

Motorsport Asia (R)

Final Score (R)
10:00 ICC Cricket World (R)
10:30 Sportscenter Sunday (T)
11:00 Dream Job - Harsha Ki Khoj Studio Round #6 (R)

STAR SPORTS

9:00 Football Extra (L)
10:00 ICC Cricket World (R)
10:30 Abn Amro World Tennis Tournament Qualification Round 2 (L)
4:30 Five/Six Nations Championships Rugby Hq Asia (S)
5:00 Royal Bank Of Scotland Six Nations 2005 Scotland Vs Ireland (S)
7:00 Football Extra (R)
8:00 Indian Premier Hockey League Bangalore Hifiers Vs Chennai Veerans Tier I (L)
10:30 English Premier Football League 2004/05 Manchester City Vs Manchester United (S)
9:00 Hitz (R)

DISCOVERY

Lords of the Wild-- Fighting for Survival
12:30 Discover India Sherpa
2:30 Becoming Queen
3:30 History in Colour, Colour of War II
4:30 Terrorism Revealed Capturing Saddam
5:30 Mystery Hunters Nazca Lines (Peru)
6:00 The Baby Whisperer Triumph Of Life, Four

ANIMAL PLANET

The Jeff Corwin Experience: The Living